

Brickhill Borough Councillors Update
Parish Council September 2020
From Wendy Rider and Charles Royden



COVID-19

Bedford is no longer an area of concern and we are pleased that rates of infection have fallen. However we are encouraging people to adopt the guidelines for social distancing.

Junctions on Kimbolton Road

Work is underway and on target for completion in October. We are dealing with residents to mitigate inconvenience.

Bottle Banks

The council vehicle has not been operative and we have had to report multiple issues. However this has hopefully now been resolved and more frequent emptying will take place.

Playgrounds and Community Centres

The council playgrounds are now open with advised measures in place.

Bugs and Bees

The Mayor has announced measures to help increase biodiversity with lower grass cutting in places, reduced use of chemicals and planting of hedgerows. We would be pleased to hear from residents shoe areas in which they would like reduced grass cutting.

Transporting Bedford 2020

High Street

Unfortunately plans to start work on the High Street have had to be put back due to disruption caused by coronavirus. However temporary measures in place have created more space for pedestrians and installed permanent average speed cameras to enforce the 20mph speed limit. Utility equipment

in the area is being moved now in preparation for the major works next year. We will be announcing the final details of the programme very soon alongside information on the new High Street Heritage Action Zone programme (HSHAZ) that will be launched shortly in partnership with Historic England. The programme will offer grants to shop and building owners to repair and enhance the historic building fabric and shop fronts in our High Street. Businesses will be open throughout the works and would very much welcome your custom as we all build a better town centre together.

The plans for the High Street include

- Footways will be widened on both sides to create a more pleasant environment for pedestrians and shoppers
- New loading and short stay parking bays will be introduced
- A 20mph speed limit – enforced by average speed cameras (already introduced)
- High quality York paving and granite kerbstones will be used

More details can be seen at www.bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020

Manton Lane / Clapham Road / Great Ouse Way

Extensive work to widen Manton Lane and introduce new traffic signals to has been completed, improving traffic flow in this congestion hotspot. Work is now underway to construct a new pedestrian footbridge near the school to help improve road safety and reduce congestion. Utility works have started to divert underground equipment so that work can take place in the New Year to reconstruct the Manton / Lane Clapham Road roundabout, widen parts of Clapham Road and introduce new part time traffic lights at the Paula Radcliffe Way / Great Ouse Way junction. A layout of the full scheme is shown on the drawing attached.

Allhallows

Works are underway on big improvements to Allhallows and Church Square. Allhallows is a key part of Bedford town centre, and is a busy link between the town, the bus station and the train station. The whole stretch of Allhallows from St Loyes Street down to Midland Road, and Church Square is set to be improved in a major project.

These works will transform this busy area of Bedford town centre, with the existing pavements and roadway being rebuilt and re-laid with a high quality granite surface. The work is being done in phases and will be suspended during December so that the busy Christmas period for the town centre isn't affected. The project is expected to be complete next spring.

Bromham Road / Shakespeare Road / Ashburnham Road

New pedestrian crossings and cycle lanes have been installed at the busy junction of Bromham Road / Shakespeare Road and Ashburnham Road to improve road safety at this busy junction. The new facilities have created safer route for pedestrians and cyclists, and improved a Brickhill route to Biddenham School and the station. Ashburnham Road was also fully resurfaced as part of the works.

To have your say and for more information please contact
transportingbedford2020@bedford.gov.uk

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.
www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

Wendy Rider, 23 Orwell Close, 01234 303254 wendyrider41@gmail.com

Charles Royden, The Vicarage, Calder Rise, 01234 309175 charlesroyden@gmail.com

