

BIERTON WITH BROUGHTON COMMUNITY FACILITIES/LEISURE

The parish currently has three community halls – Bierton Sports Centre, The Jubilee Hall and the more recently opened Oakfield Community Centre on the Kingsbrook development. The first two are owned and run by the parish council. The Sports Centre was built in 1999 and replaced an old wooden scout hut and concrete football club changing rooms. The Jubilee Hall was built in 1935 from donations by the people of the village who bought a 'brick'. Some of those are commemorated by plaques in the side and front of the building. The hall was taken over by the WI during the war and remained in their ownership until 2017. The WI folded and the hall then passed to the parish council as per the terms of the original deeds.

The Sports Centre comprises the main hall, a committee room (currently used as a cloakroom by Pre-School and chair storage.), fully equipped kitchen; equipment storage room (tables, short mat bowls and table tennis tables) and the Pre-School storage room. There are two sports changing rooms with communal showers in each. An Official's changing room with shower. Ladies, Gents and Disabled toilet facilities. The car park can accommodate approx. 17 cars. Disabled access is via a slope up to the main door. There is a side door for access to the changing rooms to avoid going through the main hall and a further fire exit at the rear of the building.

The Sports Centre is the home for the Bierton Pre-School 5 days per week (8 sessions). The Scout Group also use it on two evenings per week for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts. All groups are open to both sexes.

Table Tennis and Short Mat Bowls are held once per week. There is also a Zumba class once per week and a Karate class twice per week.

The Sports Factor hold their holiday sports camps here during school holidays.

Football matches take place on Saturdays during September – April each year. FC Bierton and Stone United play their home matches there.

Bierton Lawn Tennis Club have their premises in the Recreation Ground. There is a children's playground, a kicking wall, basketball court and cricket nets here too. The Recreation Ground is used by dog walkers and children all year round. It is a public open space.

The Jubilee Hall comprises the main hall, a fully equipped kitchen, Committee Room, Ladies, Gents and Disabled toilet facilities. There is a car park for approximately 10/12 cars and three fire exits/disabled access doors.

The Jubilee Hall also holds regular activities – Kettlercise, Aylesbury Canine Training Society, Adult Ballet, Zumba, and Jazzercise on a weekly basis. A Bible Group meet there on a weekly basis too.

The Hall is also used for monthly Parish Council and other meetings as and when required.

The Social Group of St James Church use it for their functions and a craft group meet there weekly in the winter months.

Both halls are available for private hire for children and adult parties and other social functions at weekends or when the hall is not used for regular events. We do not allow weddings or teenage parties.

The Oakfield Community Centre also hosts a Day Nursery and is privately owned by Aktiva. There is a large community hall and two smaller meeting rooms which can be hired.

There are currently two Allotment sites in the parish. One is on the main A418 Aylesbury Road into the town and is run by Aylesbury Town Council.

Another is up Great Lane, behind Bell's Terrace. This is a privately run allotments comprising approximately 30 plots.

There are plans for allotments to be provided on the Kingsbrook site in the future.

There is one place of worship in the parish – St James Parish Church in Berton. The church dates back to the 13th Century. We have a resident Vicar and regular services are held on Sundays and during the week. The Church is open for tea and coffee on some Saturday mornings from 10 – 12.

There were two other places of worship in the parish – The Wesleyan Chapel at the top of Burcott Lane which has been converted to offices and the Baptist Chapel in Aylesbury Road which has been converted to a dwelling.

There are plans to use the community building on Kingsbrook as a place of worship in the future as it falls in the ecclesiastical parish of Broughton.

There are four public houses in the parish: The Red Lion on Aylesbury Road which has a restaurant six days per week. The Bell on Aylesbury Road has a restaurant incorporating Thai Cuisine. The Doghouse at Broughton has a restaurant. The Barn at Hulcott Turn has function rooms.

There is a Golf Range next to the Barn at Hulcott Turn where golfers can practise and improve their handicaps! This is used by all age groups.

Green spaces are being provided on the Kingsbrook development along with wildlife areas, play parks, etc.

Information from Parish Council and local knowledge.

Sheila Cotton

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