

ROTHER VALE WARD

Covering Catcliffe, Treeton and Waverley



Councillor
Amy Brookes



Councillor
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Report to Full Council

July 2023

Ward priorities

- Support and contribute to a clean and green environment
- Support and develop community safety
- Support health, economic and social issues
- Support initiatives and events that encourage community cohesion and develop an understanding of diverse communities.

How these Ward Priorities were agreed

- Listening to residents and consulting with local people is key to setting priorities that meet the needs of our ward. We feel that local people are best placed to tell us about where they live and what matters to them.
- By using this local information and the existing knowledge made available to us, we have developed a set of ward priorities that are meaningful to people within our ward.
- Consultation with partner agencies and voluntary and community organisations has enabled us to gather further information and intelligence to feed into the ward priorities and identify any gaps.
- The Ward statistics and other data, have been analysed and information on the demography and geography of the area has been used to further enhance our knowledge of the ward and feed into the priorities

How these Ward Priorities support the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy

To deliver our priorities we feel it is vital to work together within our communities and support a 'place-based' and 'strength based' approach as set out in the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy.

Bringing people together who live and work within the ward helps us to identify what matters most to them; it helps us identify the existing strengths and assets within a neighbourhood and use this information to build stronger communities. It allows us to achieve and deliver projects that would not be possible without sharing skills, knowledge, expertise, and funding.

We are committed to using this approach to get the best possible outcomes for our communities and getting the most value for money from our ward budgets.

Working in partnership

Our approach has always been to recognise the importance of working in partnership on issue and projects to get the best possible outcome. Joining funding, expertise and knowledge can strengthen links between individuals and partners and build relationships that change communities for the better.

We have used our ward capital budget to deliver several projects jointly with Parish and Community Councils within the Ward. Without working together and pooling resources these projects would not have been possible.

- We have restored a rundown play area with Treeton Parish Council providing new benches and play equipment, with the help of probation services, residents, and green spaces.
- We have provided security gates and fencing on the recreational ground with Catcliffe Parish Council to prevent trespassing and improve community safety, working alongside Police, Community Protection Unit, and residents.
- We have worked with Waverley Community Council to install flashing slow down signs to reduce incidents of speeding vehicles in the new development at Waverley, supported by RMBC Highways, Harworth and residents.

Progress so far

Our capital ward budget and Community Leadership Fund has supported around 30 projects within Rother Vale. We have worked with 15 community groups and several partner agencies, including schools, Parish and Community Councils, Police, Housing, Environmental and Green Spaces to deliver these projects. We have many more ideas and projects to be developed over the coming months and look forward to meeting new people and partners. Here is a brief outline of just some of these and how they contribute towards our ward priorities

Ward Priority 1 – Support and contribute to a clean and green environment

We have provided funding for litter picking groups in Waverley and Treeton who are an invaluable asset to our ward, helping to keep the streets and pavements free of litter. These sessions are often run alongside community skips days.

In Waverley we support the Waverley Buds' Group who provide a community garden for everyone to enjoy and get involved in.

In November we will support the planting of over 100 trees in Catcliffe and will be launching an adopt a tree scheme.

We are hosting a 'design a sign competition' with Treeton CofE Primary and Treeton Parish Council and are asking pupils to design two signs for stop littering and pick up your dog poo. The designs will be made into metal signs and attached to lamp posts around the village.

Ward Priority 2 – Support and develop community safety

CAP meetings and multi-agency drop-in sessions give the community and partners the opportunity to come together, problem solve and give direct access for the community to speak to agencies.

We have supported Waverley Academy with road safety initiatives and bike marking kits

In response to complaints about inconsiderate and dangerous parking in Treeton we have fitting wooden posts to the perimeter of the green spaces.

We have worked with partners to provide funding toward a throw line at Treeton Dyke, to improve water safety.

Ward Priority 3 – Support health, economic and social issues

We have contributed funding to Waverley Academy to support alternative and active ways to travel to school safely, by purchasing bike and scooter pods.

We have continued to support intergenerational work, with Brinsworth Academy and Treeton Lunch Club who provide a two-course meal for older people bi-monthly. This is a lifeline for many people in the ward, with around 50 people attending each session.

We have supported the development of a new toddler group and youth provision within Catcliffe which is starting to become very popular within Catcliffe and the surrounding villages

There are many community groups providing valuable community activities for people that promote health and well-being, combating social isolation and helping people to feel a sense of pride and belonging within their neighbourhood. Groups such as the indoor bowling club, Treeton Sewing Group, Treeton Community Centre, Catcliffe Coffee Pot, Catcliffe outdoor bowling club, Waverley Wonders all contribute towards this ward priority.

Ward Priority 3 – Support initiatives and events that encourage community cohesion and develop an understanding of diverse communities.

Catcliffe Cone Community Group have gone from strength to strength and have hosted several community events over the past two years. They are now working in partnership with the Transport Museum to bring people to the cone as part of a heritage trail around significant sights in Rotherham. We have supported the group with many activities and have provided funding to purchase much needed storage facilities to enable them to continue delivering projects.

Flux Rotherham are an art-based programme who are providing activities within Catcliffe to bring people together through arts and music. Four events have taken place so far which has provided the opportunity to meet new people who we would not normally engage with.

We have supported Waverley events team to deliver a variety of events and activities aimed at bringing people together within a new community to build links and increase community engagement and relationships. We will continue to support the new and growing community of Waverley with the many challenges faced by people living within a new and developing community.