

FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

13 January 2021

Whittlesey play area reopens following expansion

A new and improved play area has reopened in Whittlesey thanks to a £135,000 makeover funded by FCC Communities Foundation and Fenland District Council.

Snowley Park play area, off Stonald Road, has reopened with new basket swings, a net and tower slide, see-saw, roundabout, 5-way swings, spinners and a rope walk.

Other features include a new scramble net, balance beam, a slide and a new goal area, as well as all new safety surfacing. New benches are also being installed in the coming weeks.

The expansion, which was designed and built by leading play supplier, HAGS, incorporated existing trees and grassed mounds into the design. It was completed just before Christmas and was funded with a generous £45,000 grant from FCC Communities Foundation and Section 106 monies from the Council.

Cllr Peter Murphy, the Council's Portfolio Holder for the Environment, said: "This new and improved play area looks fantastic and will make a huge difference to the lives of families and young people living in the area.

"I'm delighted it reopened in time for children to enjoy it and get some much-needed exercise while we all face being indoors in this latest lockdown.

"As part of the bid process we consulted with local people and this is what they told us they wanted so I am delighted that local people will now benefit from this investment. This is a fantastic example of how the community, local councillors and the Council can work together to improve life for residents."

Cllr Dee Laws, Fenland District Council member for Stonald ward, added: "It's wonderful that FCC Communities Foundation awarded the Council this money to help bring this project to fruition. HAGS has done an exceptional job of building the park on time and to a very high specification, and I have received so much positive feedback from children, parents and carers. I'm sure that it will be used by so many for years to come.

"I'd like to thank everyone involved in this fantastic project, particularly the Council's Parks and Open Spaces officers for their work with residents and HAGS to bring this much-needed facility together. It clearly demonstrates a great team effort."

- In line with current Government guidance, the Council's parks, open spaces and outdoor play areas remain open for the purpose of daily exercise. Visitors should follow Government guidance regarding social distancing, follow any signage, sanitise their hands regularly and wash their hands when they return home. Under current restrictions, residents can leave their home to exercise once a day. You can join one other person for your exercise.

ENDS

For more information contact Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226