

**Date: 9 December 2016**

## **SPLASH PARK IN VICTORIA PARK BADLY DAMAGED BY VANDALS**

The new Splash Park in Victoria Park has been vandalised overnight on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December by thieves who broke into new fencing in the Park and stole a bag of ready mix concrete then ruthlessly tipped it across the Splash Park surface and in the water supply drainage system.

Since it was opened in the summer of 2016, the Splash Park has proved very popular, especially with smaller children.

Councillor Dave Goff, Leader of the Council, said, "This is an horrendous act of vandalism, on one of our most enjoyed play areas which could cost Newbury Town Council a significant sum to repair. We would urge anyone who has any information about who may have committed this cruel act of vandalism to call the Thames Valley Police on 101, quoting crime reference number: 43160344459.

Through quick action and hard work our Grounds Maintenance Team has managed to save the Splash Park and the drainage systems have successfully been flushed through but this could have easily been a disaster for the play facility. The Splash Park will be ready to open in spring 2017 as planned for children to enjoy once again."

**END**

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