

# YORKSHIRE DALES MILLENNIUM TRUST 2006-07



## REPORT TO YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY





## **1. Background**

- 1.1 This is the first annual report by the Trust for the Authority, as agreed in the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two organisations. The MoU asked for *“a full description and evaluation of the Trust’s activities and outputs, as judged against the Authority’s objectives...”*
- 1.2 The MoU also obliges representatives of the Authority and the Trust to carry out an annual review of the effectiveness of their joint work based on the annual report.

## **2. Payments by the Authority to the Trust**

- 2.1 The Authority paid an annual grant of £45,000 to the Trust for 2006/07 will pay the same amount for 2007/08, as agreed in the MoU.
- 2.2 The Trust continues to seek alternative sources of funding for core activities, with the aim of allowing an agreed reduction in the payment made by the Authority over time.

## **3. Communication and Joint Actions by the Authority and the Trust**

### **3.1 Memorandum of Understanding**

The signing of this MoU marked an important milestone in the relationship between the two organisations. The need for such an agreement came out of the Authority’s Peer Performance Review in 2005. This pointed out that although this was obviously an innovative and successful relationship, there was no formal agreement and indeed little written down anywhere explaining the benefits to either organisation. The Trust was also keen to have an agreement, both to clarify what both parties expect, and to emphasise their independence to the Charity Commission and others.

It was an interesting exercise to review that relationship and to realise just how much both organisations have changed over ten years. Those involved were very pleased with the resulting document and agreed actions. Carl Lis, Chair of the Authority, and Peter Charlesworth, the Trust’s new Chairman, marked the signing by planting a tree at Pasture Wood, Grassington on a rare snowy day. *(Copies available on request).*

### **3.2 External Funding Group**

One of the practical actions agreed in the MoU was to set up an External Funding Group, to: *“share expertise, improve understanding, and to identify funding opportunities and suitable projects”* This new group has met three times and promises to be a useful tool for collectively bringing more funding into the area.

### **3.2 Meetings**

The “lead representatives” Jon Avison and David Sharrod met throughout the year on a 6-weekly basis, specifically to review the overall relationship and progress on joint working. They were joined by other staff, trustees and members as appropriate. Many other bi-partisan or wider meetings were held to discuss particular projects or issues.

### **3.4 Other Communication & Publicity**

Representatives of the two organisations communicated and met in a plethora of situations throughout the year. We both aim to ensure that there is full and frank communication between the organisations. We also strive to ensure that any positive publicity in relation to projects gives due credit to both organisations. To this end, the press officers of the Trust and of the Authority collaborate on press releases, and the good news is that both have significantly raised our media profiles over the last year.

## **4. Actions taken by the Trust**

### **4.1 General**

The Trust is pleased to report a successful year, as measured against the objectives and targets set out in its own three year Strategic Plan (see *Appendix 1*). Total income was £1,500,390 (cf £1,305,690 in 05/06). This was all either distributed to third parties for their own projects or used to directly deliver Trust-managed projects. The majority of this spend helped to directly or indirectly deliver Authority objectives.

The Trust “broke even” after several deficit years, leaving £59,000 unrestricted funds in the bank at year-end. The Trust holds no other reserves or assets.

### **4.2 Methods**

The Trust’s charitable outputs were achieved using a mixture of all three methods adopted by trustees. It is worth noting that these are listed in order of priority:

- Raising and distributing funds to projects
- Managing and distributing others’ funds to projects
- Where absolutely necessary, delivering projects directly

### **4.3 Projects and Programmes**

#### **4.3.1 Sustainable Development Fund**

*BVPP - ‘promote sustainable development within the National Park by funding at least 15 innovative local initiatives each year that bring economic, social and environmental benefits’*

The Trust is contracted by the Authority to manage the delivery of the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF). The Trust and the Authority participate in a Project Management Group, which recommends which projects are to be supported to a panel comprising the Trust’s trustees. The Authority retains the right to call in decisions. The Authority pays to the Trust, out of SDF monies, an administration fee equal to 10% of all SDF monies distributed; this year £20,000.

In 2006/07 a total of 22 projects were given grants, meeting the Best Value Performance Plan target of providing support to at least 15 new projects. The total grant allocated was £200,447 which included funds carried over from the previous year. Match funding of £299,041 was secured giving a total project value of £499,488.

*A report including project descriptions is attached as Appendix 2*

#### **4.3.2 Dales Woodland Restoration Scheme**

*BVPP Action Plan – ‘Increase the area of native woodland, including advising and supporting YDMT to fund the planting of 70ha of new native woodland’*

A grant of £270k was obtained by the Trust from English Nature to help deliver the Dales Woodland Strategy by planting 150Ha broadleaves over two years (total cost £670k). This first year saw 75ha planted thanks to a tremendous collective effort at finding the sites, persuading landowners, designing schemes, consulting, assembling the match-funding and managing the individual projects.

The Authority’s Woodland Officer Geoff Garrett put a great deal of time and effort into this, as did staff from the Trust, Forestry Commission and others. The Authority gave £35,000 direct funding for projects and re-directed two legacies. The Trust assembled the remaining funding from the Forestry Commission, and particularly from donors

through a major public appeal. This appeal continues and this coming year promises to be even better for funding raised and the area planted.

#### 4.3.3 **Hay Time**

*BVPP Action Plan – ‘work with North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, English Nature, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, Flora Locale and YDMT to implement year one of the Hay Time project’*

A four year £520k project began in March 2006, aiming to restore 420ha of meadows within the National Park and North Pennines AONB. All the funding to date has been external, obtained by the Trust from the Tubney Charitable Trust, DEFRA and English Nature.

This has started highly successfully, with 120 landowners within the National Park registering an interest, education and information work undertaken, a disproportionate amount of good publicity and many practical lessons learned. The Authority is a full partner in the project and a member of the steering group.

Besides restoring a vital part of our landscape and biodiversity, this project aims to provide new and sustainable income streams for farmers and to give them access to the developing agri-environment payment schemes.

#### 4.3.4 **Countryside Trainees**

*BVPP Action Plan - ‘work with YDMT to secure funding to continue and expand the Dales Apprenticeship Scheme’*

This programme aims to give local young people the skills to work in the rapidly changing countryside. Six apprentices were employed last year by the Trust, provided with academic and practical training and support, and outposted for job experience with organisations - including three with the Authority’s Park Management Service.

A new £80,000 scheme, largely funded by European Social Fund and Charitable Trusts, began in December 2006 and also sees three placements with the Authority. The Authority contributes £8,000 plus of course supervision and job-based training.

#### 4.3.5 **North Yorkshire Aggregates Grants Scheme**

This fund aims to “benefit communities adversely affected by quarrying”. The Trust managed it under contract to North Yorkshire County Council (and last year with financial support from the Authority) and now does so through the LAA.

In 2006/07 £263,031 was given to 12 projects worth £532,289. Of these, grants of £76,005 were given to 5 projects with a value of £205,450 within the National Park. These included Cracoe Village Hall extension, Horton School disabled accommodation and “Artists in Craven”.

#### 4.3.6 **Learning in Limestone Country**

*BVPP Action Plan – ‘work in partnership with YDMT to deliver year two of Learning in Limestone County Project, providing outreach activities in Lancashire, Craven and West Yorkshire’*

A £660k, three year education and community involvement project funded by HLF, English Nature and Field Studies Council.

The Authority is a member of the steering group and contributes officer time input. The project co-ordinates and undertakes joint work with the External Affairs “Outreach” team. The aim is to increase this collaboration and develop joint networks and new schemes.

Last year the Trust's team provided "quality experiences" for 1700 children from 54 schools groups including 17 from West Yorkshire. 522 people from 46 West Yorkshire community groups came to the Dales for a wide variety of guided and led activities.

#### 4.3.7 **Community Wardens**

*BVPP Action Plan – 'implement the PROW maintenance plan through as continuing programme of works to maintain and improve rights of way'*

A modern version of the "lengthsman" scheme to help parishes with practical maintenance, and potentially social inclusion and crime prevention. A pilot scheme continues to be part-funded by the Trust and the Authority in Austwick and Lawkland and we would love to expand it.

#### 4.3.8 **Nidderdale Sustainable Development Fund**

The Trust manages Nidderdale AONB SDF under a similar arrangement to that with the Authority. To date £153,000 has been distributed to 16 projects worth £255,089.

#### 4.3.9 **Craven College Environmental Land Management HND**

Last year, under contract to Craven College, the Trust developed an Honours Degree course which provides a new opportunity for training in sustainable land management with a focus on the local area and its special landscape. It has a highly practical element with an emphasis on developing a broad range of skills and understanding.

#### 4.3.10 **Rural Trades Network**

A web-based project to support contractors through marketing, networking and skills training. Managed by the Trust and originally funded by Learning Skills Council. Funding to develop this is currently being sought.

#### 4.4 **Development of the Trust**

As well as the restricted funds for specific project, during this year the Trust's fundraising brought in more unrestricted income (£281,000) at a higher rate of return than any previous year. We are proud of our new website [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) The Donate to the Dales appeal which involves very close work with the Authority in joint promotion and marketing has become our overarching activity. Individual donors remain the core of the trust's fundraising strategy, for example through the tree dedication scheme – please see our new "virtual tree" scheme, a national first. A concerted effort to attract and build long-term relationships with more corporate and major donors included successes with Gaz de France, Betty's and several others. As we diversify our income we now undertake carbon sequestration schemes, will be a beneficiary of the new UK Postcode Lottery, are launching our own Mastercard and doing more merchandising. More staff time was also diverted into charitable trust fundraising and into developing a renewed legacy campaign. Contract and consultancy work was a relatively small, but growing, source of income.

In December 2005 the Trust was awarded the Investors in People standard with a glowing report from the assessor, reflecting the ethos, enthusiasm, and commitment which trustees and staff continue to bring to the organisation. Staff development continued through an appraisal system and a commitment to training within available resources. Several members of staff achieved external training and qualifications, and took on new responsibilities. Communication continued to be developed internally through, for example, regular staff meetings and away days. Externally, energy was put into engaging with new and existing partners, with the aims of ensuring that the Trust is fully aware of local needs and that partners are committed to supporting our work.

## **5. Issues between the Trust and the Authority**

There were no major issues or disagreements between us. It helps that the Trust is a non-campaigning, non-political body and so does not hold public views on particular issues. Instead trustees aim to achieve practical projects to support the well-being of the area.

As ever, communication could always be improved both internally and between both organisations. It became apparent during the drafting of the MoU that although links remained very strong between many staff, trustees, volunteers and members, for others there was little communication or even knowledge about each other. We are both working hard to improve this – for example by looking for appropriate opportunities to involve the staff of the other in training and development opportunities which we are arranging, and encouraging work-related and social contact between our employees and volunteers.

An ongoing issue is publicity linked to specific projects with both organisations wanting and needing to get credit for their involvement. There are frequent occasions when one or other of us feels 'left out' of media coverage. In most cases these were caused by third parties (usually project applicants) producing their own publicity and/or the media choosing to edit our carefully-crafted press releases. As an example, all of the press releases about SDF were issued by the Authority and none by the Trust, but this did not prevent the Trust getting the credit several times. Much more constructively, there is genuine goodwill on both sides to give each other more and better publicity – for the Trust this is the lifeblood of our fundraising. The Trust now has a dedicated PR officer, and she is in constant contact with the Authority's Press Officer.

## **6. Future Developments**

A number of joint initiatives are being developed. Amongst these are a "one-off" project to eradicate Signal Crayfish from the Ribble Catchment. The Authority has offered £5,000 and officer time to this scheme. The Trust will act as lead partner and is confident of various bids in to Charitable Trusts to complete a £220k scheme.

In addition, after much discussion, a Park-wide programme to build on the successes of Learning in Limestone Country and the Authority's outreach work is being drafted, with a view to jointly approaching major funders in the near future.

Beyond that the external funding group, the Authority's prioritised funding requirements and the Trust's own recent internal re-organisation - which aims to allow more time for project development – are tools which give promise of further fundraising successes. A list of National Park Authority programmes that the NPA would like the Trust to focus fund raising on has been agreed (appendix 3) and work is now ongoing to identify specific opportunities to underpin these broad areas of work with tangible projects.

## **7. Effectiveness of the partnership**

From the Trust's point of view this continues to be a remarkable and successful relationship between two independent but complementary organisations. The signing of the MoU marked a significant milestone in a unique partnership – one that incidentally is once again being examined as a possible role model by several other National Park Authorities.

As finances promise to become ever tighter over the coming years we would argue that this relationship is one which should benefit the Authority to an even greater extent. The Trust needs to continue to provide what was set up for – a vehicle for accessing funding and support otherwise unavailable to the Authority or the area.

For the Trust, as a Charity with no guaranteed income and no reserves, the “seed-corn” of the Authority's grant continues to be crucial to our bringing in that income. As important to our work is the continued organisational and personal goodwill and support of the professional staff, volunteers and members of the Authority: the greatest asset we have when approaching funders is a track-record of *genuine* partnership working and successful joint project delivery.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that members note the report.

David Sharrod

Director  
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

May 14 2007

*“Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. works to support the environmental, social and economic well-being of this special area”*

**AIMS*****What are we trying to achieve?***

1. To conserve or restore the natural, built, scenic and cultural heritage features which together make up the special landscape of the Dales
2. To develop and encourage opportunities for wider access to and understanding of the Dales
3. To improve understanding of and wider use of countryside and traditional skills
4. To support the people and communities of the Dales to live and work in harmony with this special and protected landscape

**OBJECTIVES 2005-08*****What are our targets?***

1. To help complete 150 projects worth £5m which conserve, restore and/or improve access to Dales heritage features
2. To help develop opportunities for 6000 people from targeted communities to access and understand the Dales
3. To help deliver improved understanding and wider use of countryside and traditional skills to 500 people
4. To help complete 60 projects which support the people of the Dales to live and work sustainably in this special landscape
5. *To manage and develop YDMT (an “operational” objective)*

**METHODS*****How will we achieve our objectives?***

- Raise and distribute funds to projects
- Manage and distribute others' funds to projects
- Where absolutely necessary, deliver projects directly

**VALUES*****In working towards our aims we:***

- Are passionate about the Yorkshire Dales and enjoy working for them
- Work in partnership with local communities and other organisations
- Work as an enabling body to help deliver other's aspirations for the Dales
- Encourage sustainable ways of living and working in this special landscape
- Support work complementary to, but not statutory responsibility of, other bodies
- Comply with the spirit and letter of the expectations of a Charity
- Are sought after as good employers. Value our donors, supporters and trustees
- Guard the reputations of funders, partners and recipients
- Maintain transparent procedures and ensure financial probity

## OVERVIEW

Since the launch of the Sustainable Development Fund in late 2002 the Trust has delivered the fund on behalf of the Authority. This arrangement is to continue in the coming financial year 2007/08.

The Trust is contracted by the Authority to manage the delivery of the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF). The Trust and the Authority participate in a Project Management Group, which recommends which projects are to be supported to a panel comprising the Trust's trustees. The Authority retains the right to call in decisions. The Authority pays to the Trust, out of SDF monies, an administration fee equal to 10% of all SDF monies distributed; this year £20,000.

By March 2007 nearly £3/4 million of SDF grant has been allocated to 83 individual projects. These projects have a total value of approximately £2.6 million meaning that just under £2m of match funding has been levered in – this has come from a range of sources that include the applicants (both in cash and in-kind contributions), local authority sources, charitable trusts, lottery funding, education sources and the private sector.

In the last financial year 2006/07 a total of 22 projects were given grants, meeting the Best Value Performance Plan target of providing support to at least 15 new projects.

The total grant allocated was £200,447 which included funds carried over from the previous year.

The attached document gives a summary of the projects which received approval in 2006/07. The minimum grant given was £1000 and the maximum £25,382. Match funding of £299,041 was secured giving a total project value of £499,488. The sources of match funding included applicants, local authority sources, charitable trusts, lottery funding, educational sources, private sector and volunteer gifts in kind.

The type of projects funded ranged across a number of categories and themes:

<b>Type of Project</b>	<b>Number</b>
Sustainable Food	1
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	7
Sustainable Transport	4
Educational/training/awareness raising	3
Business diversification/establishment/feasibility	4
Sustainability themed events	2
Recycling projects	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>

An annual report is submitted to DEFRA that contains a lot more statistical data such as number of enquiries, number of full applications received, amount of cash and gift in kind match funding, numbers of businesses, community groups and young people involved in projects etc. This will be complete by the end of June 2007 and will be forwarded to both YDNPA and DEFRA.

**PROJECTS 2006-07****Sedbergh Gala Day**

Applicant hired a big marquee that was located on the Gala field and offered information and activities promoting environmentally friendly lifestyles/business. There were stands aimed at raising awareness about green energy, green tourism, sustainable living, organic and local produce, national park conservation, planning/development advice, recycling and re-using, environmental business awards and childrens activities.

Project Cost    £3714                      SDF Grant        £2000

**Sheepskin Rugs for Babies - feasibility**

To produce sheepskin rugs for sale as a baby product. Sheepskins have been used for centuries for babies. The product today is predominantly consigned to the living room floor and is of dated appeal. Applicant aims to revive the product by marketing it for babies. It is important to source local sheepskins to ensure traceability. Most sheepskins sold in the uk today come from abroad with little information relating to the welfare of animals or method of processing. This project was to assess the viability of using Dales breeds from Dales farms for such a product.

Project Cost    £5061                      SDF Grant        £1935

**Flora of the Fells Book Festival**

A weekend of events (talks and walks) in partnership with Sedbergh Booktown, local businesses and the local group of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust - promoting understanding of the special qualities of the landscape of the fells and their flora/habitats through books. It aimed to raise awareness of the value of upland landscapes through their cultural links with literature and authors and promote links between the local economy and the local landscape

Project Cost    £3794                      SDF Grant        £1850

**Bio-diesel Project**

The Clapham Community Co-operative operates as a social enterprise which is owned and controlled democratically by its members and which exists to benefit the local community. The members will produce bio-diesel by using the trans-esterification process from used vegetable oil. The members will be able to purchase the bio-diesel for personal and organisational use. The SDF grant helped with the purchase of the equipment and materials for the production of bio-diesel.

Project Cost    £11454                      SDF Grant        £1983

**Primrose Wood Charcoal Project**

The aim of the project is to show how low grade small roundwood timber can be converted into charcoal that can be sold in order to generate funds for the sustainable management of small woods within the National Park. The applicant has purchased a charcoal burner and bags in which to sell the charcoal

Project Cost    £2115                      SDF Grant        £1058

**Renewable Energy Survey - Malhamdale**

To carry out an audit of existing energy consumption and energy efficiency in Malhamdale, and to survey the potential of producing energy in the form of heat or electricity from renewable resources.

The ultimate aim of the survey is to achieve improved energy efficiency of buildings, and to identify potential effective community and domestic renewable energy projects. Earlier work by the author of this application, with support from YREN, showed that whilst most people are concerned at rising energy prices and greenhouse gas emissions, there is a lack of understanding about measures that can be taken, within the National Park, to counter these problems. This inhibits the uptake of sustainable conservation and micro-generation projects.

This project aims to equip a team of residents with the necessary know-how and experience to enable them to give sound practical advice to householders regarding appropriate energy conservation measures and micro-generation projects (within the context of a National Park) and to encourage implementation of community renewable energy projects.

Project Cost    £9052                      SDF Grant        £6634

**Seed To Sheep**

Two areas of the Richmondshire Museum will be developed as interactive exhibition spaces for children of all abilities to discover and show to local inhabitants and visitors the unique history and environment of the North Yorkshire dales through plants and organic gardening.

There are 2 phases to this project, both new to the museum and the surrounding area. Beginning in October 2006 this will create two gardens for hands-on projects with local children; one garden will be a permanent exhibition to show visitors the history of the woollen industry in the North Yorkshire Dales, the other garden will be for the museum educators to work with groups of children on changing projects connected to Key Stages 1-4 of the National Curriculum. The first garden will be sustainably designed and organically gardened and will show visitors to the museum best practice in both these areas. The exhibition will primarily display plants used for transforming fleece into yarn. Additionally plants will also be chosen because they are found locally in the dales or have been commonly grown for eating.

For outreach projects a loan box (including worksheets for projects, artefacts from the museum and references to further research), with workshop on delivery, will be put together. A design competition will be held at the end of phase 1 for informing disabled visitors about the plants in the sensory area of the garden. A video will be made of the project and digital photographs taken by the children to share with children from other schools. Phase 2 (not funded by SDF) will begin in October 2007 and will use harvested material from the exhibition garden in workshops for children and adults to show them how to dye wool and to use the yarn for felting, knitting, weaving and embroidery.

Project Cost    £11032                      SDF Grant        £2000

**Nethergill Farm Sustainable Energy Generation**

The project will study the technical and financial feasibility of harnessing the following energy resources available to Nethergill Farm from within its own boundaries: 1) Water. 2) Wind, 3) Solar. If the development of any one or more of these resources is found feasible, the aim would be to provide the farm with sustainable energy, so reducing dependency on the National Grid.

A further aim would be to utilise excess energy for the production of other sustainable energy sources such as kiln dried wood or barn dried hay. Applicant also intends to use the assessment to make decisions on what further developments (accommodation, bunk barn, study centre etc) could be implemented as part of his plans for the farms diversification - the applicant wishes to use renewable sources only to power any additional usage on his farm

Project Cost    £14600                      SDF Grant        £3350

**Dales Biomass Facilitation Service**

The proposal is to create a biomass facilitation service in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB areas, which develops biomass as a renewable energy source amongst rural communities and that provides market opportunities for local woodlands.

This will generate a wide range of benefits in terms of improved biodiversity, landscape and access within sustainably managed woodlands in the Dales as well as reducing carbon emissions and safeguarding and creating a number of jobs throughout the supply chain. In order to make a clear and unambiguous effort to stimulate the uptake of biomass as a renewable energy amongst Dales communities, the proposal is for a 'biomass facilitation service' to act as a promoter and facilitator of developments, acting as a platform for communities and other parties interested in developing biomass energy projects. The facilitation service will also provide support for the associated supply chain to work together, stimulating economic growth and ensuring that the potential biomass as a viable energy source is realised.

The project will employ one full time project officer and will run for a two year period from October 2006 to October 2008

Project Cost    £82760 (2 years)    SDF Grant    £31040 (06/07 £5354, 07/08 £25686)

**Yorkshire & Humber Region Sustainable Food Education Officer**

To employ a Regional Sustainable Food Education Officer for two years to work part time on sustainable food and farming focussed training programmes within key school and other linked professional networks within the Yorkshire Dales.

Within the YDNP: to train a minimum of 44 teachers in sustainable food and farming matters, to develop a pilot Dales-Bradford Sustainable Food Schools Network in which the key outputs would be the development of whole school sustainable food policies in 2 secondary and 12 primary schools. To develop primary and secondary teaching/learning resources focussing on landscape, food and farming issues using local businesses and farms as case studies for study tours. As part of wider regional work the project officer would offer training to other professionals working within the school network (5 a day, Healthy Schools etc) on sustainable food issues and including all other works as described in the Work Programme

Project Cost    £177250 (2 years)    SDF Grant    £37500 (£9500 06/07, £28250 07/08)

**Sustainable Farm Energy Project - Phase 2**

Applicant held a 3 day energy training course at the Malham Field Studies centre on behalf of the National Trust. The training was delivered by the Centre for Sustainable Energy based at the CREATE centre in Bristol who provide professional energy training nationally. The first morning focussed on general energy efficiency awareness in the workplace aimed at local businesses. The remaining day and a half on more specialised energy auditing training. Approximately 20 attendees on the course.

Once trained the auditors will visit each of the 15 Trust farms to conduct a full energy audit which would include energy and water efficiency measures and highlight renewable energy potential. The recommendations would form a farm energy strategy which would be progressed as funds became available. The auditors would also be equipped with the necessary skills to carry out energy audits in domestic properties identifying practical actions individuals can take to improve energy efficiency and water conservation in their own homes.

The project culminated in a Renewable Energy Event which attracted over 100 planners and decision makers from the protected landscapes of the north of England. The programme included case study presentations, representations from local energy agencies, as well as a field trip to look at practical examples of renewable energy in action.

Project Cost    £12012    SDF Grant    £7125

**Sustainable Woodchip Heating System - Sunhill**

Installation of a woodchip fired central heating boiler and distribution pipe work at Sunhill. This would be supplied with wood fuel from the farms own woodland and would deliver heat to the 7 business units and the Sunhill Conference & Activity Centre.

The objective is to have both self sufficient, sustainable and economic heat production for the site. Sustainability would be achieved in broad terms in that the system is carbon neutral and from the applicants point of view in that they aim to manage the woodland in a way that the resource is renewable ie applicant to commit to replanting and regeneration and new woodland creation in order that extraction is matched by new growth. All economic indicators suggest that fossil fuel prices will continue to increase in price as demand exceeds supply. In changing to wood as a fuel the project will divorce the applicant from this problem and aims to provide cheaper heat for the business units.

Project Cost    £50764                      SDF Grant        £25382

**Bainside Arts Marketing Grant 2006-2007**

Stage 1 of this project saw Bainside Arts complete the conversion and equipping of its dedicated studio facilities to enable it to run a number of arts and creative courses. This second phase of the project has 2 key objectives. 1) Developing and marketing courses with wide appeal which utilise the resources of the local area. 2) Improving the exterior of the barn by restoring the garden and garth to make it more attractive to customers and ecologically sound and restoring three old service buildings.

The first objective (funded through this SDF grant) is to be achieved by developing the artist materials and networks, to support and train volunteers, to recruit Friends and Patrons of Bainside Arts, to develop an intergrated course and accommodation package, to develop a bursary fund, to focus local marketing and to focus marketing to young people.

Project Cost    £4045                                  SDF Grant        £1000

**The Dales Powerhouse – development phase**

The primary objective of Re-generate (the applicant) is to develop community recycling and renewable energy schemes.

The development of this venture is in three phases, the first of which, a feasibility study, was completed in June 2006. This established that the project is theoretically viable and has great potential for the area, giving an opportunity for innovative sustainability in Craven District and in the National Park. This development phase will entail developing the scheme up to construction, commissioning and operation stage. The work will include: architectural design and planning application; engagement with the local community to explain the project and to encourage participation; design of publicity materials and website; technical consultations to define the statutory requirements and specific technical options for the plant; consultation with the local authority about waste collection and delivery, and concerning waste disposal fees; discussions with local farmers on the potential for land-spreading of fertiliser; consultation with Craven College about the educational aspects of the scheme; an independent business plan and due diligence study; fundraising and setting up the financial structure to implement the project; starting up the Dales Powerhouse as a functioning community interest company.

If the site becomes operational, the project will consist of a community-owned combined heat and power system fuelled by local domestic and commercial food waste with some green waste added. After delivery to the site the 'fuel' (food and green waste) will be pasteurised and then processed in an anaerobic digester, using existing and well-established technology. Anaerobic digestion produces methane gas which will be used to power a generator to provide electricity and heat. The latter is used in nearby buildings and the former is exported to and sold via the national grid. The resultant residue can also be a useful by-product.

Project Cost    £59500                                  SDF Grant        £20000

**The International College of the Arts and the Living Landscape**

This start up phase of this project will establish a broad partnership, including existing educational providers and local communities, to develop an International College of the Arts and the Living Landscape, a body concerned with conservation, education, learning and change in the outstanding landscape of the Yorkshire Dales. The purpose of the college is to provide a centre of excellence and collaboration in conservation, education, arts and exploration of mankind's relationship with its environment, to promote learning, to improve conservation, and in so doing, to enhance the well-being of the communities and economy of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Thus this phase now proposes over a limited time frame of a year to develop a pilot programme of activity, fundraise, develop partner networks and support, develop a website and prove the viability of this ground changing programme.

Project Cost    £43875                      SDF Grant        £20000

**Farm Waste Plastic Re-Cycling Project**

Applicant has planning permission and all appropriate Environment Agency regulations in place to develop part of his premises as a hub for farm plastics recycling. Applicant intends to collect all farm plastics from farms across the northern area of the National Park as well as outside of the National Park (his premises are at Tunstall near Richmond which is outside of the National Park) and then for it to be collected by recycling processors. At present over 50 farms have registered an interest in having their waste collected. In the future the applicant would like to look at processing the farm plastics himself but at present the aim is for it to be collected by other processors.

Project Cost    £29550                      SDF Grant        £14775

**Yorkshire Dales Railway Skipton Connection Study**

The next stage of planned development is to achieve through running of diesel units to and from Skipton Station. The project will bring significant benefits to the railway, local communities and the environment, by making the railway and the Yorkshire Dales easier to access without a car, reducing parking pressure in Embsay, providing local jobs and addition opportunities for people to be involved in volunteering at the railway.

The proposed study would cover the following all the aspects necessary to look at re-establishing this link and will be carried out by Network Rail

The study while not only studying the options for connection in to Skipton will also examine the possibilities of running our trains from Skipton to Swinden quarry which will have wider benefits for the Dales and the National Park.

Project Cost    £11000                      SDF Grant        £7500

**Hazel Brow Development Worker**

Now entering its third year this is a 3 year pilot project to establish a college presence (for Askham Bryan) in Swaledale. A Development Officer appointed to assist in the management of the Hazel Brow Visitor Centre, to coordinate college activities at Hazel Brow Farm and to develop new activities. Mainly aimed at maintaining and developing contact with schools, both primary and secondary but also with other educational institutions to inform the public about the agricultural industry and the farming environment of the Yorkshire Dales.

It will facilitate the extension of learning opportunities for students already at Askham Bryan. Project intends to establish a hub for promoting aspects of the new rural agenda in the heart of Swaledale. We would envisage that the Development Officer would link with existing projects in and around the National Park and become the catalyst for additional related developments centred on this hub.

Project cost    £99361 (3 years)                      SDF grant        £49585 (05/06 £15917, 06/07 £16432, 07/08 £17236)

**Sustainable Living and Learning in the Yorkshire Dales (Scargill feasibility study)**

Scargill is a community and charitable trust, based on Christian principles but fully inclusive of all individuals and backgrounds whether of a faith or none. It operates from a large estate and residential centre near Kettlewell.

As Scargill approaches their 50th anniversary in 2009, the new vision is to create an environmentally sustainable centre for learning and outreach, particularly for youth and socially excluded groups. The new centre would offer residential programmes uses the special qualities of the Dales landscape as a focus for bridging divided communities and inspiring individuals to live more sustainably and peacefully on the Earth.

As the first step towards this vision, Scargill wishes to undertake a comprehensive feasibility study to assess the need, and financial and environmental sustainability of its far reaching plans.

The feasibility plan would:

1. Explore how to create a new venue within the Scargill estate by utilising and enhancing the special qualities of landscape, amenity and ecology,
2. Identify the most appropriate sustainable materials and design that could build on the tradition of local architecture but also exploit the most exciting and relevant aspects of contemporary design. This work could in due course be applied to other buildings in the national park, for example by generating a guide to using sustainable materials within traditional build which could stimulate interest in sustainability in the wider planning process.
3. Carry out market research into the communities which would most benefit from the new facilities and programmes on offer, including the local community, urban communities, national and international visitors, formal and informal education groups. This would include looking at the sustainable transport requirements and opportunities to bring these visitors to Scargill.
4. Undertake research into co-funding opportunities for the major build as well as ongoing revenue costs
5. Pull all these areas together, and undertake risk analysis, to create an outline business plan. This would identify what part environmental sustainability plays in the eventual feasibility of the project.

Project Cost	£16000	SDF Grant	£9600
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**Sharing the Dales**

Whilst the Yorkshire Dales Society, as a not-for-profit company and registered charity, is the sponsor of this bid, it will be undertaken in partnership with the Yorkshire Dales Public Transport Users Group who will help with the development work and promotion of the project.

There are three closely inter-related elements to this programme.

1. Restoring and enhancing a key missing public transport link to and from the Yorkshire Dales National Park, to allow people without use of their own car equal access to the Yorkshire Dales National Park on Sundays and Bank Holidays.
2. Working with and building on three existing major successful projects in the Yorkshire Dales – the National Park Authority's Outreach and Mosaic Programme, the Learning in Limestone Country Project and the Dales Bus Rambles to gain greater opportunity and scope for independent travel on the new and existing green travel networks to reach and enjoy the YDNP for active recreation, especially walking, thereby creating additional revenue to support existing networks by reducing the amount of subsidy required to financially maintain them.
3. Promoting public transport usage and walking as a sustainable way of enjoying and experiencing the Yorkshire Dales, as an alternative to car dependency thereby reducing carbon emissions, congestion and other forms of visual and noise pollution, whilst contributing to the local economy and well being of local residents by increasing visitor spend in local businesses and at tourist attractions. An important related benefit will be to significantly improve local Sunday transport for local residents of Skipton and several villages within and close to the Yorkshire Dales thereby increasing personal mobility and reducing car dependency of people living in the rural area.

Project Cost	£24527	SDF Grant	£18527
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**Business in the Environment Forum Co-ordinator for Dales and North York Moors**

To reduce the negative environmental impact of Small Medium Enterprise's that are based or operate in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the North York Moors National Park through the employment of a dedicated National Park environmental co-ordinator for three years (project is now entering its third year)

The environmental co-ordinator will run the Business Environmental Forum in both areas and work with businesses and organisations by visiting them to identify environmental issues including waste, energy, water pollution and legislation and help them reduce their environmental impact. The businesses will also benefit from wider forum activities including environmental topic and legislation seminars, network groups and waste exchange. Project is working through existing business networks and Chamber of Trades, Dales Tourism Forum and the Joint Promotions Initiative as a way of reaching businesses within existing supporting services.

Project cost    £109917 (3 years)            SDF grant            £39920 (05/06 £13257, 06/07 £13130, 07/08 £13533)

**Country Lanes – Austwick**

Now in its second year the first year saw the establishment of a cycle tourism business in the YDNP using Austwick as the 'hub'. The business offers cycling and walking holidays: day trips, short breaks and two-centre based longer tours. Premises are at the Dalesbridge Centre near Austwick – a few miles from Settle. The project will deliver economic, social and environmental benefits to the YDNP and its wider community of local residents and business.

The project aims to achieve transport integration (all trips linked with starts at bus or railway links), local employment (new business means new jobs) and training opportunities, economic benefits to the wider community (cycle tourism spend with local accommodation providers, attractions, local shops), positive environmental impact (cyclists will be on 'managed' routes and guided routes can pass on messages), social and health benefits.

The project is being delivered by Country Lanes and in its second year it hopes to build on the successes of the first year as well as look to running a satellite operation from Grassington.

Project Cost    £77328 (2 years)            SDF grant            £25000 (05/06 £13688, 06/07

## EXTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### YDNPA's Priorities for the Trust

Theme	NPMP Ref		Needed from	YDNPA Contact
Biodiversity	L8.	Introduce measures to conserve and enhance important roadside verges	Now	Tim Thom
Biodiversity	NC4c)	Restore over 4,000 hectares of upland heath & blanket bog;	Now	Tim Thom
Biodiversity	NC8.	Work with local communities to identify from the habitat map a range of initiatives that, by 2011, would enable people to get actively involved in the implementation of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	Now	Tim Thom
Recreation	AR8.	Develop opportunities, including a Park-wide programme of events, walks and other activities that encourage healthy lifestyles and assist in the Government's target of increasing levels of physical activity amongst residents and visitors by 1% per year.	-	Kathryn Beardmore
Rights of way	AR1	Improve the network of public rights of way so that 90% are easy to use by 2010	Now	Alan Hulme
Sustainable Development	L10.	Support and encourage small-scale renewable energy developments.....that meet local needs and do not adversely affect the distinctive character of the Yorkshire Dales' landscape.	-	Phil Brown
Archaeology	HE5	Conserve and enhance the most important archaeological sites and features, so that at least 95% of the Scheduled Monuments are in optimal condition by 2020.	Now	Robert White
Outreach	UE3a)	Increase the number of visitors from black and ethnic minority communities from 1% in 2005 to 2% by 2011;	2008	Bill Wood
Outreach	UE3b)	Increase the percentage of residents in Keighley and Bradford who are aware of the Park from 25% in 2005 to 30% by 2011.	2008	Bill Wood
Sustainable tourism	UE10.	Promote environmental awareness amongst tourism businesses and visitors within the Yorkshire Dales National Park, so as to increase the number of businesses offering 'sustainable tourism products' from 25% in 2006 to 50% by 2010.	2008	Julie Barker
Trees and Woodland	NC4d)	Create 450 ha of upland ash woodland by 2010.	Jan 2008	Geoff Garrett
Volunteers	UE7.	Provide people from all backgrounds with the opportunity to make a difference to the long-term conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the National Park by providing at least 5,000 volunteer days per year by 2009.	-	Rae Lonsdale

## Other external funding opportunities

Biodiversity	NC3a)	Get 70% of the area covered by Local Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats into favourable condition by 2010.	Now	Tim Thom
Biodiversity	NC3b)	Get at least 95% of nationally and internationally important wildlife sites in favourable condition by 2010.	Now	Tim Thom
Biodiversity	NC5.	Ensure that the populations of all Local Biodiversity Action Plan species are stable or increasing by 2010.	Now	Tim Thom
Biodiversity	NC4a)	Restore 1,700 hectares of hay meadow by 2011 (NB 'Haytime will reduce this target by ?? ha)	2009	Tim Thom
Biodiversity	NC4b)	Create 100 hectares of floodplain wetland by 2011;	2009	Tim Thom
Farm conservation	L2a)	Enhancement of dry-stone walls	-	Adrian Shepherd
Farm conservation	L2a)	Enhancement of hedgerows;	-	Geoff Garrett
Farm conservation	L2c)	Enhancement of traditional farmsteads, associated farm buildings, features and field barns (for landscape character).	-	Mark Stephenson
Trees and Woodland	L2c)	Enhancement of individual or small groups of native trees (for landscape character)	-	Geoff Garrett
Trees and Woodland	NC6.	Restore all ancient replanted woodland to a semi-natural state and ensure that all semi-natural woodland is protected, enhanced and self-regenerating by 2020.	-	Geoff Garrett

Geology	L6.	Maintain all nationally-important geological sites in 'favourable' condition, and develop a series of Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites by 2009.	Jan 2008	Robert White
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Resource protection	L9.	Use the management and creation of important habitats in the Dales to prevent soil erosion, reduce flood risk and improve water quality and management, particularly along the Rivers Ure, Aire, Swale, Wharfe, Ribble and their tributaries.	-	Tim Thom
Resource protection	CC8.	By 2011 develop and implement a programme to raise awareness of wider environmental issues, such as resource depletion, climate change and waste management.	2009	Moya Turrell
Resource protection	CC9.	Support at least one community to develop by 2009 a pilot programme to carry out 'sustainable development appraisals' for their area and encourage active community involvement in 'green projects'.	Jan 2008	Phil Brown

Access to	CC2.	Improve the integration and flexibility of community transport services to meet the needs of local	-	Andy Ryland
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services		communities, and visitors where possible.		
Access to services	CC5.	Support and contribute to meeting targets set in local Community Strategies and sub-regional programmes for improving access to services within or closer to communities.	-	Moya Turrell
Access to services	CC6.	By 2010 obtain reliable data on community activity and quality of life in the National Park, and a better understanding of the range of cultural activities available.	End 2008	Moya Turrell

Access	AR7.	Increase the accessibility of the Park to users of all abilities so that by 2010 at least 10 km (0.5%) of rights of way are fully accessible by wheelchair users and 105 km (5%) by those with limited mobility, and improve opportunities for those with sensory disabilities.	Now	Kathryn Beardmore
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Education	UE5.	Each year, develop and implement at least one new programme of formal or informal education or training to encourage schools and groups to get involved in conserving the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.	Now	Bill Wood
Education	UE6.	Carry out research to identify why few young people visit National Parks other than as part of educational groups, and by 2008 develop appropriate programmes to encourage an interest in National Parks within this age group.	Now	Bill Wood

Health	UE9.	As part of the Tourism Partnership's programme, develop an annual programme of events, walks and activities that use the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park to deliver wider benefits, such as health, leadership skills and spiritual well being.	-	Bill Wood
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Building Conservation	HE4.	Rescue 72 Listed Buildings 'at risk' by 2020.	Now	Mark Stephenson
Building Conservation	HE9.	Action to enhance village Conservation Areas, working with local communities	Now	Mark Stephenson
Historic environment	HE10.	Develop new opportunities for historic environment employment, training and business development, as well as direct investment in maintaining the historic environment.	-	Phil Brown
Cultural heritage	CC7.	Support community groups to record, maintain, celebrate and share their cultural heritage through community based projects, events, festivals and activities.	-	Fiona Rosher

Green business	EE1.	By 2008 develop a 'quality of place' brand, linked to the Park's 'special qualities', to use as a common thread that underpins regeneration and renaissance activity across the area.	Now	Phil Brown
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Green business	EE2.	Target priority economic sectors that use and reinforce the Park's assets (notably the creative industries, food and drink, culture, heritage, education, health and eco tourism), to diversify the local economy, and promote the Dales as a dynamic area that is welcoming to 'low impact' business, supports innovation and offers a healthy and attractive lifestyle.	-	Phil Brown
Green Business	EE7.	Work with local organisations and businesses to encourage adoption of sound environmental practices, and by 2008 identify plans to support future projects, like 'Limestone Country' and 'Hay Time', that bring additional economic benefits from sustainable farming and tourism.	-	Gary Smith
Green business	EE9	Encourage businesses, residents and visitors to buy and source local food and products that support national park purposes.	-	Adrian Shepherd
Sustainable Tourism	EE3.	By 2011 develop, through the Tourism Partnership, a range of high quality, innovative heritage, cultural and sustainable tourism initiatives that make imaginative use of the area's image and assets.	-	Julie Barker
Sustainable Tourism	EE8.	Develop the scope, quality and co-ordination of recreational infrastructure to increase and promote the area's appeal to a wider range of people and groups and to increase the economic value to local tourism businesses.	-	Kathryn Beardmore
Training and Skills	EE5.	Support local training in countryside skills, traditional construction, environmental conservation and sustainable land management and the development, by 2011, of a local centre providing such training opportunities.	-	Alan Hulme
Training and Skills	EE10.	Improve access to further education and training — within or closer to communities — so as to support the development of the priority sectors.	-	Bill Wood