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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Official Opening Ceremony for New Basketball Court at Sturry Road Community Park, 2-4pm Saturday 26th July**

The existing basketball court at Sturry Road Community Park, Northgate Ward, has had a major facelift. An attractive wooden surrounding wall with hoops has been built, and a state-of-the-art artificial turf has been laid over the existing tarmac. These improvements all make for a much better area for playing basketball and football. Money to buy the new artificial turf surface was raised by the Sturry Road Community Garden Trust, a dedicated group of local residents who manage the park as volunteers.

To celebrate and promote these improvements, an opening ceremony is being held on Saturday 26th July, 2-4pm. There will be free basketball and football coaching provided by Premier Sport, along with free refreshments and souvenirs courtesy of Sturry Road Community Garden Trust. Local County Councillor Graham Gibbens will be cutting the ribbon at around 2.15pm.

Sturry Road Community Park was officially opened in 2007. It was created on a capped former landfill site with money raised by local people. As well as the new basketball court /football pitch, there is a 5-a-side football pitch, a skate park and a mini-BMX course. Wildlife features include wildflower meadows, ponds and woods. Work continues to improve facilities and run events at the park to make it a great place for local people of all ages to spend time.

The park is located just off the Sturry Road, behind the Park and Ride.

Press are welcome to attend.

Contact Martin Thomas. Sturry Road Community Park Officer Mob: 07710 384952