

## Early Christmas Present for the Children of East Bridgford...

Two and half years hard work came to fruition on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December in East Bridgford when the completely renewed and expanded children's playground was opened. It certainly was an early Christmas Present for the Children of East Bridgford...

It was a bitterly cold but lovely sunny afternoon for the opening ceremony, which was attended by about 30 villagers and parents, the members of the East Bridgford Park Renewal Group who drove the project, the Parish Council and the entire staff and pupils of St Peter's Primary School. Guests included

- Representatives of the major funders WREN and Veolia
- Representatives of architects; Cracknell Landscape architects
- The builders; NT Killingley Ltd
- The Borough Councilor Cllr Nigel Lawrence
- County Councillor Kay Cutts was unable to attend because of her duties as leader of Notts County Council

The opening was performed by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Gordon Moore and his Mayoress, of Rushcliffe Borough Council who stood in at the last minute when the Mayor was struck down by illness. The mayor commented that the new playground is in keeping with the rural nature of the village, being built out of sustainable materials. He also noted that it makes provision for all young people from 1 year old to 16. (a summary of the Mayors speech is attached).



Once the playground had been opened the school children had the chance to test the new playground - proving that you can get all 140 pupils on the equipment simultaneously. Whilst this was happening the

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Deputy Mayor, Mayoress and funders were shown round the site by Cllr Garth Powell (PC Chairman) and Cllr Lawrence and guests, playground and children were comprehensively photographed.

Then it was time for the children to return to class, and the whole party returned to the school for tea & mince pies. The school choir, who had earlier sung in the Broadmarsh Centre in Nottingham, serenaded the visitors with their up tempo versions of Carols and Christmas songs.

For more Background information contact

Cllr Nigel Lawrence (PRG Group chairman). 01949 20619 [cllr.nlawrence@eastbridgford.net](mailto:cllr.nlawrence@eastbridgford.net)

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### *Notes for speech by Mayor*

Congratulate East Bridgford village on completing a very large project for a small village.

Note with pleasure that the new playground is in keeping with the rural nature of the village, built out of sustainable materials. Note also that it makes provision for all young people from 1 year old to 16.

#### **Glad to see the opening is attended by**

- the Playground Renewal team who worked so hard
- representatives of the funders
- the Parish Council who supported the project throughout and provided funding
- representatives of the architects and builders
- representatives of the school who have collaborated throughout

**Thanks** – on behalf of the Borough and the Parish of East Bridgford to our funders

Veolia Environmental Trust

Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd – better known as WREN

Groundwork Community Spaces – part of the Big Lottery Fund

Who all provided approaching £50,000, and to

East Bridgford Parish Council who provided the balance of the funding

And to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make this possible, particularly

the Play Ground Renewal Group

the teachers at St Peters School

THEN CUT RIBBON

And throw playground open to the children.