

Councillor Annual Report 2019/20

Councillors Dave Liversidge (St Ann's Ward)

1. Introduction

Together with my fellow Councillors I represent St Ann's which covers around 10,000 properties in an area stretching from Mansfield Road in the West to Ransom Road and Donkey Hill in the East and from Corporation Oaks in the North to Elford Rise in the South. The ward includes parts of the city centre, Sneinton Market, Robin Hoods Chase and Carlton Road.

2. Council Involvement

I sit on the following committee's;

- Mapperley and St Ann's and Dales Area Committee (Area 6)
- Appointments and Conditions of Service Committee (Chair)
- Health and Scrutiny Committee
- Licensing Committee

3. Community Involvement

We hold regular ward walks throughout the year with Council Officers and the Police to talk to residents, identify problems and come up with practical solutions. We attend community group meetings, tenants and residents meetings and other public events in our ward so we can hear about any local issues and concerns. We are into our second year of organising and publicising Tea and Cake Consultation meetings at Warden Aided and older people's housing complexes where we meet residents and allow them to voice their opinions whilst enjoying a slice of cake and a cup of tea.

We also support events to celebrate Christmas, Easter, St George's Day and other locally important occasions as a way of bringing people together.

4. Ward Work and Achievements

We held surgeries twice a week for constituents to try and help constituents with their problems and have helped over 700 people sort out problems with the Council, Nottingham City Homes and other public agencies.

At the election we committed to

1. Provide a fund to remove trees causing problems to residents' homes, planting 2 trees elsewhere in the Ward for every one removed.
2. Provide residents parking schemes in all areas of the Ward where it is needed and wanted.
3. Provide more diversionary schemes for young people and ensure that 40% of area based grant for St Ann's is spent on youth schemes to provide diversion against violence and knife crime.
4. Continue to develop housing in the Ward including building and buying 50 Council Houses.
5. Provide a programme of pavement, road resurfacing and filling potholes.

And so far we are making progress in getting a fund for trees and parking schemes, helped set up the youth café van, started to build new social flats on Woodborough road and concluded the street survey to determine what repairs are needed.

There was a successful week of action in October 2019 and successfully adopted the Elgar Gardens approach to a problematic alleyway, this approach will be considered again when looking at other problem alleyways;

Finally we know residents are finding it increasingly difficult to park in the area and we are funding a systematic programme of parking restrictions designed to ensure local people and businesses have priority access to the spaces available.

5. Use of Devolved Budgets

We have a small revenue and a small capital fund to help in the ward. This year it was spent as follows:-

Revenue

Resilience Food Banks
School Holiday Programme
King Edwards Park Fireworks
NCC Early Help Summer Programme

Events

St Ann's Christmas Lights switch on where over 300 people attended helping to make the event a success
St Ann's Carnival
National Play Day – Summer Programme

Groups

St Ann's Advice Group
The Chase Connections Project
ACAF
Boos Foundation

Capital

Larger Schemes

Tree works Assessment and removal of large trees
War Memorial

LTP Schemes

The final year of a three-year traffic survey is starting and there is also focus on creating a list of roads/streets with significant potholes.

St Ann's Public Realm Schemes

Tree works Assessment and removal of large trees
King Edward Park Improvements
Stonebridge Farm Contribution IT Upgrade
CCTV unit at Alison Walk
Signage Wainwright House with a contingency funding in case of additional signage costs in the ward
Creation of a new parking area to the rear Curzon Court.
Windmill Lane Link footpath
Repair of wall on link footpath between Windmill Lane and Spalding Road - lead service:

Commuter Parking Prevention schemes

St Ann's Well Road area
Westville Gardens Area

Environmental Improvements

Furze Gardens

6. Challenges

Cuts in public spending are increasingly challenging the ability of the Council, Police and Heath Service to keep the area clean, safe and well and its residents in good health.

Although Crime is much lower than a decade ago and the incidences of serious crime very low there has been an increase in Knife crime which is a major concern for local people. Incidents of Antisocial Behaviour reported to the Council and Police continue to decline but levels are still too high. Following a spike in graffiti funding has been secured to lead on a Graffiti campaign

Councillors, ASB officers, Nottinghamshire police and other partners continue to work to ensure congregations of young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime are offered other activities. The Youth Van is being deployed in the area to divert young people from possibly becoming involved in criminal activity; Incidences of fly tipping are growing and people continue to be concerned about overgrown street trees. Parking for residents is a growing challenge particularly in housing areas close to the city centre.

Schools in the ward offer a good standard of education, particularly at Primary Schools but, despite the work of our secondary schools, achievement levels at 16 still need to improve.

Our aim is respond to and address these issues, through our priorities, area working with local people and using our influence in partnership with public agencies, private businesses and community groups.