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NEWS RELEASE

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Revamping Victoria

Work has begun on the new recreational facilities at Victoria Park in Taunton. Victoria is an excellent neighbourhood park proudly flying its Green Flag but much of the play equipment was installed in the 1960's early 1970's and in need of refurbishment. Taunton Deane Borough Council has invested £120,000 in order that Victoria Park will soon offer state of the art recreational facilities for both young and older children in the area to enjoy.

Consultation took place and a common response from parents was that they would like the play areas moved to the middle section of the park, adjacent to the school. This would allow children to play under the watchful eye of parents whilst they wait at the school gates for siblings. The middle section of the park will soon be transformed with the location of the four to eight year olds 'Little Miss Muffet' multi-play area for climbing and sliding. There will also be a new eight to fourteen year old area, which will include a tyre mountain, scramble net, balance bench, climbing pole, new swings, a disabled access roundabout and much more.

The park will also cater to older children and teenagers with a multi-use games area providing a place to play basketball and football. A youth shelter will also be a focus point for the children to meet.

Parks Services are currently planning the landscaping for the scheme as garden and woodland areas will replace the old playgrounds.

"I am so pleased work is now underway. This project really has been born out of the initiative and immense hard work of the local community. The new facilities will enhance Victoria Park, providing new equipment for little children as well as providing an area for older ones to meet and play sport. Basketball was specifically

mentioned in the consultation so I do hope that the new facilities will be fully enjoyed by all the youth of the neighbourhood,” stated Cllr Dilly Bradley, Executive Member for Leisure Services.

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