



FOREST CENTRE AND MILLENNIUM COUNTRY PARK

In 1997, we gave nearly £2 million towards the construction of the Park's impressive Forest Centre. This is home to the team whose challenge is to use trees and woodlands to transform 61 square miles between Bedford and Milton Keynes, repairing a landscape scarred by decades of clay extraction, brick-making and landfill.

The Centre now sits at the hub of the visitor attraction. Its impressive facilities include the popular Lakeside Café selling locally-sourced produce, an interactive exhibition gallery, visitor gift shop and rooms for conferences, meetings and functions.

SENSORY WILDLIFE GARDEN

Located near the Forest Centre, the Garden has been planted with an array of shrubs and flowers chosen for their colours, touch and fragrance. These are interspersed with striking wooden sculptures carved by local artists.

GrantScape gave £70,000 for the creation of the Garden which also includes secluded benches for quiet contemplation and a woven willow tunnel for younger visitors.

UNIVERSITY WAY CYCLE ROUTE

The Forest Centre lies on the Sandy, Bedford and Milton Keynes section of National Cycle Network Route 51. This cycle-path was created by the Marston Vale Trust using a £1.8 million grant from GrantScape.

The Route enables cyclists to travel mainly off-road between these towns. At the Forest Centre, they can join a network of scenic routes around Stewartby Lake and the Park's established wetlands.

SENIOR RANGER, MILLENNIUM COUNTRY PARK

Over a three-year period, GrantScape has funded the post of Senior Ranger at the Park. Our £78,000 grant has supported a wide range of conservation initiatives including tree planting, constructing otter holts and creating new reedbed areas.

The success of this project has been enhanced by the commitment of a growing band of dedicated local volunteers and generous support from companies wanting to help protect the environment.

It is difficult to see how we could have achieved what we have today without the support and long-term commitment from major funders like GrantScape.

TONY TALBOT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
THE MARSTON VALE TRUST