

A WATERVOLE TRAIL TO WINNAL MOORS.

PROPOSAL FOR A CIRCULAR WILDLIFE TRAIL FOLLOWING
THE RIVER ITCHEN FROM ABBEY GARDENS TO WINNAL MOORS VIA THE
CITY MILL AND WATER LANE, RETURNING VIA FRIARSGATE.



DEVELOPED BY CHARLIE CARTER ARTWORKS



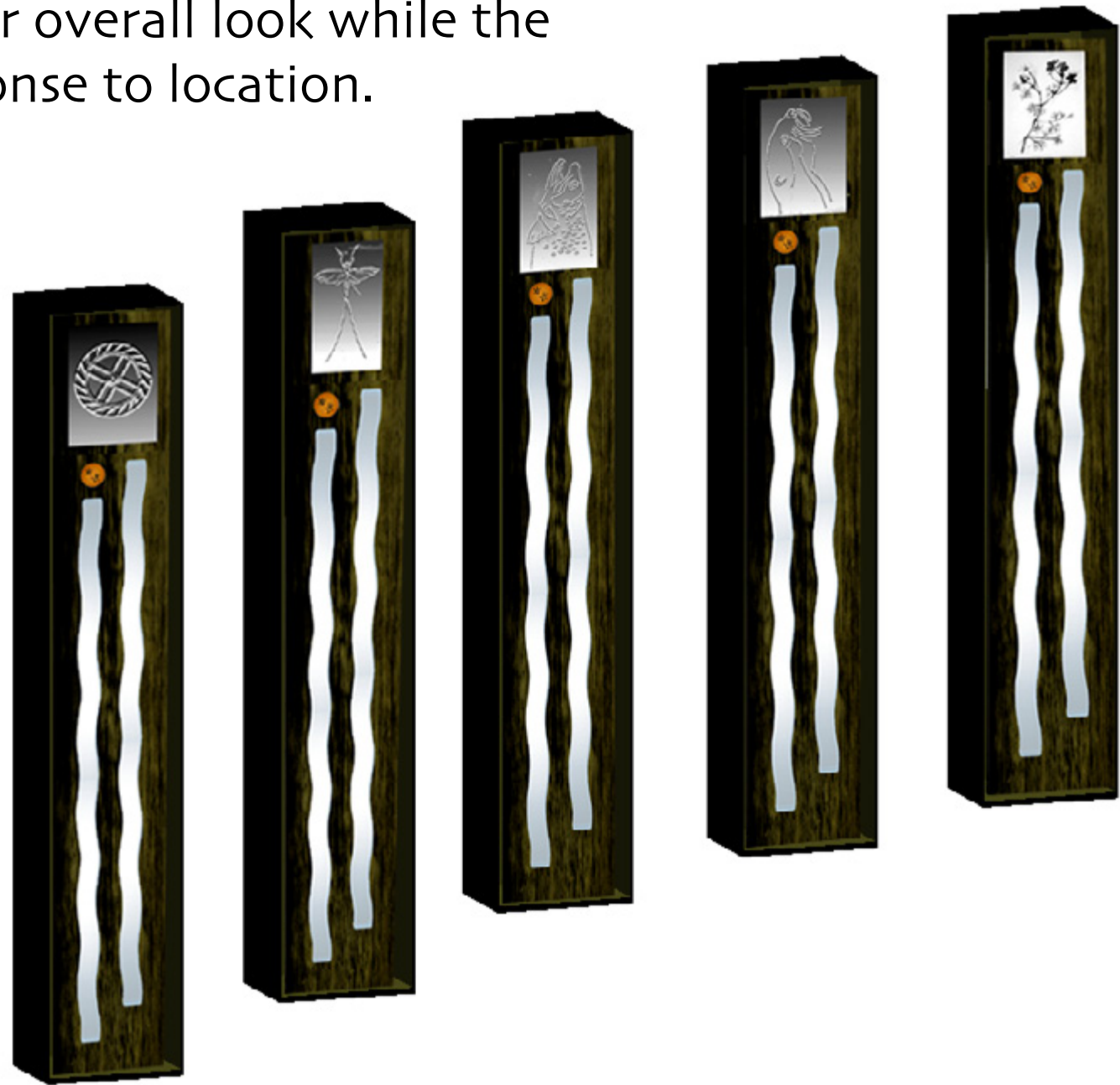


Waymarkers along the route will have a readily identifiable graphic look "branding" the trail.

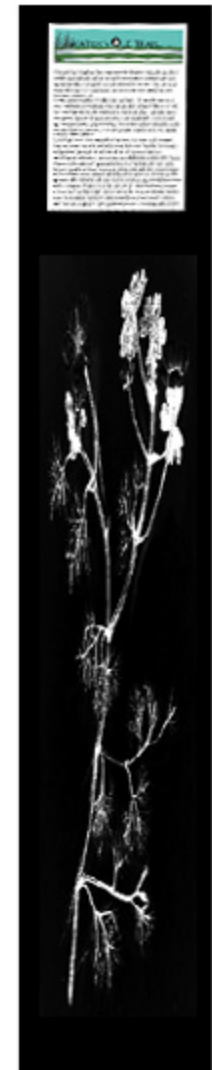
Each waymarker will be individualised with images and information about key flora and fauna to be seen by visitors along the trail.

Brass rubbings can be taken from textured images and collected on activity sheets available in tourist office.

The waymarkers will be built to street furniture standards from steel and oak and be consistent in their overall look while the detail varies in response to location.



Bold graphics on the reverse side of the waymarkers supported by text encourage visitors to look out for certain species along the trail and to discover more in the Winnal Moors nature reserve. They will be able to hire activity packs from the tourist information office which will include a sheet on which to collect imprint rubbings taken from a detail of the waymarker post.





Cast brass pavement inserts will act as a "breadcrumb" trail between waymarkers.

"Off the peg" street furniture could be customised to provide an extra level of interest at very low cost.





ABBEY GARDENS:

The first "station".

(Final location to be confirmed)

An introductory panel introduces visitors to the River Itchen, its inhabitants and its flora.

I would like to propose that we relocate the dog litter bin and restore the derelict drinking fountain, either to its' original use or as the setting for a small bronze watervole statuette.



CITY MILL.

As a component in the proposed new entrance railings, gateposts become waymarkers and an interpretation panel in the courtyard encourages visitors to visit the City Mill. In the mill garden is a "special" waymarker with its own rubbing to be collected.



WATER LANE.

Existing bollards could be replaced with waymarkers.

With agreement from the restaurant a "Trout" wall feature could point the way into Water lane.



WATER LANE MARKER.

Waymarker attracts visitors onto riverside path.
Opportunity to de-clutter by removal of existing signage.



CITY MILL ISLAND.

Carved local oak
Otter/Trout/Mayfly
totem.

Funding to be sought
from National Trust.



WATER LANE
BRIDGE.

Waymarkers added to bridge ends.
Possible decorative mosaic applied to existing brick kerb.





COLOUR FACTORY PAINTED BOLLARD PROJECT EXTENDED.

Existing bollards could be decorated with trout patterns by the Colour Factory after they have run local community workshops. Funding to be sought from Willow Tree pub.





BUILD LOCAL PRIDE IN WINNAL.

Use Water lane green space as a venue for the Colour Factory workshops and create other family activity events to build temporary lanterns, banners, costumes etc. Use seasonal holidays and established events such as the Hat Fair to celebrate the area and it's unique habitat and encourage community cohesion and pride.



DURNGATE TERRACE.

Double waymarker
framing gate to sluice.

Approach Willow
Tree pub/Green King
brewery to help fund co-
ordinated fence renewal,
tree thinning work and
possibly for a new feature
gate?



DURNGATE AND THE MOORS

At this point a waymarker draws the visitor to explore the nature reserve itself before returning to Abbey Gardens via Friarsgate.



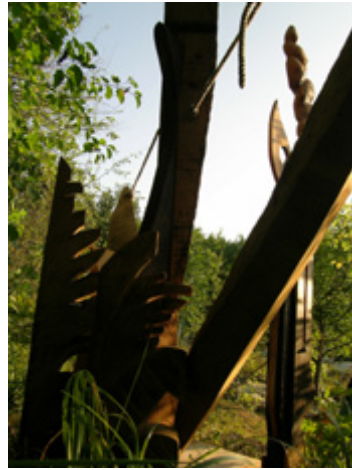
FRIARSGATE BRIDGE

Use of Friarsgate bridge to create a "gateway" feature into the town centre for drivers.

Simple laser cut steel images could be easily applied to existing parapet.

Sculpture and interpretation could be placed in blank space beside the bridge.
(Form shown as example only).





Possible Extras For future Development.

In the next slides I present some ideas for further development based on the existing project. Extra funds would be sought through leveraging extra value from partnership working and using the existing cultural infrastructure of Winchester to build local community cohesion and attract visitors.

FUTURE POCKET PARK.

The green on Water Lane could become an informal gathering area for residents and visitors by siting carved sculptures which invite low level play and sitting.

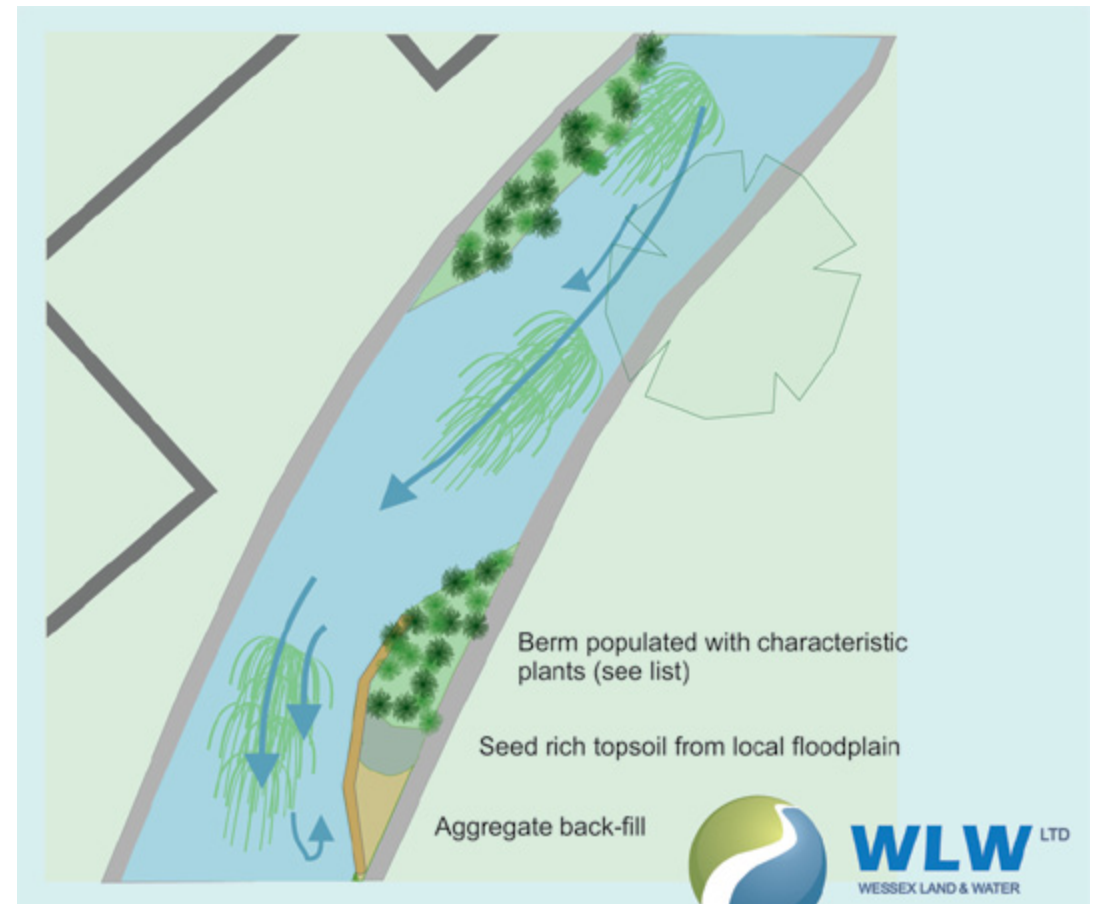
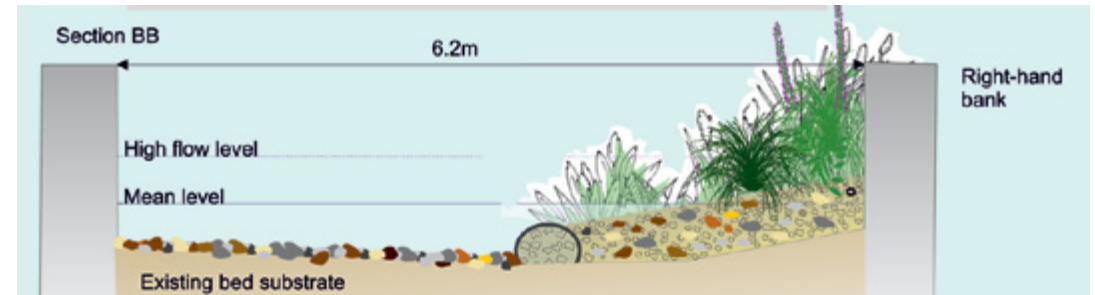




EXAMPLE OF PREVIOUS "PLAY" SCULPTURE PROJECT IN LITTLEHAMPTON.

FRIARSGATE FLATS.

Co-ordinate with contractors undertaking in-channel improvement works commissioned by the Wildlife Trust in order to create features of the trail within the proposed new revetments and planting.





THE ITCHEN AS A SOURCE OF STORIES FOR WINCHESTER.

Look to extend the trail to St. Cross and St Catherine's Hill and also around the city centre. Make a strong connection with these areas to the city, encouraging buy in to the centre by residents whilst also offering plenty of additional interest for the visitor.

Extend community events in Water Lane towards Winnall, Stanmore and High Cliffe.

Expand on existing festivals and potentially create new events to fill gaps in the calendar.

Partnership working with different Council departments to achieve mutually beneficial goals.

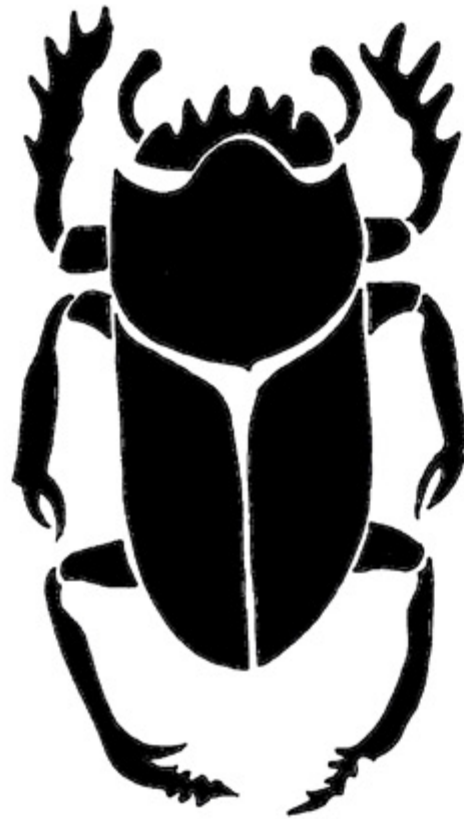
Partner with existing cultural organisations and artists' to strengthen their presence and skill base while increasing the effectiveness of their outreach.



Use significant locations around city to create a trail of "stations" around which a city-wide community story can be built based on Winchester's past, present and future.

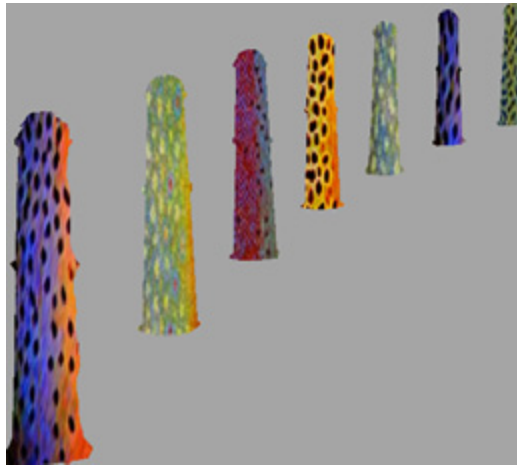
Animate this story using artworks, writing/music etc.

Create an annual/bi-annual community play conceived to attract an audience of local and global visitors.



GRAPHICS SPIN OFFS

Merchandise: T-Shirts, mugs, cards for sale at Tourist Office, City Mill and through Trust web site.



Build awareness and stimulate buy-in to the trail using a pop-up space in a city centre empty shop for work on bollards by The Colour Factory.

IN CONCLUSION

Partnering with the Wildlife Trust presents an opportunity to use the rare and internationally recognised Chalk Stream environment as an underlying and unifying theme to achieve many things for multiple stakeholders. By making links with work on wetlands elsewhere in the world, and using "the arts" as a tool, Winchester could become known as a centre for enlightened, ecologically driven, socially useful tourism, urban development and nature conservation.

