

Press Release

Embargo: Immediate

REGENERATION OF GREAT OUSE COULD BE CATALYST FOR DEVELOPING WATERWAY PROJECT

Mayor and Patrick Hall MP join celebratory riverside walk



Opening up the River Great Ouse through Bedford could be the catalyst for further developing the proposed Bedford & Milton Keynes waterway project (B&MK), as well as fulfilling its potential to regenerate the town centre.

The Mayor of Bedford, David Hodgson, and Bedford and Kempston MP, Patrick Hall, plan to join B&MK Trust members on a celebratory "board walk" on Saturday, 6 February, to mark the installation of three striking interpretation boards explaining the proposal to create the missing 26 km waterway link between the Grand Union Canal at Milton Keynes to the Great Ouse at Bedford.

The boards are located near Aspects Cinema, at Bedford Lock and opposite the Swan Hotel.

"A strategy to regenerate the Great Ouse through Bedford would herald an exciting new phase of restoration, which is integral to the proposed waterway venture and the development of Marston Vale," said Jane Wolfson, B&MK Trust Chair.

Patrick Hall commented: "This is another positive step on the way to achieving the wonderful goal of the new waterway. I congratulate the Trust for never giving up and welcome the Council's strong support."

Mayor, David Hodgson said, "I am looking forward to joining the 'board walk' along the river, marking the new interpretation boards for the exciting Bedford & Milton Keynes waterway project. I'm sure that the new boards will increase enthusiasm for the project even further."

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Notes to editors

A reporter and photographer are welcome to join us on the walk, which begins at the Aspects Cinema at 11am on Saturday 6th February. The walk will take about an hour and there will be a photo opportunity with the Mayor and Patrick Hall near the Swan Hotel at noon.



January 2010: The first of 3 new interpretation boards installed along the River Great Ouse in Bedford, this one outside the Swan Hotel, explaining about the B&MK project and its link to the river.

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