



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Hornlee sports grounds upgraded**

Seven months' worth of reparation and upgrading work has come to an end at the Hornlee sport grounds in Ward 6, next to the Hornlee Library just off the N2.

Knysna Executive Mayor Georlene Wolmarans explained that the pitch had been exposed to severe over-use. "An extensive amount of soccer matches are played on these grounds, and the state of the pitch had deteriorated to such a degree that practising or playing on it was potentially hazardous to the players."

"The municipality held a number of meetings with the local football association in order to ascertain the state of the grounds, and to discuss the potential closure of the grounds in order to upgrade the facility," she continued. "The facility was closed on 27 October 2014 when works commenced."

A budget of approximately R400 000.00 was allocated to upgrading the surface of the playing field, while facilities including the kitchen, changing rooms, bathrooms and plumbing were upgraded last year. The grounds are still closed to allow the freshly laid grass time to establish itself. The official re-opening of the facility is scheduled for the end of June this year.

"We understand how important access to these kind of sporting facilities are," said Wolmarans. "Not only does participating in sport lead to a healthier lifestyle, but we know that if we provide our young people with a healthy alternative that also teaches them discipline and teamwork, we can keep them away from bad influences and poor choices."

"We look forward to opening the sport grounds and enjoying many games on the freshly laid pitch with the community," Wolmarans concluded. "Because having fun together is part of living in a town where people and nature prosper."

**ENDS**

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