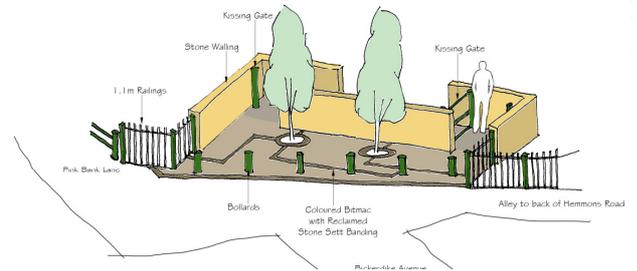


Nutsford Vale project update February 2010



Site improvement work to start February 2010

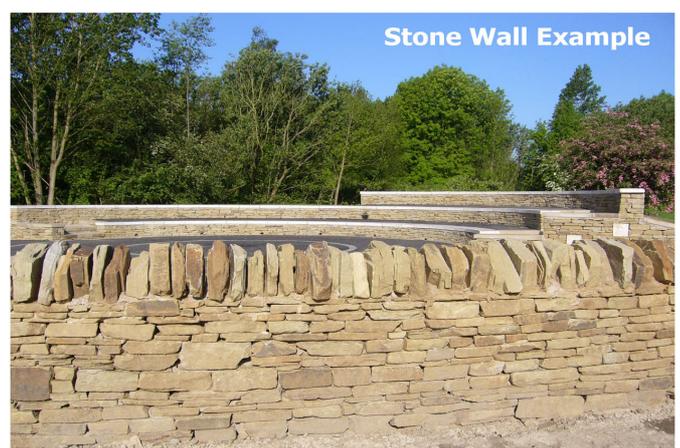


Setting the Scene for Growth Grant awarded to Nutsford Vale

Transforming the area into a place to be proud of

Fantastic News for Nutsford Vale! Financial approval from Manchester City Council will enable £130,000 to be spent on improving the former Matthews Lane tip, Nutsford Vale, before the end of March 2010. The grant from The Forestry Commission and The Northwest Development Agency was applied for by Red Rose Forest in summer 2009 and awarded to New East Manchester in November 2009. Using the Housing Investment Framework, Groundwork Trust Manchester will be managing the work contract which will include improving and securing the whole of the site boundary and entrances onto the vale. Improvements will include:

- Surfacing all the **6 entrance points** around the site to Forestry Commission quality with kissing gates accessible to Disability Discrimination Act standards
- A new **gateway entrance point** at the Bickerdike Avenue end of the site (*see 'before' photo and 'after' image above*)
- The creation of a **false alleyway** at the back of Innes Road and Hemmons Road ensuring adequate security for the backs of the houses and a clear boundary to the vale
- The existing **fencing along Matthews Lane** will be continued at a height of 1.2m replacing the broken wooden kneerail and securing this edge of the site
- Appropriate **maintenance gates** will be installed



Examples of materials for the new entrance points around the site

Community Involvement

Community involvement and fund raising by the local friends group, the Nutsford Vale Park Project, Red Rose Forest volunteer woodland planting events, clean ups and local school wildflower planting sessions on the vale over the past decade have all supported the grant application and shown a genuine community care for Nutsford Vale. The big capital investment from SSfG will provide lots more opportunities for local people to get involved through helping to choose and design signs and benches, coming to events onsite or simply to feel confident to walk through and around Nutsford Vale.

Red Rose Forest held a 'Spaceshaper' consultation event in November 2009 where members of local community groups and stakeholders came together to discuss their thoughts about Nutsford Vale to help form the action plan for the future. A user survey was carried out on the site in Oct 2009 collecting people's views about the site. Interested community members are asked to be part of a steering group to help guide the project over the next year. If you would like to be involved in the project please contact Ellen Hughes at Red Rose Forest on 0161 872 1660.

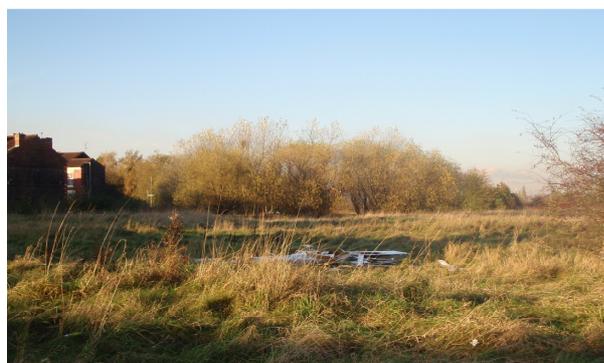
Further grant funding for 2011

RRF and NEM have applied to SSfG for a further **£180,000** for improvements to the vale in **2010/11**. Included in these proposals are resurfacing the main pathways through the site, installing signage and benches where appropriate and woodland management work. A decision on this funding is expected in spring 2010 and local consultation will take place to make sure any decisions made are right for users and local residents.

Working in partnership

The SSfG grant forms part of a wider partnership working together to improve the site and local area for the whole community. Manchester City Council Green Spaces have invested over **£30,000** on clearance work such as large scale litter removal, tree pruning, grass cutting and the treatment of Japanese Knotweed in winter 2009 and have committed to a further maintenance investment in 2010. In addition MCC is tidying up and pruning Far Lane Woods and Spurley Hey Playing Fields – A brand new footpath across this site will make access to Nutsford Vale that much easier and pleasant.

Working together with the friends group and the local community in 2010 Manchester City Council, New East Manchester and Red Rose Forest aim to help turn the former Matthews Lane Tip into a place local people can be proud of.



redroseforest



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