

Copythorne Playground

“It takes a whole village to raise a child”



The Story So Far



- 2016
- The Idea
- The Organisation
- The Agreements
- 2017
- The Fundraising
- 2018
- The Playground



How Did We Know that Copythorne Needed a Playground?



- Nearest playground 2.5 miles
- Largest population with no playground
- 334 resident children
- 469 attending school



Where Did The Money Come From?

Our Plan

- Local Fundraising 20%
- Landfill Funding 80%

What Happened

- Local Fundraising 54%
- NFDC 46%

£27,000.00

= £10 from every man woman and child in Copythorne



Building the Playground



- Tendering Process – 5 Companies
- Shortlist
- Parish Council Approval 10 April
- Contract Mid April
- Playground Mid June

Thank You! We couldn't have done it without you.



01 July 2018 – The Grand Opening



Children open the new playground. Pictures: Chris Dyson.



Getting into swing of new playground

Chris
Yandell

CAMPAIGNERS are celebrating the completion of a new £56,000 children's playground – 25 years after the idea was first put forward.

The equipment has been installed at Copythorne Parish Hall following a two-year fundraising campaign spearheaded by two mums, Holly Green and Laurie Gibbs.

Members of the Friends of Copythorne Playground (FCOP) were joined by 150 other people at the opening ceremony.

Over the past two years children and parents in the area have held a raft of fundraising events to make their dream become a reality, including a bike ride and a cake bake.

New Forest District Council made a £23,000 contribution to the project and nearby Paultons Park donated £10,000.

Simon Lucas, vice-chairman of Copythorne Parish Council and a member of FCOP, said previous attempts to provide a playground



FCOP members Nick Groom, Simon Lucas, Laurie Gibbs, Mike Lashmar, Holly Green, and Martin Lander.

sues, including problems in identifying a suitable site.

He added: "The project's ultimate success is down to the sheer determination of Holly and Laurie, who dug their heels in and didn't give up."

sponsored by Le Chateau, a newly-opened restaurant in Romsey Road, Cadnam.

A FCOP spokesman added: "After 25 years of attempts and two years of energetic fundraising, the community is finally able to

new playground.

"About 150 people joined FCOP to see the playground formally opened.

"But the stars of the show were the children who, with a little bit of help, cut the ribbon with gigantic scissors."

The ceremony was followed by a family picnic and outdoor party which included a barbecue run by local Scouts.

"The event included a raffle provided by Friends of Cancer Research UK, a mountain of cakes and drinks served by the Women's Institute and ice cream provided by Le Chateau," said the FCOP spokesman.

"The crowd were entertained throughout the event by a local singer, Sophie Penwill.

"A sea of smiling young faces proved the playground was a success. It was well used into the late afternoon – proof of the joy it has given."

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- Opened by the children
- Family Picnic
- A Real Community Event
- Too much ice cream
- Extensive press coverage



The First 9 Months



- Greater than expected usage
- Good choice of equipment
- All weather surface
- Appeals to a wide age range
- No vandalism or graffiti



"It was lovely to meet some local families and for the children to make new friends"

"Every smile on the children's faces
was down to your hard work"

"What a legacy you have given the
children in our community"

"Thank you from me, my husband, our children
and future generations"

Copythorne Playground

"It takes a whole village to raise a child"

