

[26/03/19]

PRESS RELEASE

Funding approved for:

ANDY'S ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND in BESTWOOD COUNTRY PARK

Children, families & visitors to Bestwood Country Park, Nottingham are set to get a new & improved Adventure Playground thanks to a £50k grant from funding body WREN. The money, awarded by WREN's FCC Community Action Fund, will be used, alongside money raised in donations & fundraising activities by the Friends of Bestwood Group & a local family (the Maycock family), to provide & install new equipment. The existing Adventure Playground was dedicated to Andrew Maycock, a local teenager & Country Park volunteer, who was tragically killed in a traffic accident in 2000. However, due to extensive use & wear & tear, the equipment was seriously depleted with some play items having been removed.

Andrew's Mum, Sue Maycock, says:

"As a family, we were devastated to see that the adventure playground had fallen into such a state of disrepair. We are delighted that WREN has awarded this funding as this support will allow us to keep Andrew's memory alive, as well as provide a safe place for local families to learn and play in our beautiful country park. The support we have received from WREN, our friends and family and the local community has been overwhelming, and we are immensely grateful to all those involved."

Sue McDonald, Community Liaison Officer for Nottinghamshire County Councils Green Spaces, worked extensively with both the Friends' group & the Maycock family on this bid & believes the facility will make a huge difference to the lives of people living in the area.

She says:

"This project means so much to this community & will encourage children to have fun whilst getting healthy exercise & learning about what their Country Park has to offer to the whole family. It's fantastic that WREN has awarded this money to the project and we're really looking forward to ANDY'S ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND taking shape over the next few months."

WREN is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, biodiversity and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund.

Cheryl Raynor, WREN's local grant manager says: "We are delighted to be supporting the Bestwood Country Park project and pleased that our funding will help to enhance this fantastic facility for local children. WREN is always happy to consider grant applications for projects that make a difference to local communities and we're really looking forward to seeing this one take shape soon."

For more information about WREN funding contact Cheryl Raynor at cheryl.raynor@wren.org.uk or visit <http://www.wren.org.uk/>

Sue McDonald hopes that ANDY'S ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND will be ready to use by summer 2019.

For the latest information on the progress of the ANDY@S ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND please visit the Friends of Bestwood (FoB) website: <http://www.fbc.org.uk/> or their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/bestwoodcountrypark/>

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Media information:

For further press information please contact Sue McDonald (Community Liaison Officer NCC Green Spaces) at sue.mcdonald@nottsc.gov.uk or tel: 015 9273674 or 07971328105

Notes to editors:

- The Friends of Bestwood Country Park are a community group formed in 2007. Its volunteers support the park ranger team in conservation work on its 690 acres of fields, woodlands and lakes, and encourage visitors by providing free tours of the historic Bestwood Winding Engine House and running the Dynamo House Community Cafe next door, every Saturday morning. In the last year members, visitors and Councillors have raised over £19,800 to help refurbish Andy's Adventure Playground, with much help from Andy's family. This fund will support the successful bid to WREN by Notts County Council to replace worn out play equipment and give the playground back its Adventure. For more information please visit <http://www.fbc.org.uk/>
- WREN is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, conservation and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund. Since 1998, WREN has granted over £200m to more than 7,000 projects which benefit people living within 10 miles of a FCC Environment landfill site. For more information please visit www.wren.org.uk
- FCC Environment is the leading UK waste and resource management company and is part of a global group with a strong heritage in providing services for communities and business. Its vision is to be the environmental company of choice, delivering change for a sustainable future. It employs 2,400 people and operates more than 200 facilities across England, Scotland and Wales. FCC Environment donates the LCF tax credits that are generated by its operations to WREN, in order to add value to the environmental and social infrastructure of the communities around landfill sites. www.fccenvironment.co.uk
- The Landfill Communities Fund - any waste that is discarded which cannot be reused, reprocessed or recycled may ultimately be disposed of in a landfill site. To encourage the re-use, recycle and recovery of more value from waste and use more environmentally friendly methods of waste disposal, Landfill Tax is charged on each tonne of waste sent to landfill. Landfill Operators (LOs) are able to redirect a small proportion of landfill tax liability (currently 6.8%) to support a wide range of community and environmental projects in the vicinity of their landfill sites through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF). The LCF is regulated by ENTRUST on behalf of HM Revenue & Customs, and the projects are delivered by enrolled Environmental bodies (EBs). Since its inception in 1996, over £1 billion has been spent on more than 32,000 projects across the UK. For further information, please visit www.entrust.org.uk see HMRC's general guide to Landfill Tax

