

# FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Wisbech welcomes exciting new play area**

Children and families are invited to come and enjoy Wisbech Park this summer after renovations to a much-loved play area were unveiled.

The new and improved Wisbech Park play area officially opened on Monday, 31 July, following months of work by play provider specialists, Hags.

The play area features junior equipment for ages 5-12 years, including a bespoke Anglo Saxon Wisbech Ship centrepiece, and toddler equipment for ages 2-6 years, including a unique tractor multi-unit.

The latest equipment prioritises durability while emphasising sustainability and inclusivity, with the aim of providing enjoyable experiences for children of all ages and abilities. In addition to the new equipment, the safety surfacing of the entire play area was replaced to ensure that the play area is as safe as it is fun.

A total of £135k was invested into the refurbishment, which was made possible by funding from the Government's Levelling Up Parks Fund and developer section 106 contributions in Wisbech, as well as capital funding from Fenland District Council.

Cllr Peter Murphy, Fenland District Council's Portfolio Holder responsible for Parks and Open Spaces, said: "This vibrant space promises boundless opportunities for kids to explore, learn, and thrive. With its inclusive design, every child, regardless of ability, will be able to enjoy Wisbech Park."

Much of the older equipment in the play area has now been replaced with new equipment, while some of the previous pieces that were still in good condition have been retained, to ensure a wide variety of facilities for youngsters to enjoy.

The opening on this newly renovated play area follows on from the launch of the new splashpad facility, which opened in the summer of 2022, and the start of works on a new pavilion, which is expected to be completed in 2024.

Cllr Samantha Hoy, a town, district and county councillor for Wisbech, said: "This play area represents another fantastic investment in the park that will serve the people of Wisbech for many years to come."

"Between these new facilities and the whole host of free activities taking place this summer, such as WisBEACH Rock Festival, there's never been a better time to visit Wisbech Park and join in the fun!"

In addition to WisBEACH Rock Festival, taking place on Sunday, 6 August, a wide range of free activities and events will be taking place in Wisbech Park this summer, including Wild Play sessions organised by Groundwork; dance fitness, kickboxing sessions and Victorian side shows organised by Wisbech Town Council; an 'Art Takes a Seat' project set up by Blackfield Creatives; and a series of live music shows taking place on the Bandstand.

For more information on our Parks and Open Spaces, or to report problems, visit our website at: [www.fenland.gov.uk/parks](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/parks)

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

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