

Musters Ward.

Letter to Residents of:

All North Rd, All Chaworth Rd, the north side of South Rd and the west side of Musters Rd between numbers 158 and 178.



Dear Resident,

Autumn 2014

We are very sad that changes to the boundaries of Wards mean that next year you will no longer be in Musters Ward. The new boundaries were established in an Electoral Commission process once the Conservative ruling group decided to reduce the number of elected Councillors.

We appreciate those who have supported us. We have been pleased to serve all residents and done our best to represent the interests of the area. We have tried to keep you informed with our Focus newsletters. Some residents know us well and many know that we have been active on your behalf. (See overleaf.)

Maybe you will consider supporting our action in the community. We would be delighted to discuss any possible involvement. If you are in a position to consider standing to represent your area we are happy to discuss what is involved.

Your address becomes part of a long Lutterell Ward which currently has two Conservative Councillors. The changes to the boundaries of Rushcliffe Council Wards in West Bridgford can be found at:

<http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/elections/reviewofpollingdistricts/>

Until early next year we will continue to produce and deliver our Focus newsletters to your address. For those who ask to receive our occasional emails, we will continue to include you because we send those to residents in West Bridgford as well as our Ward.

Yours with regret,

Karrar Khan and Rod Jones

Karrar Khan and Rod Jones



Your Musters and West Bridgford Liberal Democrat Councillors

Contact us with views or help: Rod Jones 0115 914 6616 and Karrar Khan 0115 914 6758

Emails: cllr.rjones@rushcliffe.gov.uk & cllr.kkhan@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Visit www.rushcliffelibdems.org.uk

We worked all year round to deliver on our promises. We have:

- produced and delivered to you 3 Focus Newsletters each year to keep you informed and sent monthly Community News emails on local matters e.g. road closures and crime, to those who give us their emails.
- taken up matters on behalf of many residents.
- represented you at Council, Scrutiny & other Council meetings (over 30 a year).
- attended Civic Functions including Remembrance Services.
- supported local voluntary groups from the Council's Community Fund.
- campaigned to support local shops, keep Melton Rd Post Office open & opposed the Sainsbury's application to open a Melton Rd 'Local'.
- worked with the Police in forming their local priorities.

Challenged the Rushcliffe Self-Congratulatory Approach. We

- vigorously scrutinise Rushcliffe Conservative decisions & complacency. Conservatives have a huge majority with 36 Councillors. Liberal Democrats have 6 Councillors and are the largest opposition group. Other Councillors are 5 Labour, 2 Green and 1 Independent.
- proposed cuts to money spent on Rushcliffe Councillors (Conservatives said No).
- called for Councillors to be required to disclose membership of other organisations from National Trust to Freemasons (Conservatives said No).
- proposed that residents be allowed to put questions to Council meetings for a trial period (Conservatives said No).
- challenged them about giving massive loans to the County Cricket Club without specification of the service benefits to residents.
- contribute to budget discussions when we can & work with County Councillors.
- proposed an extra fund so people affected by the 'bedroom tax' and couldn't move were not out of pocket. (Conservatives said no).

We have spoken, put questions & submitted motions at the majority of Council Meetings. We have spoken on topics including: Leisure Centres, cost of Shared Services project, pollution on Loughborough Rd, loan to Notts Cricket Club, eco-town, recycling, cost of East Leake Leisure Centre, gypsy sites, local use of £40 million from Sharphill for infrastructure, called for Conservatives to not misrepresent council money as personal gifts, the case for HS2 to connect with East Midlands Parkway.

Fought every step against building on Sharphill. We:

- wrote and objected in person to the 2009 Public Inquiry & to replacing the underpass with traffic lights.
- vigorously opposed the 2013 local plan increasing the number of properties to be built. Labour backed building more!!
- won a reprieve from building around all sides of the Nature Reserve Wood.
- proposed that Rushcliffe Council use most of the pay-back from the land sale to improve services & infrastructure locally to offset the impact in WB. Conservatives rejected this.

Looking after the environment. We have:

- reported graffiti for removal, litter which needs collecting and street lights needing attention.
- pressed the Council to install solar panels on its buildings – Conservatives said no.
- supported the survival of Streetwise as a service which rightly gets high public rating.
- proposed and got the kerbside Household Battery Collection Scheme implemented so rare metals are re-used and not burnt in the Incinerator.
- obtained new and replacement kerbside waste bins.
- supported the recycling scheme and proposed a lower charge for the first green bin.

Pressing for local services. We have:

- surveyed Residents' Opinions about the Mega-Surgery, reported in Focus and represented those views.
- highlighted flooding problems, and helped the case for the holding tank and annual clearing of the ditch round the allotments.

Working to keep Leisure Services. We have:

- represented residents' concerns about the Council's plan to close Rushcliffe Leisure Centre (which is the most popular of the Centres) and add new facilities at the Arena.
- successfully argued for Parkwood to re-instate holiday play-schemes.
- supported table tennis and squash clubs.

Rushcliffe Conservatives tell you that they charge low Council Tax for *average band homes*.
But what you pay is the highest average in the county
because our property values are, on average, a lot higher in Rushcliffe.