

Individual Project Summary Report 2006/07

1. Project summary and information about the grant holder

Project title	Watery Lane Project		AONB Proj. No:	SDF/067/27
Overall objectives of the project	To preserve a significant local heritage feature which is the dry stone wall bordering Watery Lane in Norbury village. Local people will benefit from the improved visual quality of this part of the village and the preservation of an important aspect of local heritage. Some tree coppicing will be necessary which will provide work for local craftsmen as well as improving biodiversity and stream ecology.			
Start date	25/07/2006	End date	31/03/2007	
SDF grant holder <i>(your organisation)</i>	Norbury Walls Group			
Contact details <i>(your name, address, telephone and email)</i>	Richard Cox, c/o Cath Landles, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership. Tel (01588) 674084. Email: cath.landles@shropshire-cc.gov.uk			

2. Funding information

SDF funding received this year	£ 3,000	SDF funding received last year <i>(if any)</i>	£ 0
Total cost of the project this year	£ 10,124	Any special funding arrangements <i>(such as staged payments or financial conditions required by funders)</i>	No
Sources of other funding <i>(funding body or volunteer activity)</i>	Value of other funding where contributed in cash	Estimate of value (£ equivalent) where contributed in kind	
Volunteer time	£ 0	£ 780	
Local Heritage Initiative	£ 6,344	£ 0	

3. Achievements of the project

What were the specific objectives that you set for the project in the grant application form?	How well were the objectives met?	What issues affected the achievement of the objectives?
125m of wall restored	Achieved 125m i.e. entire length between the corner of Watery Lane and the ford.	
41 trees coppiced	38 trees coppiced	3 trees left for wildlife and aesthetic value
38.8 cubic metres of timber	34.8 cubic metres	See above
Stock proof fencing to ensure regrowth, protect the walls and reduce erosion of the stream margins	Fencing not achieved. The preferred option of the landowner to protect the regrowth, walls and stream is by reducing stock numbers.	Only 2 of the coppiced alders are on the west bank and thus the majority are relatively secure. The group will monitor the situation but it is anticipated that the stream will prove as a sufficient barrier.

4. Lessons learned

What were the key lessons you learned during the project?	There was some local resistance to the initial tree felling. Much of this could have been overcome by better information being made available in advance of the work. Don't assume that because you have told everyone what the deadlines are that they will actually believe it. Allow plenty of time when co-ordinating activities by more than one agency.
Do you have any further comments?	A very successful celebration event 'If Stones Could Talk' was held in September to celebrate the work of the Norbury Walls Group and the history of the village (approx 500 people attended). This event was also an opportunity to overcome resistance by providing information on alder coppicing. This project was also featured on the BBC's Countryfile programme in March 2007.

