



Councillor
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Councillor
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Report to Full Council

July 2022

Ward priorities

- Improving the Physical Environment
 - Tackle hotspot areas suffering from fly-tipping and littering
 - Support initiatives that improve the look of the area
 - Clean Air Zone – Rawmarsh Hill
 - Development of Friends of Rawmarsh Cemeteries Group
 - Improvements to Sandhill Park
- Facilities and activities for children and young people
 - Expand range of activities of young people
 - Education projects
 - Improve physical and mental health and well-being
 - Encourage young people to read
- Explore opportunities to improve the Health and Wellbeing of Local Residents
 - Identify projects that aim to improve mental health and wellbeing
 - Support activities that promote physical activities
 - Support existing community groups to recover from the pandemic, re-opening community facilities and activities safely
- Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Support partnership working initiatives that make people feel safe where they live or work
 - Create initiatives that address issues in hotspot areas

How these ward priorities were agreed

We used a range of information to inform our Ward Plan priorities for the Rawmarsh East Ward:-

The new Ward boundaries and Ward profile.

Feedback from residents and stakeholders

Speaking to local organisations and individuals, and partners working and/or living within the Ward

Existing local knowledge



How these ward priorities support the Thriving Neighbourhoods strategy

Our approach has been and remains centred on the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy by putting our community at the heart of everything we do. To work to improve the health of our community, to make them feel safe and proud of where they live, by:-

- Working with communities on the things that matter to them
- Listening and working together to make a difference

Working in partnership

We have worked with colleagues within the Council and also:-

Friends of Rawmarsh and Parkgate Greenspaces
Friends of Rawmarsh Cemeteries
High Street Centre
Residents of Potteries Bungalow Complex
Residents of Apollo Street Bungalow Complex
Residents of Arcon Place Bungalow Complex
Friends of Turner Close Neighbourhood Centre
RMBC Partners, South Yorkshire Police
St. Joseph's Junior Football Club
Parkgate 200 Year Commemoration Group
Rawmarsh and Parkgate History Group
RotherFed



Progress so far

Work to improve the physical environment is a key priority for us. Friends of Rawmarsh and Parkgate Greenspaces carry out weekly litterpicks throughout the Rawmarsh area. The Group formed over four years ago and continued to carry out their work, individually and socially distanced, throughout the Covid pandemic. They have co-ordinated their litterpicks with Community Blitz and skip days to make a real difference to their area. For Remembrance Day, the area was decorated with over 300 lamppost poppies, which we are hoping to expand on further. Problem parking on the grass verges on Green Lane was solved with the installation of wooden bollards. We took this opportunity to enhance the neighbourhood by planting up these protected areas with spring bulbs which residents have really enjoyed seeing.

Facilities and activities for young people is also a priority to us. We have worked with Rawmarsh Library – providing funding for resources for the activities they carry out throughout the year. To encourage children to read we also funded, with Rawmarsh West Ward, a visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park for those children who completed the summer reading challenge. Feedback from the visit was very positive. Previously, we have funded a visit to the Space Centre in Leicester. We are looking to continue this, this year, with a visit to Magna.

We are in the process of planning a number of events – that will take place throughout 2023 - to celebrate the Parkgate 200 year commemorations. We are working in partnership with Rawmarsh and Parkgate History Group, Rotherham United Community Sports Trust, local schools, RotherFed and Council colleagues. The events will include a Gala; bulb/bedding plants on the traffic Island at entrance to Parkgate; Mini Museum at Rawmarsh Library; Easter Event; History Walks/Talks. The aim is to celebrate Parkgate now and Parkgate of the past, to raise the profile of Parkgate. We are hopeful that the Towns and Villages Funding works will be completed in time to enhance these events.

We have held drop-ins, surgeries and walkabouts in Neighbourhood Centres, bungalow complexes and hotspot areas throughout Rawmarsh East with colleagues from Housing, South Yorkshire Police and RotherFed to identify and address concerns and priorities. Arising from these, improvements are being made to drying areas in the Potteries bungalow complex and Ring Doorbells are being provided to residents on Victoria Road funded through the Ward Housing Hub. We continue to carry out drop-ins, surgeries and walkabouts to inform our priorities for this and coming years.