

NEWS RELEASE – 21 December 2011

Christmas arrives early for Heytesbury youngsters

Heytesbury youngsters received an early Christmas present with the completion of their play area improvements thanks to a £15,500 Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) grant from the Hills Group through Community First.

Work on the play area started in May of this year after donations from the Parish Council, Selwood Housing, Heytesbury Hedgehogs Pre-School, Heytesbury Young Persons Organisation (Hypo) and a grant from the Warminster Area Board were secured.

Nick King, group director for Hills Homes, said: “Having redeveloped the former Griffins Garage site into an attractive scheme of new homes called Old Forge Close, I’m delighted that we’ve also been able to contribute to the nearby Heytesbury play area improvements project. It’s great to see how our work benefits the local communities we work in.”



Caption: Nick King, group director for Hills Homes, with Helen Cotter of Community First (left) and Anne Perry, chairman of Heytesbury, Imber and Knook Parish Council.

The initial work saw the installation of a challenging 60m Timber Trail, an 8m high unpredictable basketball called the Fireball, and two pieces of outdoor fitness equipment suitable for all ages. This alone was a great improvement on the aged swings and roundabout!

After third-party contributions from three local businessmen were generously donated, the LCF grant from the Hills Group was secured, and that meant that a multi-level play tower with climbing wall and helter skelter style slide could be added providing an exciting dimension to play in the village.

The chair of Heytesbury, Imber and Knook Parish Council, Anne Perry, thanked all those who generously contributed to the project and said,



“Children and their families can now escape to an environment that is safe, fun and friendly to enjoy, and also enables young and young at heart to play and exercise together. This is a marvellous achievement for the village and its residents.”

The opening of the play area was celebrated on Wednesday 21 December.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

The Hills Group Limited

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Community First is a charity working to improve the quality of life and the economic well-being of people throughout Wiltshire and Swindon. With the aim of empowering people and strengthening local communities, Community First provides technical advice, practical support and grant aid for a wide range of community-based projects meeting local needs locally. Working in close partnership with voluntary organisations, statutory agencies and private funders, Community First develops and manages countywide programmes bringing social, economic and environmental benefits to local people. www.communityfirst.org.uk
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