

Borough Councillor's Update – July 2014

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Extra Pothole Funding

The Government has provided around £168m for local councils to fix potholes in their areas. Of this figure, Bedford Borough Council has been allocated £511,618 to repair around 9,000 potholes. This follows funding of £289,423 received by the Council in March to make repairs to roads damaged by the winter weather.

Batts Ford Bridge

The Council is to carry out preliminary work to assess the benefits of a new bridge in Bedford town centre. For decades the Batts Ford Bridge has been mooted as a possible scheme to ease congestion. It would connect River Street on the northern side of the River Ouse with Kingsway, next to Borough Hall, on the southern side. The final scheme will be dependent on a bid for funding through the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP), the regional economic growth body.

Summer Play Schemes and Sports Courses

The Council is advertising a range of playschemes and sports courses for children and adults with learning and physical disabilities during the summer holidays.

Playschemes and games schemes will run from the 1st August to the 22nd August. They will be taking place at a range of sites throughout the Borough and will include arts, crafts, sports, games, external visits and competitions. Each session costs £2 (payable on arrival).

Similarly, sports courses will run from 28th July to the 29th August for 5 – 16 year olds. Booking is required for these courses.

A sports activity club for adults (aged over 16) with learning and physical disabilities takes place every Monday at the Bedford International Athletics Stadium. There is a different sport each week and each sessions costs £3 (payable on arrival). The club is provieng increasingly popular with around 30 attendees each week. Carers are also welcome to attend.

For more information on any of the above, including booking forms, please visit www.bedford.gov.uk/sport

Bedford River Festival

As a reminder, the biennial River Festival will take place on the Embankment on Saturday 19th – Sunday 20th July. The Festival will draw hundreds of thousands of people to see an array of events and attractions such as the funfair and fete, live music and entertainment, and local business and community group stalls.