

Rotherham East Ward

Councillor Wendy Cooksey (07494 373502)

Councillor Deborah Fenwick-Green (07515 382272)

Councillor Tajamal Khan (01709 255725)



Councillor
Cooksey



Councillor
Fenwick-Green



Councillor
Khan

PUTTING COMMUNITIES AT THE **HEART** OF EVERYTHING WE DO

Serving Clifton, East Dene, Eastwood & Herringthorpe

Ward priorities

- 1 Support initiatives addressing the impact of Covid-19 on Rotherham East and also those which address mental health issues
- 2 Continue to work with partners delivering the Eastwood Deal and are particularly keen to support initiatives involving local people
- 3 Ensure a co-ordinated response to crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly to support residents at The Walk and Springwell Gardens
- 4 Continue to work on the potential development of a brand new community hub in Badsley Moor Primary School
- 5 Work with Schools, Children's Centres and the Council's Early Help Team, particularly to support work improving children's health and wellbeing
- 6 Support initiatives which bring communities together, celebrating the diversity in our ward.

It is a long time since our last presentation to full council and a lot has happened since then. Though not exhaustive, here are a selection of projects showing how we have worked in line with our ward priorities; and, last year, throughout the pandemic to strengthen community resilience.

Community planting schemes at Selborne Street, Erskine Road, St Ann's Road and roundabout (and decorative, on-street planters at various sites across Eastwood Village) brought councillors and community together working towards the common goal of making streets look more colourful and attractive while also providing the opportunity to talk about issues of concern and council services.

The pandemic saw grants made to local food banks for essential items including toiletries. There was also a collection of sanitary items through local partners including Clifton Community School and local charities to broaden the items food banks could offer.

A bee farm was set up at Eastwood to teach people new skills and rejuvenate an unused piece of land leased from The Canal and Rivers Trust. 2020 saw us enjoying the rewards of the first honey produced at the site and the beekeepers donated jars to Clifton Learning Partnership for sharing with the community.



Reflective clip on items were purchased for all for 5-8 year old pupils in Rotherham East ward primary schools, to improve road safety during dark, winter evenings.

wendy.cooksey@rotherham.gov.uk

deborah.fenwick-green@rotherham.gov.uk

tajamal.khan@rotherham.gov.uk



Recognising the need for interests, hobbies and pursuits to help people cope with the effects of lockdowns, and to aid physical and mental health, a grant was made in support of Clifton Garden Society who made a funding application for a new notice board.



Wildlife cameras were also purchased for three local primary schools (Coleridge Road, East Dene and Eastwood Village primaries) to run innovative projects to engage less academic pupils.



An outdoor gym and play area was completed at Eastwood for local residents to make use of as restrictions lift. Some limited use, supervised, socially-distanced play was allowed before the last lockdown and the facility shows great promise as a community asset as we move forward.

The loss a very highly valued South Yorkshire Police colleague, PCSO Steph McIntyre, was marked by the installation of new signage at a community building in her memory. Locals, both residents and partner organisations, were delighted to see Steph honoured with this lasting tribute to her.



Feral cats have long been of concern to many residents. The diseases they can spread to both domestic cats and humans was raised and in response an additional cat trap was purchased to help tackle the problem.

Trapped animals are being neutered and released or, if possible, re-homed. The ears of trapped animals are also marked so it can be easily seen if they have been previously

caught and neutered, to stop the number of feral cats increasing.

An ongoing project for Rotherham east members has been the transformation of the 19th century cholera burial ground at Park Road. The pandemic derailed attempts to complete the refurbishment of the site with some hard landscaping last year and this is now set to take place in late Spring 2021. However, it has been possible to deliver clearer new signage, with the latest RMBC branding, and this was installed at the site on 19th March.

