



**Nottingham City Council,  
Heathfield Park,  
Heathfield Estate,  
Basford**

A six-year campaign by residents to redevelop a run-down city park and give youngsters on the Heathfield Estate a place to spend their energy.

## Park Life



The makeover of Heathfield Park was completed in 2009 following a long campaign led by local resident Kerry Quigley and others who carried out consultations with residents; made applications for funding; and obtained planning permission.



Kerry Quigley about to cut the ribbon at the opening.

The cash came from a variety of sources including the National Lottery, Waste Recycling Environmental and more than £250,000 from Nottingham City Council.

**“When I joined my local TARA (tenants and residents association) six years ago this area had a lot of problems with young men drinking and getting involved in anti-social behaviour because they had nothing to do,” says Kerry Quigley.**



“There were lots of meetings but nothing much had happened to change the situation. We had this derelict land and decided to transform it into an area that children and young people could use.

**“We did lots of consultation and although it was hard going and frustrating it’s really paid off because this park is what people asked for and they feel committed to it.**

“We've worked with Nottingham City Council's Neighbourhood Management team on the planning and I've been to lots of meetings about funding and other issues which I found quite intimidating at first.

**“I met lots of young people from the area and built a rapport with them. You can see that they want to be here - some of the young men have even been doing arts and crafts work, which was a real surprise.**



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“It's taken a long time but the facilities are exactly what kids and parents wanted - there is a games area, and outdoor gym, and even a dog-run so they don't foul the play areas. There are kids on the playground all the time, all ages, even up to 18-year olds.

**“I wanted to finish what I'd started for myself and because the kids deserved better - they'd been let down too often before. I've watched many of them grow up and some become adults and this is a friendly place with a good spirit.**

“We've got a community centre now as well, which wasn't part of the original project and local residents think it's fantastic. I think a lot of them thought it would never happen but the park is transformed and the kids love it.”

## Results

- A community centre and a smaller youth community building
- A multi-use games area for basketball, football and netball with seats and bins
- New play equipment for youngsters and a secured toddlers' play area
- A designated dog-walking area
- Improved lighting, benches and bins and CCTV
- New trees.