

Brickhill Parish Council News

Issue Number 12 March 2008

SAVE YOUR POST OFFICE!

The Government has announced that Post Office Ltd is to close 2,500 Post Offices across the country. **Your local Post Office at Brickhill Drive is one of the Post Offices now threatened with closure.** During the next few months a visiting team of Post Office "inspectors" will be coming to Bedford to decide which of our



Post Offices should close. Brickhill Parish Council believes that closing the Brickhill Drive Post Office would be disastrous for our community. So, together with our local Borough and County Councillors, we are campaigning to try to keep this Post Office open.

THREE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP KEEP YOUR POST OFFICE OPEN:

- **Sign our petition** – either at the Brickhill Drive Post Office or at the locations below or fill in the tear off slip below and send it back to us.
- **Display our poster** – collect a poster from one of the contact points below and put this in your window or car. Please keep it displayed **until the end of April** when the "inspectors" will make their decision.
- **Write or Email to the Parish Council** (contact details below) - send us a short letter or email to register your protest and explain how you would be affected if the Brickhill Drive Post Office closed down. For example, could you get transport to another Post Office easily? Would you find increased delays at another post office intolerable?

The petition and your letters will be given to the "inspectors". The more letters we give them the better chance we have of keeping **your** Post Office open.

Postmaster Bobby Chambers says "For the past 13 years I have worked hard to give a friendly, helpful and valuable service to the Brickhill community. I strongly believe that, with all your support, we will be able to see off this threat hanging over us."



Delia Shephard Clerk to Brickhill Parish Council	St Mark's Community Centre , Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7UY Tel: 01234 273628 ☎ clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Bobby Chambers Postmaster	Brickhill Drive Post Office 103 Brickhill Drive Bedford MK41 7EF Tel 01234 268284 ☎ Brickhillpostoff@aol.com
Petition and Posters also in Brickhill at:	Acorn Veterinary Clinic , Linnet Way Brickhill Community Centre , Avon Drive Londis General Store , Avon Drive

✂=====

Complete and return to: Delia Shephard, Parish Clerk, Brickhill Parish Council,
St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Bedford MK40 2LR

I/We the undersigned oppose the closure of Brickhill Drive Post Office. We believe it provides a vital service to our community and must be kept open.

Signed: Name:

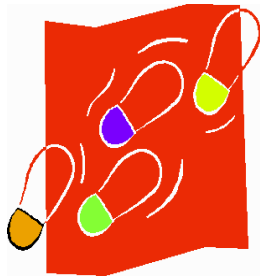
Address:

.....

A FRUITFUL DAY AT SCOTT LOWER

"We had a great time when we went to visit the ASDA lorry. Because we only have a small pathway leading to our play ground, Beauchamp very kindly offered to let the ASDA lorry park in their car park. It was only a short walk and we were all wrapped up well as it was so cold. We couldn't believe how big the lorry was and we learnt all about road safety and about how long it takes for a lorry's brakes to work. We even got to sit in the lorry, it was really high up! The ASDA team also brought us some tasty, healthy fruit. We tried pineapples, kiwis, strawberries and raspberries and learnt how fruit keeps you healthy. We had such a good day. Thank you ASDA." Written by Scott Lower School Council.

We are running a walking bus scheme on Thursday mornings at 8:15am from St Mark's Church car park. If anyone could volunteer to accompany us we could encourage even more pupils to join us. If you are more interested in gardening we run a gardening club at lunchtimes and need volunteers to spend half an hour once a week. Please contact us at Scott Lower School, Hawk Drive, Bedford MK41 7JA. Tel: 01234 352630.



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For more details and a registration form please contact:
Helen Harpin, Head of Pre-School, St Mark's Church Pre-School,
Calder Rise, Brickhill Bedford MK41 7UY. Tel: 01234 312634

St Mark's is an accredited pre-school endorsed by
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BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2008/9

In 2008/9 the Parish Council will be collecting a total of £52,200 from the Council Taxpayers of Brickhill which represents an increase of 4.5% on the amount of £49,950 collected in 2007/8. This means an average Brickhill household (ie a Band D household) will pay £16.02 for the year. This money (known as the Precept) goes to support the Parish Council in its work for the benefit of the local community.

The Parish Council set its detailed budget at a meeting on 10 January 2008 and a copy is available on the website, along with last year's accounts. Please contact me if you would like to a paper copy of the budget or have any questions about the Parish Council's finances or any aspect of its business. This year's accounts will be available after the end of the financial year on 31 March 2008.

Delia Shephard, Responsible Financial Officer, Brickhill Parish Council

Brickhill Allotments

The Parish Council is changing its arrangements for maintenance of the allotment site. If you are interested in outdoor work doing general repairs, clearance and other odd jobs contact us for more information about this vacancy.



We have a few allotments left to rent for this season. For further information please contact the Allotments Officer (contact details on the back of this newsletter).

New Facilities for St Marks Community Centre, Brickhill

A grant of £50,000 from WREN means that refurbishment work can be done to include a new roof, lighting flooring and decorating of the large community hall which is used by many local groups.

QUALITY HOUSEKEEPING

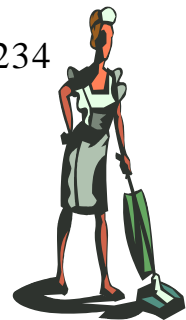
Need a hand with the housework?

We offer a full 'top to bottom' cleaning service including ovens, fridges (etc), ironing and interior windows, on a regular basis or as a one off spring clean.

Fully insured and reliable, sensible prices. Excellent references available.

Further details: 01234 307322

Mobile 07940 755718



Brickhill Parish Council

Website:

www.brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Councillors

Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick (*Chair*)

20 Nursery Gardens, Brickhill, MK41 8DU

☎01234 357259 ✉ markfitzp@cix.co.uk

Cllr Peter Blakeman (*Planning Committee Chair*)

15 Dove Road, Brickhill, MK41 7AA

☎01234 355952

✉ pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com

Cllr Stuart Green

39 Larkway, Brickhill, MK41 7AA

☎ 01234 354339 ✉ cmgreen@Kbnet.co.uk

Cllr Nigel Haughton

10 Douglas Road, Bedford MK41 7YH

☎01234 214634 ✉ Nigel@haughtons.co.uk

Cllr Alison Holden

16 Swindale, Brickhill, MK41 7TT

☎01234 403551 ✉ amh.pcouncil@btinternet.com

Cllr Peter Hand (*also County & Borough Councillor*)

31 Moriston Road, Brickhill, MK41 7UQ

☎01234 365108 ✉ peter.hand@bedscc.gov.uk

Cllr Howard Humphries

117 Curlew Crescent, Brickhill, MK41 7HY

☎01234 267587

Cllr Andrew McConnell (*also Borough Councillor*)

51 Crown Quay, Bedford MK40 1BL

☎01234 356777 ✉ aj.mcconnell@btinternet.com

Cllr Pat Ovenell

12 Nightingale Avenue, Brickhill, MK41 7JB

☎01234 341422

Cllr Wendy Rider

23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, MK41 7BQ

☎01234 303254 ✉ wendyrider41@hotmail.com

Cllr Charles Royden (*also Borough Councillor*)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill, MK41 7UY

☎01234 309175 ✉ vicar@thisischurch.com

Cllr Ray Seymour (*Vice-Chair*)

11 Calder Rise, Brickhill, MK41 7UY

☎01234 305695 ✉ rays@tgis.co.uk

We apologise to any residents who experienced difficulty contacting their parish councillors due to out of date information being on our website. All the details above and on the website are now correct. We hope to improve and re-launch our website in the coming months.

Brickhill Parish Council

Meeting Dates

Meetings will be held at St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Brickhill.

Full Parish Council Meetings 7.30 pm:

3 April, 1 May, 5 June, 3 July

Planning Committee Meetings 6.45 pm if on the same day as a full Parish Council meeting otherwise 7.00pm: 3 April, 1 May, 5 June, 3 July

Clerk to the Council

Delia Shephard

Assistant Clerk/Allotments Officer

Alison Southern

c/o St Mark's Church & Community Centre
Calder Rise, Brickhill
Bedford MK41 7UY

Telephone: 01234 271708

✉ clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Public drop in session every Tuesday
10 am - 12 noon

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