


The Forest of Marston Vale

The largest environmental regeneration project in Bedfordshire



© Bedfordshire Council 2012







Rectory Farm, Cranfield

- 174 acres (70 hectares)
- £450,000 raised to purchase by March 2003
 - £220,000 English Nature (ALSF)
 - £68,000 Heritage Lottery Fund
 - £65,000 Shanks First (Landfill tax)
 - £55,000 ODPM
 - £22,000 Countryside Agency
 - £10,000 Cranfield Parish Council
 - £10,000 Charitable Trusts
- Direct freehold purchase by Marston Vale Trust through fundraising
- **With partners help will create the largest wood in Bedfordshire**



Forest of Marston Vale A Social Enterprise

- The Forest Team
 - Identify opportunities (Forest Plan)
 - Secure project funding
 - Fully-costed project delivery
- Funded by
 - Business income
 - Delivery grants
 - Developers
 - Partnerships
 - Volunteer time
- Delivering
 - Public access greenspace
 - Community ownership from design to delivery
 - The Forest Plan
 - No shareholders, all profit invested in the vision



Achievements

- Marston Vale Trust Forest Centre and Millennium Country Park (£6m)
- £5.2m Growth Area Funding
- Over 100 Businesses and organisations engaged
- 500 hectares now owned by Trust
- Engaged with thousands of local people
 - 2,000 people and 50 organisations for Forest Plan
 - 140,000 visitors to Forest Centre per year
 - 7,000 hours of volunteers time 2009
 - Around 1,000 people planting trees with us every year
 - Schools, “Springwatch”, Woodworks!”, children’s events
- £2.5m brought in last year



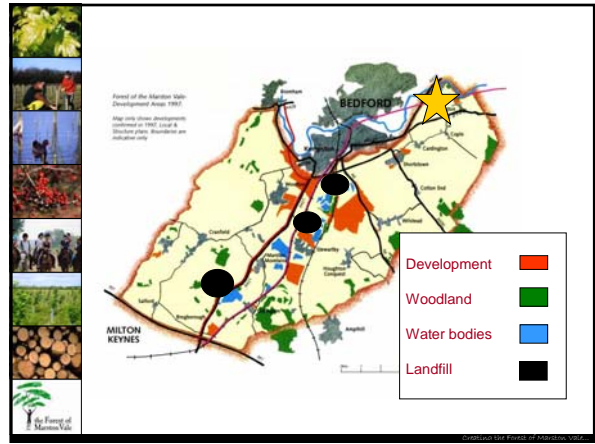
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Bedford River Valley Park



Bedford River Valley Park

