



WATER ENVIRONMENT

Brogborough Lake, Lidlington Pit, Stewartby Lake and the Elstow Brook are iconic and distinguishing features of the existing landscape of the Marston Vale. Such significantly sized and grouped waterbodies are unusual in this region and are a legacy of the MVNV's brickmaking history. The creation of the MVNV presents an exciting opportunity to embrace these features, to enhance accessibility where appropriate in order to capture their value as a leisure, recreational, environmental and ecological resource.

The MVNV will also deliver a substantial part of the B&MK Waterway Park which will be a new canal for the 21st Century linking the Grand Union Canal in Milton Keynes to the River Great Ouse in Bedford. In this context, the water environment is a Core Component of the design and character of the MVNV.

The water environment will be a principal feature in the design of the green infrastructure framework adding richness to the landscape and supporting leisure, recreation, movement, and biodiversity. Water within the MVNV will be a distinct part of its identity supporting a range of activities and also contributing to a sustainable leisure and tourism offer.

Introducing water as a key feature within the design and layout of the new villages as part of the sustainable drainage system will make a meaningful contribution to the creation of a distinct village character and sense of place within the public realm.

The treatment of water – including surface water drainage and water management – will also be considered holistically, adopting the principle that water is a valued resource and must be used effectively and sustainably.

