

# **Brickhill Borough Councillors**

## **Report to Parish Council**

### **September 2025**

**From Charles Royden  
and Wendy Rider**



Neighbourhoods can quickly deteriorate if you don't keep on top of things. We take looking after Brickhill really seriously and it is important that things like vandalism are nipped in the bud. Over the summer we have seen an increase in some forms of crime and also unwanted neglect in Brickhill. We always report these things and we have appreciated the response of the council to clean up and help us prevent



**Broken guttering on  
Changing rooms**



**Dead tree on  
Ashmead Road**



**Graffiti on  
Avon Drive**



**Fly tipping on  
Avon Drive**

**Fly tipping on  
Carron Road**



**Details of how you can report are shown on our  
website [www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com)**



things getting out of hand. You can also help us by reporting anything which you see. We have listed all the council contacts for things like graffiti and fly tipping on our website [www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com). You can make the report online or alternatively just let us know and we will sort it out. Please use our contact details shown at the end of this report and we can work together to take pride in our community and ensure that Brickhill continues to be a great place to live.

## Brickhill Footpaths

The condition of many of our footpaths are now in a shocking and dangerous condition. We have requested urgent attention and asked that the council visit areas which have recently been paid and are already cracking along Jackman's Walk.



**Jackmans Walk**  
*(Recently laid)*



**Path between  
Marlowe & Beaufort Way**



**Dropped Kerb  
Norfolk Close**

## Children's Service Requires Improvement

We were disappointed to read that the recent Ofsted inspection report for Bedford Borough Children's Services showed a decline in standards from the last inspection in 2021. The report was graded 'Requires Improvement' in all areas. The quality of practice and support for the children and families in Bedford Borough has declined under the Conservative administration and the identified shortcomings must be tackled with urgency. We are particularly concerned about the use of unregistered homes for our looked after children, and the lack of oversight of children's placements.

## **Some other things we are currently working on**

### **Hawk Drive School crossing.**

The crossing was closed following a secret traffic survey with less than 24hrs notice, without consultation with the school, parents, parish or borough councillors. We continue to call on the Conservatives to make children's safety a priority. Sadly they have just announced that due to overspending of £14 million no recruitment will take place of staff across the Borough, including school crossing patrols.

### **Bench at Brickhill Drive Shops.**

We are disappointed that it is taking so long for the council to move forward with this which we have agreed to fund

### **Adoption of Woodlands Park.**

The adoption process for Woodlands Park grinds on slowly. We are in frequent contact with the Borough Council to ensure that the developers are encouraged to progress this as quickly as possible.

**Secret List of Development Sites.** Cllr Vann has seen the list but was told he was not allowed to release it to the public! We oppose the development of the green fields along Ashmead Road.

### **Council Financial Crisis.**

We will oppose the Conservative administration continuing to increase council debt which will result in residents facing decreasing services and higher council tax.

### **Brickhill Post Office.**

Brickhill residents really appreciate the Post Office on Avon Drive and we will continue to campaign for Morrisons to make this a priority.

### **Kennet Rise.**

We are continuing to remind the council of the need for the new school camera enforcement to be progressed as quickly as possible.

### **Roads and Pavements.**

The Conservative administration have stopped the programme of road and pavement resurfacing in Brickhill and things are getting worse. We will continue to campaign for proper funding.

### **Tree planting.**

We have a list of sites for replacement trees and tree maintenance. Please let us know if you have any requests.

## Help us keep in touch

It is always helpful to be able to inform residents of Brickhill with updates via our email list and if you have not yet signed up for this yet then please do so as this is the best way for us to keep in touch. We won't bombard you and you can unsubscribe at any time. Sign up here

[www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/sign-up](http://www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/sign-up)

We always aim to respond to residents the same day or within 24hrs. If you haven't had a reply to an email please call us because they can go astray.

Brickhill Drive Shops Saturday 13 September 10.00am

Avon Drive Shops Saturday 27 September 10.00am

Brickhill Drive Shops Saturday 11 October 10.00am

Avon Drive Shops Saturday 25 October 10.00am

*You can also speak with us or another Lib Dem Councillor  
every Saturday morning 11.00am - 12 noon at Bedford Central Library*

### **Wendy Rider - Brickhill Borough Councillor**

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**Working all year round not just at election time !**

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