

## Brickhill Borough Councillors Report March 2012

### Wendy Rider and Charles Royden



**Speeding** We continue to receive reports from residents who are concerned about speeding in residential roads. We have been working with the highways department at Borough Council to produce a 20mph zone to consult with residents. We have now received a proposal for the Tyne Crescent, Wansbeck Road, Hawk Drive area. This area is heavily used by children going to school and has seen many accidents caused by speeding as well as 'near misses' where serious injuries could easily have happened. There will now be surveys of traffic speeds in the area conducted during March. To see a map of the zone visit our website [www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com)

**St Thomas More** Following a meeting with the Headteacher Mr Richardson we are pleased that action is being taken by the school to deal with parent and student parking issues. Staff are present outside the school, the barrier is being opened to encourage on-site parking where possible and consideration is being given to providing additional on site parking. We are also consulting with resident about introducing limited parking restrictions along Tyne Crescent such as that used in Kennet Rise which would affect parking for possibly an hour in the morning and evening.



### **Brickhill Drive and Linnet Way Verge parking.**

Following the request by the Community Safety Forum and Parish Council we have asked Bedford Borough Council to introduce verge parking along Brickhill Drive as requested. The area with damage appears to be from Manton Lane to just past Robin Hill. We are hoping that this will be protected soon. The verges along Linnet Way have been repaired as promised, we are however disappointed that drivers have since run their vehicles over the new seeded areas.

**Buses** We continue to work to find a resolution to the buses and the withdrawal of the service into the Woodlands Estate as the buses could not negotiate the roads safely to turn around. A roundabout is being considered and in the meantime buses are terminating on Ashmead Road. Once the final decision is taken upon how the estate will be serviced and which route will be taken by the buses we will be calling for changes to bus stops to make them more suitable for passengers. We have asked drivers to park on the opposite side of the road and have been advised that they feel that the vision of drivers leaving the estate would be obscured if the buses were parked on this side of the road.



## Pathway alongside Browney Path

We are working with Bedford Borough Council to look at providing a suitable pathway to allow residents walking from Browney Path to cross onto the new bridge leading to the kick-about pitch and pathway which has been laid. It seems to us to unacceptable that residents have to walk over the muddy grass to access the new path and bridge.



## Bedford Park Cycle Path

Residents have asked us to report the condition of the pathway leading from Brickhill Drive into Bedford Park. This is used by a high volume of cyclists and pedestrians and we would like to see it resurfaced due to the poor condition.

## Plover Way

**Verges** We have been contacted by residents concerned about the damage to verges in Plover Way. We have asked the tree department at Bedford Borough Council to plant trees in some verges to deter motorists. There has been planting and more will follow. However we have also been asked to consider seeking no verge parking signs. There is some severe damage caused in one area and we have asked for tree planting to take place at this location.

Last year Plover Way was placed on the new list of roads to be treated when there was fallen snow. This year the snow fell on Saturday night and Sunday and crews were engaged clearing primary and secondary routes before they could attend to Plover Way. This meant that by Monday morning snow had not been cleared in Plover Way and residents complained about a lack of attention. The only way to deal with this problem, which is made worse by the sharp incline of the road, is to place Plover Way on the list of secondary roads and this has now been done. This outcome means that Plover Way will be gritted routinely along with Curlew Crescent. It will be important for vehicles in Plover Way to park carefully for the gritting vehicles to be allowed to pass. Please note that full gritting information and real time viewing of gritting vehi



**Street lights** A number of street lights in Plover Way and Curlew Crescent are being replaced. There are delays getting the new columns connected to the mains supply, so for the time being the old columns are still there along with new columns – it seems that this work may not be completed until after March. Columns affected are: Plover Way Nos. 6, 8 and 12; Curlew Crescent Nos. 11, 12, 16 and 19.



**Tesco** We were disappointed that Tesco received permission to sell alcohol at their new store in Brickhill Drive and we continue to be concerned about the problems of parking in this busy car park. We called the police to attend at the store following inconsiderate and dangerous parking by contractors. Bedford Borough Council are using the CCTV vehicle to patrol the car park to prevent motorists parking for longer than 45 minutes and we are pleased to see enforcement officers on site to pay extra attention.

### Waveney Green

The bulb planting which took place on the green last year is looking fantastic and thanks to all of those who took part in making the green look more attractive.



### Nisa Store

The Nisa Supermarket in Brickhill Drive shops is holding a 'Fun Day' with face painting, giveaways (including from Cuisine de France), promotions and more on Saturday 17th March from 11am; the police will be offering property marking and number plate security. So please come along – continue to support local shops – they offer service and commitment to the community. Meanwhile, the Ocean Fish Bar is opening at Brickhill Drive shops on Monday 27th February; for the first time in many years all the shops will be occupied.

**Surgeries** Our next local surgeries are at Avon Drive shops at 10am on Saturday 3 March and at Brickhill Drive shops at 10am on Saturday 17th March. Councillors Wendy Rider and Chares Royden will be there. PCSO Roberto Bonforte will be joining us at Brickhill Drive shops on 17 March. If you have any comments or queries, please do come along and see us.

You are also welcome to contact us via email or phone. See <http://www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com> for our contact details.