



House of Commons
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SW1A 0AA

Sarah Champion
Member of Parliament for Rotherham

Immediate release
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Sarah Champion MP backs campaign to keep local community centre open

Sarah Champion, Member of Parliament for Rotherham, has today joined local residents in a campaign against the potential closure of their community hall. Sarah met with some of the affected members of the community outside Riverside House before handing their petition in to the Council.

In September last year, the future of St Johns Green Tenants Hall in Kimberworth Park was put in doubt by a report from Rotherham Council. The Centre was one of three recommended for a further review, due this month, before a final decision on closures was made.

Since the report was released, the Tenants and Residents Association at Kimberworth Park have rallied to show how important St Johns Green is to their community. They've collected signatures from those visiting and asked the users what services provided at the centre they find useful. The T.A.R.A serve breakfast at the hall on certain days of the week, as well as selling bric-a-brac to raise money for the local community. They also organise various outings and events throughout the year.

Discussing the campaign to keep the centre open, Sarah said:

"I'm very happy to be supporting local residents in their campaign to keep open St Johns Green Tenants Hall in Kimberworth Park. It's important that we do all we can to try and save facilities and services which are clearly well loved within the community."

"The Tenants Hall plays a meaningful role in many people's lives. For some it's the difference between getting out of the house for a few hours or not seeing anyone all day. You cannot underestimate the difference this can make to someone's happiness and wellbeing. It's also raising money which is being donated to local charities and being put back into the community."

"With this petition, the Tenants and Residents Association have shown just how much the hall means to them and to Kimberworth Park as a whole. I hope that Rotherham Council take note of the many positives provided by St Johns Green Tenants Hall and make the decision to keep it open."

ENDS

NOTES FOR EDITOR

Rotherham Council: Review of Directly Managed Community Centres -
<http://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/documents/s95968/Community%20Centres%20review%20Report.pdf>

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If you would like to receive Sarah's E-newsletter to learn more about her work representing Rotherham - please click [here](#) to subscribe