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Press Release | 20 January 2014

**Residents dig in at Glazebury play area**

Glazebury residents dug deep to continue the development of a local natural play area.

They planted wildflower bulbs and trees at the site, which is based off Warrington Road, at a planting event organised and coordinated by The Mersey Forest and the Glazebury Community Play Area Committee.

Last year, local volunteers helped to plant the beginnings of a community orchard with cobnut trees and a hedgerow as part of the development of the site. The area will provide a communal space for local people to get together within Glazebury village and encourage children to play more naturally in a new play area.

It will feature climbing and seating areas made from boulders and logs, winding paths, willow domes, den-building areas, and wildlife-friendly hedges, trees and wildflowers. The play logs are now onsite with work to begin on footpaths in the New Year.

Parish Councillor Angela Duncombe, said: “It was great to see so many local volunteers at the tree planting day. They were so enthusiastic about the play area and many stayed much longer than originally planned.

“The next phase of this project will involve laying paths down later this winter, followed by weaving a willow-dome on site.”

The natural play area off Warrington Road is being created on land leased to Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council by Bents Garden Centre. The latest phase of the work is being funded through, Cory Environmental Trust in Britain through the Landfill Communities Fund and The Big Tree Plant funding through The Mersey Forest.

**ENDS**

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**Notes to editors:**

**The Mersey Forest**

The Mersey Forest is a growing network of woodlands and green spaces spread across Cheshire and Merseyside, which has been creating 'woodlands on your doorstep' for 20 years.

The Forest is one of the leading environmental regeneration initiatives in the North West. Through community and partnership working, we have planted more than 8 million trees - equivalent to five new trees for every person living within the Forest area.

The Forest helps our towns and cities adapt to climate change and has won the Brian Redhead Award for Environmental Sustainability. The Forest creates woodlands that 20% of local people visit at least once a week, and by improving the image of our towns and cities sets the scene for growth within the region's £98 billion economy.

We achieve all of this and more through our partnership of local authorities, landowners, the Forestry Commission, Natural England and businesses including United Utilities. [www.merseyforest.org.uk](http://www.merseyforest.org.uk)

**Cory Environmental Trust in Britain**

Cory Environmental Trust in Britain (CETB) is an Environmental Trust set up under the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) (formerly known as the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme) under the Landfill Tax Regulations 1996. Its funds are derived as a result of a tax placed on waste that is sent to landfill. CETB funds projects that bring benefit to local communities close to an active landfill site. For more information on CETB contact Angela Haymonds, Trust Secretary on 01753 582513 ahaymonds@cetb.org.uk

**The Big Tree Plant**

The Big Tree Plant is a national campaign that helps people and communities across England to plant more trees where they live and work. Our target is to plant 1 million additional trees by April 2015.

Details of the campaign can be found at: [www.defra.gov.uk/bigtreeplant](http://www.defra.gov.uk/bigtreeplant)

The campaign has the support of major bodies, environmental charities and agencies including National Forest Company, The Tree Council, Trees for Cities, the Woodland Trust, England’s Community Forests, Keep Britain Tidy, TCV, Civic Voice, Groundwork, Natural England, Mayor of London, the Department for Communities