



# FOCUS

YOUR LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCILLOR FOR MUSTERS WARD

## Councillor Sara Dellar

### Boundary Road Park changes welcome

The Park re-opened on 15 January after a £63K refurbishment. It had been closed since summer 2023 for repair work because it was deemed unsafe as wood supports had rotted.

Clearing the mound has created space for two new pieces of equipment, a wheelchair accessible seesaw, and a new climbing frame for those with 'Gladiator' intentions. The bench in the park now also has a back rest which makes it more pleasant for young and old.

The soil from the mound has been used within the park to create raised areas by the hedge and under the tree.

Sara has been tracking progress and reporting updates on her Facebook page. Better signage explaining the closures were put up at Sara's request and then replaced when she reported the signs missing.



***Boost for the park with wheelchair accessible equipment***

Sara thanked the officers for their hard work. Additional work painting equipment and tidying up any landscaping issues will be completed in the spring.

A bench should be installed beside the cycle track soon.



***Sara supporting a more inclusive and accessible park***

### ***What's inside...***

- **Sharphill and the earth**
- **Cycling and recycling**
- **Fair voting**
- **Gaza and West Bank**

# Working hard for you

## Developer dumps dirt behind Bracey Drive and Dorchester Gardens



Alarmed by what residents had reported in the summer, Sara went with a planning officer to see some of the new dirt dumped by the developer. Her view was that this was a clear breach of how high the earth could be dumped. The Planning Officer acted and the new additional deposits were removed.

Later the developer sought planning permission to move all of the earth which has been 'temporarily stored' and to spread it over all the fields between Sharphill Wood and the Spinney. Their application went first to Rushcliffe, then to the County Council because it is classed as waste. Visit [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning) and search '**Pending**' and then '**Reference F/4603**'.

The developer describes it as topsoil but much of it is clay and road stone. We, and others, have objected to this. There are many reasons, including:

- effective closure of the Rights of Way leading to the Wood
- damaging to wildlife habitats
- increased risk of flooding properties and roads
- clogging the land drain



***Sara says no to spreading of earth on the North facing slope. There is enough water and clay running off the slope down to Peveril Drive and nearby houses. The Council has to sweep it off the road from time to time.***

## Cycling

Sara attended the Rushcliffe Cycling Forum which started in 2021. She pointed out the need to improve safe provision for cycling links between the new developments and the older parts of West Bridgford and on the main radial routes. The Rushcliffe Cycling Forum was discontinued in October 2023 after MP Ruth Edward stopped her support for future meetings. The cycling organisation 'Pedals' continues to push for greater cycling provision.

Sara welcomes the plans for the new walk and cycle bridge (see picture) over the Trent in principle. She will keep an eye on the plans.

For details visit [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk) then '**planning online**' and application **24/00126/FUL**.

## Top of Selby Road

**Yellow Lines are wanted from the County Council.**

It's high time they are installed on the junction and for some distance down one side. Residents and we have been asking for this for a long time. It is the County Council who see to roads.

Exiting and entering drives continues to be a problem every weekday. Sara Dellar has asked County Councillor Jonathan Wheeler but there are no firm plans yet.



**Your Focus Team — standing up for the environment**



# Liberal Democrats — Recycling Matters

## Recycling news

Every council has a different scheme. There are different detailed contracts with recycling companies. The government want to bring all councils into line. We support this, as long as the financial burden on local authorities is covered. The lack of clarity and inconsistencies are seen as causing confusion and holding back higher recycling rates.

In October 2023 the government eventually published its consultation which is due back in April 2024 . It is possible that they stall this, or transfer the costs of changing equipment and contracts to the next government!! In any event the earliest the changes could occur are in March 2026.

Rushcliffe continues with its current scheme as any changes now could fall foul of further mandated changes. This means improvements like collecting food waste are on hold.



***Please keep your tetra-packs and recycle them at ASDA , the Library Car Park, Morrisons and elsewhere.***



## Supporting the Friary Allotments

Sara used the council community grant to pay £490 for blinds for the new greenhouse. The two new staff who run the project want to increase the use of the allotments by having more all weather spaces. Now they can grow food come rain or sunshine. The staff engage users of the Friary support service in working on the allotments and learning about and producing food. [The Friary is the Homeless Drop In Service.]

## Tory Turbulence in leadership

**Since 2010:** 4 Prime Ministers, 16 Housing Ministers, 10 Secretaries of State for Education, 12 Culture Secretaries, 9 Secretaries for Pension and 7 Transport Secretaries. When James Cleverly became Home Secretary it was his 7<sup>th</sup> posting in less than 5 years.

And on top of this, a Brexit that damages British exports and undermined agreements with our neighbours on the continent. The Lib Dems have a 4 stage plan to rebuild relations with Europe.

**For a fairer society and a fairer economy**

# Liberal Democrats make sense

## Liberal Democrats stand up for International Law and Humanitarian Aid.

Liberal Democrats have always stood in support of a lasting peace and a two-state solution in Israel and Palestine.

◆ On 22nd October 2023, Liberal Democrat Leader, Ed Davey urged "Rishi Sunak to call for an immediate pause in hostilities in the form of a temporary humanitarian ceasefire in the Middle East, to allow essential supplies into Gaza and provide an opportunity for the hostages to be released."

◆ On 19th December 2023, Layla Moran, Liberal Democrat MP said: "When will the Government demand an immediate bilateral ceasefire? Will it change how it votes at the UN security council as a result?"

*When will the Prime Minister accept that the only route to peace is a political not military one - that this is the only way to get rid of Hamas, and end the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza?*

*And finally, when will the United Kingdom finally fulfil its historic obligations to the region - recognise Palestine as a first step to delivering two states - the only way to guarantee the dignity and security which all Palestinians and Israelis deserve? "*

◆ Recently, Ed Davey, said: "Only a sustained political and diplomatic solution will resolve this conflict and deliver a lasting peace. We urgently need movement towards that solution now."

He called for an immediate bilateral ceasefire.

## We want Fair Voting

First Past the Post leaves many people feeling powerless, feeling that their votes do not count.

Liberal Democrats would:

✓ Introduce proportional representation for electing MPs and local councillors in England to ensure fairer representation and better accountability. Local representation can be preserved.

✓ Scrap the Conservatives' voter ID scheme to stop millions of people becoming disenfranchised.

✓ Give 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote.

✓ Take big money out of politics by capping donations to political parties at £10,000 a year.

✓ Transfer greater powers away from Westminster and Whitehall to the nations and regions of our Union.

✓ Enhance the powers of local government in England within this new federal settlement.

***The Lib Dems support proportional representation. It is used in Scotland and Wales. This ensures that your voice is heard and transfers more power back to the people.***



Councillor Sara Dellar

Liberal Democrat Councillor — Musters Ward

Tel: 0115 914 8466

Email: [cllr.sdellar@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.sdellar@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

Follow me on Facebook by searching 'Cllr Sara Dellar'

To all residents: we are approachable and will be available to respond to individual matters.

## Liberal Democrats Care