

Individual Project Summary Report 2006/07

1. Project summary and information about the grant holder

Project title	Windmill Hill Conservation: Phase II	AONB Proj. No:	SDF/067/32
Overall objectives of the project	The Windmill Hill site has been a major feature of Much Wenlock town history for many centuries. Records reveal the site has carried the name since, at least, the period of the adjacent medieval Priory. Conserving the site in the natural state of both a limestone landscape, with its rare flora and fauna, and the ancient Windmill limestone tower has therefore been of utmost historical importance for present and future generations. The Trust seeks to preserve this ancient landscape, with its historic Listed building, and maintain it as an amenity for the benefit of the community and visitors.		
Start date	25/07/2006	End date	31/03/2007
SDF grant holder <i>(your organisation)</i>	The Much Wenlock Windmill Trust		
Contact details <i>(your name, address, telephone and email)</i>	Vivien Bellamy, 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	£ 13,384	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	£ 7,041	
Parish Pump Fund	£ 500	£ 0	
Much Wenlock Town Council	£ 115	£ 0	
Wenlock Fencing Ltd	£ 0	£ 600	
Windmill Trust Events	£ 360	£ 0	
Sundry donations (private & business)	£1,885		

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?
Research into history of the site and the windmill's construction	Research covering the history of owners of the site is completed and recorded.	Research continues into the tower construction as historical records have yet to reveal who owned the property at the time the tower was built. Records are sparse and widespread, but we are getting close to a result. An examination of archive material from the National Library of Wales is currently underway.

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?
Two interpretation panels	One panel fully completed and ready for installation.	Progress towards completion of both panels has been limited mainly as a result of satisfying copyright issues relating to desired pictorial representation of flora and fauna. Consequently, only one panel has been finalised prior to the 31 st March 2007 deadline. We are reluctant to commission the second panel until we reach the end of our research into the building and equipping of the windmill.
Seat and orientation panel (including information on the AONB)	Material for construction of the seat has been purchased.	Construction is due to take place as soon as the stonemason can re-arrange his work commitment that has been interrupted through earlier inclement weather.
Construction of oak lintels and two doors	Construction of oak lintels and two doors completed	
Dendro-dating of original beam	Not achieved	The beams were physically examined by a Dendrologist who decided that the timber was felled too early in its growth life that a test would not be sufficiently conclusive.

4. Lessons learned

What were the key lessons you learned during the project?	Logistics of ordering and delivery of material to a remote physical location and the problems of securing stored materials until they were required. Heavy materials could only reach the site with the aid of heavy agricultural machinery that was not always readily available. Securing a remote site. Weather conditions can set work back.
What would you do differently next time?	A more permanent and substantial roofing facility would be a priority if further work on preserving the internal stonework of the tower were to be undertaken.
Do you have any further comments?	As a direct result of Internet exposure, a considerable amount of practical knowledge and technical expertise has been given by practising millwrights, mill enthusiasts, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, the Midlands Wind & Water Mills Group and West Sussex County Council.