



Unveiling of the ‘New Griffin’ design in the Conniburrow/Downs Barn underpass with “Act of Gold”; a community performance celebrating Milton Keynes’ urban heritage as part of Milton Keynes 50th Anniversary.

As part of the **“Underpasses: connecting people connecting places”** project, On The Verge unveiled the first of two new underpass artworks and hosted a community performance by 100+ residents and children **on Friday 10th February at the Conniburrow/Downs Barn underpass** off Conniburrow Boulevard, under Marlborough Street. The performance lasted approximately 15 minutes, followed by refreshments and celebratory activities in the Southwood School Assembly Hall.

The **New Griffin** artwork design, is inspired by conversations with the community and the accompanying performance featured the children of Southwood and Germander Park schools and the Conniburrow Community Choir.

This celebration featured a brief outdoor performance and the unveiling of two interpretation panels within the underpass itself. Afterward there will be an opportunity to view OTV’s two children publications: ‘*Travelling in Time*’ and ‘*MY MK*’ .

On The Verge are working in close partnership with local residents, artists and project partners: *MK Council, The Parks Trust and the MK City Discovery Centre*, to enhance two underpasses that link the original CMK estates, with an aim to collectively create a more positive identity and instil greater pride and ownership. The Heritage Lottery Funded project has commissioned the artists’ collective RARA to work with local residents on the transformation of the Conniburrow/Downs Barn underpass, and later this month, the Fishermead/Oldbroom underpass.

END

Notes to Editors

On the Verge and its partners MK Council, The Parks Trust MK and the MK City Discovery Centre, are delivering the yearlong 'Underpasses' project with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the MK Community Foundation and MK Council. On the Verge is a Community Interest Company.

On the Verge has been awarded an 'Our Heritage' grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the '*Underpasses connecting people, connecting places*', which have seen a series of heritage and cultural events taking place in 4 communities in Milton Keynes designed to explore its heritage and unique system of underpasses. On the Verge is working with partners and artists to deliver a series of community engagement events to uncover local history, collecting artistic responses and oral histories. Artwork for two underpasses, a heritage trails, an App and series of exhibitions and children publications is being created through the project, marking Milton Keynes' 50th Anniversary.

More details available on Facebook: @OnTheVergeMK

For further information images and interviews please contact either
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Delivered in partnership with The Parks Trust MK, MK City Discovery Centre, and MK Council.***

