

## Residents 'say it with flowers' in Forest Fields

Streets in Forest Fields have been given a floral facelift thanks to the efforts of a brand new residents' group; the Forest Fields Improvement Association, and local community charity, the Partnership Council.

The recently-formed residents' group offered local people the chance to have a free hanging basket, planted and installed outside their home, and 250 residents have taken up the offer, giving streets in the area a real splash of colour.

The baskets were planted last weekend at the Forest Fields Community Centre yard on Sturton Street, by members of the Residents' Association, local residents, volunteers and skilled gardeners from the Arkwright Community Gardens Project, based in the Meadows.

The majority of baskets have been planted with annual flowers, although some have been planted with a mixture of herbs, including mint. In addition, the Association has provided a number of smaller, 'half baskets', designed to lie flat against a wall, for people who don't have a lot of space outside their homes.

The Association also organised to have brackets installed for the baskets to hang on, and these were put up with the help of Ecoworks, a local environmental charity from St Anns.

The hanging baskets project has been spearheaded by Moby Farrands, a local resident and Volunteering Development Officer at the Partnership Council. She says:

*"The project has been a great success. The hanging baskets look fantastic of course, but the project has also brought neighbours together and got people interested in improving the area."*

Ali Khan, a founder member of the new residents' group agrees:

*"The idea for the residents' group was to bring residents from different cultures together, so we can work to build pride in the area. The hanging baskets project has shown exactly what can be achieved when this happens."*

The Forest Fields Improvement Association is supported by several organisations including the Partnership Council, the Pakistan Forum, the Forest Fields Community Centre and the Sumac Centre.

To find out more please contact

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or call into the Partnership Council, 47 Gregory Boulevard, next to the NatWest Bank  
in Hyson Green, or email [moby@partnershipcouncil.co.uk](mailto:moby@partnershipcouncil.co.uk)**

The hanging baskets project has been funded by Nottinghamshire Community Foundation.

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