



Councillor Rachel
Hughes



Councillor Dave
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Report to Full Council

Rawmarsh East Ward Priorities

1. Improvements to the physical environment
2. Improvements to community facilities and expansion of activities for local residents
3. Explore opportunities to improve health and wellbeing of local residents
4. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
5. Celebrating local heritage

How these priorities were agreed - Priorities were agreed in June 2024 following the in-depth study of Rawmarsh East ward data profiles, community intelligence, and information from services and partners. The priorities were reviewed this summer and agreed jointly to remain the same. New data, intelligence and information was used to inform this decision including consultation results undertaken by the Rawmarsh High Street Centre verifying that the priorities were still appropriate to local residents' needs and aspirations.

How these ward priorities support the Neighbourhood Leadership Strategy - The priorities centre on 'working with' communities and placing them at the heart of all we do. We aim to empower people, using a strengths-based approach to improve outcomes and support the most vulnerable.

Partnership Working – Rawmarsh prides itself on its effective partnership working. We especially have a strong voluntary and community sector in Rawmarsh so work continues to link them into agencies to enable them to shape or deliver the services Rawmarsh residents need locally.

Progress so far –

1. Improvements to the physical environment

Rawmarsh and Parkgate Friends of Green Spaces Celebrate their 10th Anniversary - This summer, the Group celebrated 10 years since its formation. As ward councillors, we are proud to continue supporting the Group, whose volunteers dedicate their Friday mornings every week to litter picking across Rawmarsh and Parkgate. The impact of their dedication and work is staggering. They are keen

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reporters of fly-tipping which has resulted in areas being cleaned up quickly and even successful prosecutions have resulted from their reports.

CCTV Camera for fly-tipping – The ward budget funded the installation of a CCTV camera at a new Council apartment development in Rawmarsh to tackle fly-tipping and the misuse of communal waste bins. Residents were experiencing problems with individuals arriving by vehicle and disposing of household waste in the tenants' bins, causing them to overflow and creating an unsightly environment. Since the CCTV camera was installed, the issue has been successfully resolved, resulting in a cleaner and more pleasant environment for residents.

2. Improvements to community facilities and expansion of activities for local residents

Expansion of Barbers Avenue Play Area - The Barbers Avenue Play Area situated alongside the Rawmarsh Customer Service Centre is a much-loved play area for local young people. The ward budget has enabled the expansion of the play area, refurbishment of the adventure trail area and the installation of picnic benches.

Support for food initiatives - With high levels of deprivation across both wards, supporting food initiatives has remained a key priority. Ward budget funding enabled Rawmarsh Foodbank to purchase its own storage container, removing the ongoing cost of container rental and allowing more of its resources to be directed towards providing food and support for residents in need. We have also worked closely with the Community Pantry to launch and sustain a weekly visit from their service in Rawmarsh Library giving residents the opportunity to obtain a bag of food for £4 and help reduce food waste.

3. Explore opportunities to improve health and wellbeing of local residents

Craft Group Supplies - The ward budgets have enabled us to support two craft groups who meet weekly in our Neighbourhood Centres with craft supplies helping the continuation of their fantastic work.

www.rotherham.gov.uk/rawmarsh-east-ward

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4. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour

Security items for victims of crime - The ward budget funded the purchase of a range of security items to create a stock that can be issued by Housing colleagues and the Local Policing Team to Council tenants who have been victims of crime or anti-social behaviour.

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