

# THE BRIDGE 4

The newsletter of the Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association  
March 2016



*Dear fellow residents of Tinkers Bridge,*

*We hope you'll like this additional way of communicating about local events in our community. We advertise any forthcoming events for your calendar, with dates, times and locations. We suggest that you keep past issues in a folder for future reference, as we don't have space to repeat items.*

*We want to flag especially the working group meeting on 10th March as well as **the TBRA meeting on Thursday 31st of March 2016**. See below for details of both. Look out also for information about MK Council meetings where regeneration may be discussed, and information about regular local events*

*Funding for printing this newsletter (and others) has been withdrawn by the Council after the April issue but we hope to keep going and there may still be room for letters to the editor. The deadline for submission of short items for the April edition is **20th March 2016**. Please submit the item, your name, address, and email address and telephone number to either no. 36 Brent or 14 Marshworth or to [TinkersBridge@gmail.com](mailto:TinkersBridge@gmail.com). The editor's decision is final.*

*The Editor*

## Monthly Meeting of the Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association

Thursday 31st March 7-30 to  
9-00 p.m. at Tinkers Bridge  
Meeting Place, Marshworth

starting Monday 4th January. Come along with your problems.

**TBRA Working Group Meetings** for committee members only

10th Mar. & 14th Apr. 2016 7-30 to 9-00 p.m.

**TBRA meeting:** for all residents

31st Mar. & 28th Apr. 2016 See opposite box for details

**TBRA Juniors** for residents aged 8-21 years meets at the Tinkers Bridge Meeting Place on the 3rd Thursday of each month. There will be an event at Easter - a trip to Mead Open Farm; look out for details on the noticeboard and on FaceBook.

## Diary of Events

### March & April Activities

Drop-in for advice at Tinkers Bridge Meeting Place, Mondays 9.0 -11 a.m. until further notice:

Helen Hawkins of WCC has agreed to hold this advice session each week for a trial period,

## Regular Activities

### MOBILE LIBRARY OUTSIDE MEETING PLACE ON ALTERNATE FRIDAYS

11th & 25th Mar. 10-15 -10.45 a.m.

**RAINBOWS, BROWNIES, GUIDES** meet in the Tinkers Bridge Meeting Place every Tuesday during

term time Rainbows 5-6 p.m.; Brownies 6-15 -7-30 p.m.; Guides 7-30 -9.0 p.m.

**ARTS AND CRAFTS GROUP - no meetings until further notice.** Look at Facebook Page: Tinkers Arts and Crafts

**FOOTBALL PRACTICE** on Sunday afternoons at Colne Park from 2-30 p.m. Contacts: John Orr and Gideon Clark or turn up.

## Environmental Team Volunteers wanted



Ron Ellis (above) leader of our volunteer environmental team, which helps to keep our estate tidy, pleasant to live on, and safe.

**Want to volunteer? Please contact Ron at 48 Brent or at [TinkersBridge@gmail.com](mailto:TinkersBridge@gmail.com) to find out more.**

**Are you concerned about trees on the estate?**  
**Maurice Barnes, Landscape Services Officer**  
**advises:** Please consult <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/leisure-tourism-and-culture/parks-and-open-spaces/landscape-maintenance/trees> for FAQs

Report specific tree enquiries, with the nearest house number and /or lamp column number, using the Report It form at <https://my.milton-keynes.gov.uk> Progress of your enquiry will be emailed to you.

Dangerous or fallen trees or branches, where they are hazardous to people or property, should, however be called in to 01908 252592 and CANNOT be logged in via the website form.

If you don't have Internet access you may report any tree issues via 01908 252592.

Anything, which can safely be dealt with from the ground - e.g. clearing lamp columns-, will be referred to WCC.

## Waste Collections

Milton Keynes Council ask residents to remove pink and black sacks from their bin cupboards after 5 p.m. on Tuesday evenings and place them and green composting bins at the kerb for collection by 7 a.m. on Wednesday mornings. Make sure they don't obstruct the pavements or roads. This is to make the collections quicker and safer. Please put the correct items in the right bags. Always tie your bags and close your bins.

If you are unable to put your waste at the kerb because of age or disability please ask for assisted collections at Waste Services at 01908 252570.

## How to complain to Milton Keynes Council

1. Prepare what you want to say BEFORE you telephone
2. Have a note pad and ballpoint pen beside you when you call
3. Phone 01908 691691 and ask for the department you want OR you may complain online. This is the link:

<http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/your-council-and-elections/comments-compliments-and-complaints/what-is-a-complaint>

4. Ask for and note down a reference number. Note the date and time of your call and the name of the person you spoke with. Keep these details and refer to them in further complaints about the *same* issue.

**5. Tell us and give us details if you've been injured on the estate. Contact: [TinkersBridge@gmail.com](mailto:TinkersBridge@gmail.com) or 36 Brent.**

## RegenerationMK

The Cabinet approved the award of the contract to Mears as a Regeneration Partner so now we need to see how they get on. As part of this, we will try to attend other meetings where Regeneration is discussed. **We do not yet know when and where this will happen but there could be some discussion at Cabinet (next meeting 14th March 2016) and at Executive Scrutiny (1st March 2016).** **If you would like to attend these meetings or if you would like a T-shirt please contact Sheila - [TinkersBridge@gmail.com](mailto:TinkersBridge@gmail.com) or 07599 321448.**

# Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association Initiatives

## **Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association: the Working Group and its responsibilities**

TBRA has commissioned a Working Group of residents who have volunteered to draw up the community plan. The Working Group reports to the TBRA Committee. Volunteers are welcome but must commit to regular attendance.

Contact: Lesley Berry on 0794 1498762 or 25 Hatton

## **What next - a plan to improve Tinkers Bridge in line with YOUR wishes**

The Working Group used your answers to the Tinkers Bridge Survey to help it to draw up a plan for improving Tinkers Bridge as a place in which to live. We consulted YOUR views before submitting the final version of the Community Plan in late February.

We will now need to put the plan into action and monitor our progress.

## **Our response to RegenerationMK**

TBRA voted by 20 to 1 against any plan to regenerate Tinkers Bridge using demolition and/or compulsory purchase. We hope you signed the **TBRA Petition** to add *your* opposition to any such plan.

## Cooks' Corner

### **Recipe for Macaroni Taco Bake**

#### **Ingredients (enough for 6 people)**

1 lb of minced beef (preferably low fat)  
1&1/4 oz from a pack of taco seasoning mix  
15oz can of tomato sauce (or make your own)  
3 cups of cooked macaroni sufficient to fill a lightly greased 13" x 9" baking tin or rectangular oven proof dish  
1 cup of grated cheddar cheese  
1/4 cup of grated Parmesan cheese  
Chopped spring onions for garnish  
8oz of sour cream or creme fraiche

#### **Method**

Collect together all the ingredients

Prepare the macaroni following directions on the packet

Lightly grease the tin or dish

Brown the meat in a frying pan in 1 tablespoonful of vegetable oil

Stir on the tomato sauce and the taco mix. Bring to the boil & remove from the heat.

Combine the macaroni, sour cream & 1/2 of the grated cheddar in a bowl

Spoon the macaroni mixture into the tin or dish  
Top with the beef mixture; scatter the remaining cheese over the top.

Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees in the oven, or until hot and bubbling. Garnish with the chopped spring onions.

I serve this meal with either sweet corn or a fresh green vegetable such as broccoli or green beans.

## Safety in the home.

1. Buy a cheap splatter guard to cover your pans while you are frying food. It prevents oil coming into contact with flames and catching alight. It helps keep the kitchen free from grease and dirt.
2. Never leave your pans alone on a lighted stove.
3. Install smoke alarms (but not actually in the kitchen). Check the batteries monthly and replace faulty ones.
4. When cooking, make sure the handles of pans do not overhang the edge of the cooker, and that electric flexes (from the kettle, for example) are kept well out of the way of little hands.

## Do you need a Day Nursery or Clinic? Try Hedgerows Children's Centre, Langland Rd, Netherfield, MK6 4NP Tel: 01908 239000

Hedgerows Children's Centre offers an enormous range of support for families with children under 5 yrs. There are so many activities (and services including a baby clinic and a children's dentist).



## Want to save a bit? Need a loan? Join a Credit Union

There's no better time to try to get your finances in order than NOW!

**Swan Credit Union** is designed for anyone who is resident in or works in the Local Authority area of Milton Keynes or some other local postcodes. Become a member, save regularly according to your means on a monthly basis, and apply for ethical and affordable loans. The government guarantees the safety of your savings. You can even open a special Christmas savings plan, where your savings are absolutely safe. For details see <http://www.swancreditunion.org.uk>

## Social Media: Join our Facebook page at Tinkers Bridge OFFICIAL GROUP for up-to-the-minute estate news and comment

Did you know that TBRA now produces an online calendar of events in Tinkers Bridge? David Lee plans to display this on the Tinkers Bridge OFFICIAL GROUP page. Please consult it for any late changes to meeting details and breaking news about events such as the Junior Residents' Association's Easter holiday outing for 8s-21s. Thanks, David for organizing this calendar.

If you have fellow residents who are not IT savvy or do not have access to the Internet but would like training, why not contact David Lee on their behalf (with their permission) as he is hoping to facilitate such training.

## Many thanks to Ian Tegerdine, Landscape Manager at Woughton Community Council.

We are all extremely grateful to Ian Tegerdine and his team from WCC. They have been cutting back trees and shrubs on Tinkers Bridge and have made a great improvement in terms of both appearance and safety. Ron Ellis, with the help of Ian's team, has been putting wood chippings on the paths and gardens around the estate.

If YOU would like to help our volunteer team make Tinkers Bridge a safer and more pleasant environment for us all, please look at page 2.