



Case Study

Langdon Lake and Meadow

Location: South East

Size:	16 hectares
Client:	Local authority
the Land Trust's Role:	Long term management Leveraging funding
From:	Failing public park
To:	Thriving public park

Langdon Lake and Meadow was originally part of the Dunton Plotlands – land used by city dwellers as a rural retreat. Following the Plotlands decline, the council protected some areas from development.

However, without the ongoing funding to manage the space, the site slowly deteriorated. This led to a direct decline in the environment and infrastructure, which resulted in anti-social behavior including vandalism, motor bike scrambling, fires, illegal vehicle access, and littering becoming a regular occurrence. Such an unwelcoming environment caused significant conflict between site users, which in turn, had a negative effect on the surrounding communities.

Land Trust solutions

The Land Trust provided the local authority with an exit from the space, which removed what was an increasing liability from their books.

The Land Trust identified and secured funding from the Thames Gateway Delivery Unit of the Department of Communities and Local Government. This allowed some capital improvement works to take place but more importantly provided an endowment to cover all future management cost in perpetuity.

Although the land and its liabilities are owned by The Land Trust, the site is managed at a local level by the Essex Wildlife Trust (EWT) with the emphasis being wholly on community ownership.

The community was heavily involved in shaping the plans for the site, ensuring it would be able to meet their future needs.



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