



Orford Park Project Gets Underway

7:20am Wednesday 3rd February 2010

The Orford Park Project: Helen Jones, Warrington MP with EMP Orford team of Dr Raj Kumar, Julie McCann & Lisa Moffat along with Local Councillors, Warrington Collegiate and council officials

CONSTRUCTION work on the massive Orford Park Project has officially begun. Councillors, sponsors, healthcare professionals and partners involved with the multi-million pound scheme all met at the development site off Winwick Road last week. JCBs tore up earth to mark the start of proceedings which will eventually see a £30million Orford Park become a focal point for the community.

A plethora of services will be built there including sport and health facilities available for public use. The renovation will also allow Warrington Collegiate, which borders the location, to increase the variety of courses on offer as pupils will also have access to the new facilities.

But for some it is the medical services that are cause for the greatest celebration. Dr Raj Kumar heads the GP's surgery team, Eric Moore partnership – Orford, based at the Park and he calls patients in Orford the 'most deserving in Warrington'. He said: "It is long awaited, a dream come true. "Patients will no longer have to travel into town to see a doctor."

MP Helen Jones hailed the Orford councillors who had the 'vision to start the idea in the first place'. She said: "A huge amount of work has occurred to get the project together. "We will see a remarkable development with tremendous community facilities and it will also create many jobs." Cllr Ian Marks believes Orford Park will 'contribute significantly' to young people in the area, an opinion shared by Wolves chairman Steven Broomhead.

The rugby league club are one of several partners financing the 'important' investment. Mr Broomhead said: "The cash is going towards mutual benefits for youth development. "After the Challenge Cup we know what sport can do for community confidence."

The sport facilities at Orford Park will include a swimming pool, squash courts, fitness centre, sports hall and 3G football pitches, to be shared with Warrington Town FC. Also in the plans are a library, ICT suite, community activity and meeting rooms, café, swimming pools, dance studios and a crèche. Outside there will be walking and cycling paths, skateboarding parks, bowling greens, a pavilion and an athletics track.

Artists Impression of the completed £30 + million Orford Park Project that shall incorporate The EMP – Orford Medical Centre

