# **Anston and Woodsetts Ward**

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# PUTTING COMMUNITIES AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO

#### **Ward Priorities**

- Build community infrastructure via the development of a ward based network of key individuals/groups.
- Support and develop activities and facilities for children, young people and families including educational projects.
- Support health and wellbeing initiatives.
- Support the development of any new Neighbourhood Watch
- Support the implementation of the road improvement scheme.
- Work in partnership with police and others around community safety.
- Develop tenant engagement and support.

#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

Through the Ward Budget we have allowed community groups to bid for the funds rather than us decide where we think it should be spent. By doing this since its introduction in 2017 we have supported the sustainability and infrastructure of the buildings and land that they use including Anston Bowling Club, Anston Cricket Club, 27th Woodsetts Scouts, Woodsetts Parish Council and 35th Anston Scouts.

We have funded a mud kitchen at Anston Stones Early Years to help improve the physical development and co-ordination of their children as well as several cultural and activity trips for both adult and children's groups.

There were many more applications but these are just a few of the ones that have been supported.

# **Anston Plantation Event March 2018**

In 2017 the Woodland Management Plan recommended the removal of a large number of trees after they were identified as being unhealthy and potentially dangerous to members of the public who use the area on a regular basis. Rather than just simply remove the trees and dispose of them it was agreed that an educational project could be developed around this proposed work.

With the help of Rotherham Park Rangers and Neighbourhood Partnerships we were able to put on a two day event within the plantation. On the Friday 160 local school children had the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities including wood carving, learning about the local woodland and its wildlife, creating wildlife habitats and watch a sawmill in action with the Saturday being open to any resident and their families to participate. The wood that was removed from the plantation will eventually be turned into benches which will be placed around the village and in Anston Stones Wood.

## **Rackford Meadows Event October 2018**

Following on from the successful Anston Plantation event it was decided that with the co-operation of Anston Parish Council who own the land a similar one would be held at Rackford Meadows at North Anston to encourage educational woodland activities. A hundred children from local schools attended on the Friday and went on a series of educational woodland walks in Anston Stones Wood which is designated as a SSSI and has an archaeological history dating back millions of years before returning to make pictures out of natural items found in the woods, The wood carver and sawmill activities were also back to work with the children and on the Saturday stalls were provided by the Chesterfield Canal Trust, Sheffield Conservation Volunteers, South Yorkshire Badger Group, Sheffield Sorby Natural History Society, Cresswell Craggs Heritage Centre, RMBC Dog Wardens and the Salvation Army. The event was well supported on the Saturday by many residents and their families.

# **Ward Defibrillator Project**

We are looking at developing a ward wide defibrillator project where it is hoped that through a combination of the Ward budget, the Community Leadership Fund and other funding streams we can provide more of these units in both Anston and Woodsetts. We have already had one installed at Greenlands Park at North Anston which was as a result of partnership working with RMBC Green Spaces and Anston Parish Council. Following on from this training sessions have been held for local residents and users of the park to show them how to use the equipment.

In the New Year we will be visiting all of the schools in the ward to discuss the possibility of a defibrillators being installed outside each school as well as identifying any other any other suitable locations.

#### **Woodland Drive, North Anston**

Working together with South Yorkshire Police and Neighbourhood Partnerships we are looking at ways to support the residents on Woodland Drive after numerous complaints were received regarding anti-social behaviour and drug related issues in the area. After a number of meetings we are now working with both Housing and Streetpride to improve the existing street lighting and install new CCTV cameras around the Community Centre to help residents feel safe within their community.

#### **Community Clean Up Days**

A community skip and clean up day is well received by the community and gives us the opportunity along with partner organisations the opportunity to engage and speak to residents who wouldn't normally call to see us at our ward surgeries. These days are a valuable resource for the residents to help keep their community clean and tidy and in turn it allows us to discuss with residents any on going problems in the area.