

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'd like your help too.

We want to flag especially the working group meeting on 11th February as well as **the TBRA meeting on Thursday 25th of February**. 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

We'll consider residents' contributions for future issues, depending on space availability and suitability. Funding for printing this newsletter (and others) has been withdrawn by the Council but there may still be room for letters to the editor. The deadline for submission of short items for the March edition is **20th February 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. The editor's decision is final.

The Editor

Monthly Meeting of the Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association

Thursday 25th February 7-30
to 9-00 p.m.

AGM at Tinkers Bridge
Meeting Place, Marshworth



Please do some along and get
involved. There will be a big
welcome for all Tinkers
Bridge residents.

Diary of Events

February and March 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, starting Monday 4th January. Come along with your problems.

TBRA Working Group Meetings for committee members only

11th Feb. & 10th Mar. 2016 7-30 to 9-30 p.m.

TBRA meeting: for all residents

25th Feb & 24th Mar. 2016 See opposite box for details

Regular Activities

MOBILE LIBRARY OUTSIDE MEETING PLACE ON ALTERNATE FRIDAYS

12th & 26th Feb & 11th & 25th March from 10-15 to 10.45 a.m.

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES, GUIDES meet in the TB 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 7th April.

Contact: Cassandra and Cheryl on the night and 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. Help is urgently required to assist on a regular basis in such activities as litter picking, hedge clipping, clearing paths etc .
Please contact Ron at 48 Brent or at TinkersBridge@gmail.com to find out more.

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 or 36 Brent.

RegenerationMK

The award of the contract to Mears as a Regeneration Partner was approved by the Cabinet 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 8th February), and at Executive Scrutiny (11th February).** I will keep an eye on the agendas. **If you would like to attend these meetings or if you would like a T shirt please contact me - TinkersBridge@gmail.com or 07599 321448.**

Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association Initiatives

TBRA is anxious to improve Tinkers Bridge for its residents. It successfully applied for a First Steps grant to help it to do this.

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

TBRA has decided to use the First Steps assistance to develop a Community Action Plan.

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

Tinkers Bridge Survey Questionnaire

As a start the Working Group developed a short First

Steps survey questionnaire to elicit feedback for the TB community plan - to ask residents their views.

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 draft plan for improving Tinkers Bridge as a place in which to live. We consulted YOUR views of this plan before submitting a revised version in February.

We will 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.

Mr Fix-It

David Lee hopes to organize a Fix-It facility for residents. The idea is that any resident can bring along faulty items that they think can be repaired and, if possible, assistance will be given in diagnosing the fault and repairing it. This could involve lending tools for the job and know-how, or repairing the item for the resident for collection the following week. If you could help with this project please contact David on tinkersbridge@gmail.com

Cooks' Corner

Recipe for Meatballs with chilies (optional), tomatoes and courgettes

Ingredients (enough for 4 people)

20-24 ready prepared or homemade meat balls
1 large chopped onion
1 large can of chopped tomatoes
1 pint of vegetable or chicken stock
1 tablespoonful of tomato paste
6 large tomatoes, quartered
2 large courgettes
1 or 2 sliced chilies (deseeded) if you like some heat

salt and pepper and mixed herbs to taste

Method

Collect together all the ingredients
Prepare the vegetables
Make the stock and add the tomato paste to it and stir until it is distributed

Brown the meatballs on all sides in 1 tablespoonful of hot vegetable oil and place on a large dish
Soften the chopped onion in the same pan, on a LOW heat. Make sure it doesn't burn.

Add the courgettes and chillies and allow to cook for a few minutes.

Then add the canned tomatoes and the stock and stir.

Add the meatballs and stir. Finally add the quartered tomatoes and some pepper and mixed herbs.

Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and simmer the meatball mixture for 20 minutes. Cover the

pan to save energy.

Remove the lid after 20 minutes and allow the mixture to cook for a further ten minutes at a higher heat. Make sure it doesn't boil over! This open cooking will reduce and thicken the sauce.

Taste the dish and add salt and pepper to taste.

I serve this meal with wholegrain rice and a fresh green vegetable such as broccoli. or green beans.

Do you need a Day Nursery? Try Hedgerows Children's Centre, Langland Rd, Netherfield

Hedgerows Children's Centre offers an enormous range of support for families with children under 5 yrs. Activities include : a messy session, ESOL classes free of charge, a café, a day nursery for 2 year olds, pregnancy testing, a BME group, aerobics, baby clinic, dental care for children and lots more. There is always a friendly welcome.

Contact: Hedgerows Children's Centre Tel: 01908 239000

Langland Road, Netherfield, Milton Keynes MK6 4NP

Areas served: Ashland, Browns Wood, Caldecotte, Eaglestone, Netherfield, Old Farm Park, Peartree Bridge, Simpson, Tinkers Bridge, Walnut Tree, Walton & Walton Park & Wavendon Gate

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 safety of your savings is guaranteed by the government. 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. Thanks, David for organizing this.