

Brickhill Borough Councillors Update January 2019

From Wendy Rider and Charles Royden



Brickhill Shops and CCTV

Following burglaries at Brickhill Drive shops a new camera was fitted and this is working well.

Road Repairs

The Jetpatcher has been out and about in Brickhill, a large number of holes were filled in Falcon Avenue. Work will begin this spring on the poor surface on Kimbolton Road and Torridge Rise. Additional funds have been allocated to road and pavement resurfacing and Mowsbury Walk will be resurfaced. We are concerned about damage to pavements at Brickhill and Avon Drive shops delivery entrances and this is being investigated for a long term solution.

The Pond on Brickhill Drive.

There has been unusually low rainfall this winter and hence the water level has been too low for the fountain to operate. It will take place as soon as we reach the normal water level and this is now looking close.

Tree planting

This season planting has been taking place across Brickhill following a much increased investment in tree planting.

Verge trimming

This is taking place along footpaths over the winter to help restore pavements and it makes a considerable improvement.

Speeding Vehicles.

The Mayor has introduced a Council Speedwatch Vehicle which has been active in Brickhill to help tackle speeding. Offenders are reported to the police who collect data and offenders may receive a police visit.

Vehicles Parking on Mallard Hill.

There was concern about the parking of vehicles, especially commercial ones on Mallard Hill preventing access. This is an issue across Brickhill with more people bringing their work vehicle home at night. These vehicles are usually lawfully parked and present a nuisance and are perhaps unsightly but they are not unlawful and there is little which can be done. If they are on a verge in a no verge parking zone they can be reported to the council parking, or if dangerous the police should be called.

Pelican Crossing Kimbolton Road.

This crossing has some defective loops which means it operates on manual with the button. Users must then wait for the lights to change. Work to correct the loops will take place this year subject to funding.

School crossing patrol.

We are pleased that a crossing patrol has been allocated for Kimbolton Road and is now operating.

Safety cameras at schools.

All schools across the Borough are to be allocated safety cameras to enforce against parking on zig zag lines.

Christmas trees.

Please remember that Christmas trees can be taken to Mowsbury car Park on Kimbolton Road for recycling.

Orange bags.

There will be a new delivery to St Mark's this week

Bus performance.

The Mayor has complained once more to Stagecoach about the poor performance. Stagecoach do not appear to acknowledge the problems when residents report failed service.

Rooksmead Grasscrete.

We are informed that since Rooksmead Green is now a designated area we will need planning permission before Grasscrete can be installed. This will mean a delay over winter which is very disappointing.

Changed Signage for Scott.

We have agreed new signage for Scott Primary School to replace the previous Beauchamp and Scott Lower signs.

New school development for Rushmore School.

Plans for the new school buildings were refused planning permission by the council. The school has made an appeal and this will go before the planning inspector in February.

Manton Lane Works.

The work on Manton Lane will take place later this year after being held up because of works which were intended on Bromham Railway Bridge by Network Rail. The work on Bromham Railway Bridge has been delayed and this will cause the work on roundabouts at Sainsburys to be delayed as this will be the alternative route.

As part of the works the decision has been made to plan for a new replacement footbridge over Manton Lane, which should never have been removed in the first place.

Ellis Road.

We received a request to remove the parking zone in Ellis Road, however a consultation has shown almost all residents in favour of it remaining in place.

Eagle Gardens.

Again requests for installation of yellow lines near junctions received a very poor response from residents and we have withdrawn this from consideration.

Gutters.

We are concerned about the amount of debris in some gutters around Brickhill and have asked for additional sweeping

Around the Borough

There is great economic news for Bedford in recent figures which show a dramatic jobs growth. The proportion of people in employment has increased at more than double the regional and national rate with the result being a massive 16,000 more people in work in Bedford Borough.

Christmas on the High Street.

We received a welcome positive message from businesses in Bedford when BID reported a positive post Christmas message. The council is working hard to support the town centre and with free parking available every day shoppers filled council car parks.

School Funding

We were delighted to hear that plans to make a further £1.3 million of cuts to local schools have been scrapped. This would have seen as much as £1,000 cut per class in primary schools and £1,600 in secondary schools. Thank you to everyone who supported our campaign to have this decision reversed by government

As your local councillors we will continue to work hard and keep you informed through regular deliveries of FOCUS, surgeries and our website where you can sign up for our Brickhill newsletter.

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