

**Brickhill Borough Councillors Update**  
**November 2021**  
**From Wendy Rider and**  
**Charles Royden**



**Larkway Drainage**

We have considerable ongoing concerns over the drainage of Anglian Water sewers on Larkway and Brickhill Drive. In heavy rain this has caused the sewers to flood and properties in Larkway and Pipit Rise have suffered overflows of toilets and drains. Anglian Water agreed to clean out the sewer and removed over 1t of debris from the sewer. They had previously conducted the same operation following our concerns at the top of Brickhill Drive close to Curlew Crescent. They have agreed to use CCTV to examine the sewer and we have asked that they also inspect the connections to any properties which have been adversely affected. If any residents experience flooding or issues with drains please do tell us so that we can ensure action is taken before winter rains.

**Pond at Rooksmead**

The pond pump has been inoperative for a short while and investigations are taking place to determine why the fuses keep blowing. This could be a cable or a fault with the equipment itself. It is hoped that this can be rectified quite quickly by council officers.

**Replacement of road marking on the mini roundabouts**

We have been asked to have the mini roundabouts on Brickhill Drive repainted as this is an area of concern for traffic accidents. The council have now completed this work.

**Street Signs**

We have reported several damaged street signs around Brickhill. Damaged street furniture is unsightly and when repaired or replaced it does contribute to the general sense of pride in our environment.

**Christmas Lights at Avon Drive and Brickhill Shops**

We will once again pay from our ward fund for Christmas decorations at our shopping parades to help support our businesses at Christmas. Some years ago we had empty shops in our shopping parades and it is encouraging to see all units filled. We will do all we can to offer support to local businesses.

**Police**

We have been pleased to work to provide surgeries with the police and the local police officer ASHIQ Junaid 441 has been helpful and supportive in addressing concerns which residents have expressed to us. We have shared residents views on speeding and enforcement has been taking place on 20mph roads in Brickhill. This should be an encouragement for us all to keep our speeds down in residential areas! We have arranged with the police for a Police Priority Setting meeting for Brickhill and De Parys to be held at St Marks on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 7:30pm.

**Clyde Crescent Planning Application**

21/02273/FUL | Proposed erection 2 two-bedroom dwellings with associated parking. | Land Between Clyde Crescent Ivel Close And Wye Close Bedford Bedfordshire

Charles has visited residents in Clyde Crescent and adjoining roads to listen to their views on the proposed application. He has raised concerns with the local planning authority relating especially to the access arrangements off Clyde Crescent where there will be restricted views. Wendy Rider has taken no part in any discussions relating to the development since she is a member of the planning committee and should not fetter her future discretion.

**Tree Planting**

Each year there are trees cut down in streets in Brickhill due to disease or other required circumstances. We are eager to ensure that these are replaced with an even greater number of new trees. In this planting season we expect 36 new trees to be planted in streets in our Brickhill ward.

### **School Parking**

The Borough Council are monitoring the effects of the school street trial in Tyne Crescent/Kennet Rise. This has been very effective in stopping dangerous traffic movements outside the school but we are concerned about displaced traffic creating problems in other areas. We have also been contacted by residents concerned about parking in Nightingale Avenue and we have agreed to fund additional yellow line parking restrictions to enable this work to take place quickly and increase safety.

### **Average Speed Cameras Brickhill Drive**

We are pleased that we have drawings and a date for the installation of these cameras before the end of the financial year. We are pleased to have contributed toward the funds allocate from the Parish Council to enable this project to be brought forward

### **Safer Crossing of Waveney Avenue**

We are concerned about the lack of provision for safe crossings on Waveney Avenue and we have allocated money from our ward funds to enable proposals to be investigated for provision of a crossing. This is especially a concern at school times when there is a lack of availability of school crossing patrols.

### **Northern Gateway—Clapham Roundabouts**

there has been good progress on the Northern Gateway project with the widening of Clapham Road between the two roundabouts complete, along with the dedicated left hand turn lane from Clapham Road into Manton Lane. Works will soon start on the central reservation of the dual carriageway, introducing a permanent right hand turn into Sainsbury's so people won't need to use the Clapham Road/Manton Lane roundabout to U-turn.

### **Green Bin Collections**

Please note that due to driver shortages there have been delays. Please leave your green bin out until it is collected. Priority will always be given to black bin collections but crews are working hard to collect any missed rounds.

### **Christmas Lights Switch On**

The Christmas lights will be turned on from Monday 22 November across Bedford town centre and Riverside Bedford, bringing that Christmas feeling to town. The usual fireworks display will not take place this year. Instead, the Council and BedfordBID are investing in three weekends of Christmas markets, free events and entertainment. This is better for businesses, and more COVID-19 safe as we head into the festive season.

### **Come and see us at our surgeries**

6 November 10.00am at Avon Drive shops

20 November 10.00am at Brickhill Drive shops

4 December 10.00am at Avon Drive shops

18 December 10.00am at Brickhill Drive shops

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](http://www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com)

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