

Press release

Early Christmas present for skateboarders in Harwich and Dovercourt

Youngsters in Harwich are to receive an early Christmas present with the handover of a brand new facility on Dovercourt Bay seafront.

A £220,000 skate park has been completed by contractors Maverick Industries on time and on budget for Harwich Town Council. It will be open for use from tomorrow (December 7).

The skate park is designed to cater for skateboarders, in-liners, BMX and scooter riders and includes a wide variety of features including an open bowl, driveway and street section, constructed in spray concrete. The facility can be used all year round and is virtually maintenance free.

It is accessible to all and replaces a skate park which is more than ten years old; well past its best and costly to maintain.

In financial terms this is the largest project ever undertaken by Harwich Town Council.

Chair of Harwich Town Council's Skate Park Working Party, Cllr Jo Henderson, said that it is a facility the whole community can be proud of.

"It is free for all to use and I am sure hundreds of youngsters will benefit from this scheme which has come about due to a real team effort," she added.

"The Town Council came up with £100,000 but many others contributed and helped make our dream come true. I am very grateful to every single one of them for supporting this project for our young people."

Grant aid of £50,000 came from Sport England; £35,000 from developer's contributions; £15,000 from Essex County Council (Community Initiatives Fund); £12,500 from Tendring District Council's Big Society Fund; £8,000 from the Police and Fire Crime Commissioner and £2,000 from Tesco Bags of Help.

Cllr Henderson said that the Sport England funding came from the National Lottery and she thanked all lottery players for the part they had played.

An official launch of the new skate park will be held on April 14, 2018 and further details will be announced in the New Year.

6/12/17

For further information please contact Lucy Ballard, clerk to the council, on 01255 507211