

KIRKBRIDGE RESTORATION

APPLICANT

A.D. Bayne-Jardine

TOTAL PROJECT COST

£30,000.00

£18,000
(60%)

£12,000

Tyne Esk LEADER Match Funding

PROJECT AIMS

- Restore a 17th century bridge to its original condition.
- Ensure that safe access is available to all community members and tourists who use the nearby Core Paths, or visit Humbiewoods.
- Preserve a bridge of important local culture and historic part of the local built environment.
- Install an interpretation sign to educate and inform the public of the history of the area and of the path network.

PROJECT DETAIL

This project aimed to repair and repoint Kirkbridge, near Humbie, East Lothian to make it safe for community access. The bridge dates back to the 17th century and was important for droving, as well as providing part of the main Humbie to Haddington coach road.

The project started with the work of picking out old concrete and repointing, replacing stone as necessary with locally sourced stone. The repointing was undertaken with traditional lime mortar, giving the bridge improved durability compared to the existing concrete pointing. The final stage consisted of stripping the deck of its old covering before laying a cobble deck on the bridge, protecting the structure for centuries to come.

All materials were carefully sourced to be as close as possible to the original materials, to produce a bridge in keeping with the original. Replacement stone came from a nearby wall that dated to the same period and the wood covering the interpretation panel was taken from Humbie Wood.

The project adds value to the local area, completing a walking loop and giving the community and visitors centuries of access. It completes the visual amenity of the local area, which, with the beautiful church and the doo'cot tells of its history. Increased footfall will also impact on nearby businesses, Humbie Hub being perfect for coffee and cake.



RESULTS

"I think there is a link between the two, and, though perhaps difficult to quantify, there are more members of the public combining a visit to the woodlands and using the Hub. It would be interesting to get a more accurate idea."



The restoration of the bridge has proved more popular than we expected – as seen by the increasingly muddy paths! It is far more beautiful than we were expecting as well."