

Case study: Brandon Country Park

The 32 acre Brandon Country Park sees around 175,000 visitors a year and is currently managed by Suffolk County Council with £20,000 funding provided by Forest Heath District Council.

With a range of walks and cycle ways the park is an important local facility. It also hosts a Parkrun every week and a regular programme of guided walks and events throughout the year.

Following Suffolk County Council's decision to transfer ownership of its parks and nature reserves to other organisations, Forest Heath District Council supported plans to secure the future of the park.

The district council sees parks as not only important to support the local environment and attract visitors to the area but as part of its investment in supporting communities keep healthy and active while improving wellbeing.

In recent years, the county council has invested in the site and made some significant improvements. These have included investing in the café (including additional space for café seating, a new purpose built kitchen and a new shop area) and achieving the Visit England's 'Quality Assured Visitor Attraction' award.

By working closely with the county council, we have secured the future of the country park for our local communities and visitors to the area. We understand how parks are not just important in protecting our local environment and wildlife but vital in improving health and wellbeing. It demonstrates how we are best placed to work with local communities and deliver services such as this. We are now developing a ten year plan and looking at the further opportunities it brings to improve the offer at this great park.

Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils



West Suffolk
working together