

## POINTS OF INTEREST

There are many **birds** along this well-established stretch of Trailway. Willow Warblers and Chiffchaffs are often heard singing in the spring and summer, whilst in the winter, flocks of Redwings and Fieldfares strip the Hawthorn trees of their berries.



The oaks in **Piddles Wood** are shown at their best on the rising ground.



The **Archimedeian screw turbine** at Fiddleford was installed in 2013 to generate electricity to be added to the local supply.



**Fiddleford Mill** is no longer working nor open to view, but the range of original buildings grouped around the mill yard is an attractive reminder of how busy this place was in the past.



At the other end of the range of (private) buildings is **Fiddleford Manor**, administered by English Heritage, and open daily.



The **Mill-Ham Lane path** through the meadows would have been the regular route for people walking to and from Sturminster Newton around the turn of the 19th century.



Photo credits: Graham Rains, Jan Wardell

## STURMINSTER NEWTON WALKABOUTS

### WALKABOUT 6 Old Railway / Fiddleford Mill

A gentle walk along the old railway line, passing the attractive mill buildings at Fiddleford (approx. 2 miles).

This is one of a series of circular walks from Sturminster Newton which take in the surrounding area of the Blackmore Vale. They are mainly on Public Rights of Way, with some on paths with access permitted by the landowners.

These walks are intended to encourage exploration and appreciation of the variety and beauty of the countryside in this locality, on foot. Cyclists are not permitted to ride on public footpaths and by law must give way to walkers and horseriders on bridleways.

When walking, please remember the Countryside Code, particularly:

- respect the local community, farmland and others enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control
- keep to the marked paths and cause no damage to crops, livestock or wildlife

Appropriate footwear is recommended, since wet or muddy conditions can be encountered at any time.

The Sturminster Newton Walkabouts have been developed by the Sturminster Newton Town Council in association with Dorset County Council and are available from Sturquest Community Office, Sturminster Library, the Museum and Sturminster Mill or can be downloaded from [www.dorsetforyou.com/walkabouts](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/walkabouts)

Further information can be obtained from the Town Council on 01258 475136.



Sturminster  
Newton  
Town Council



## STURMINSTER NEWTON WALKABOUTS

Old Railway / Fiddleford Mill





# OLD RAILWAY / FIDDLEFORD MILL

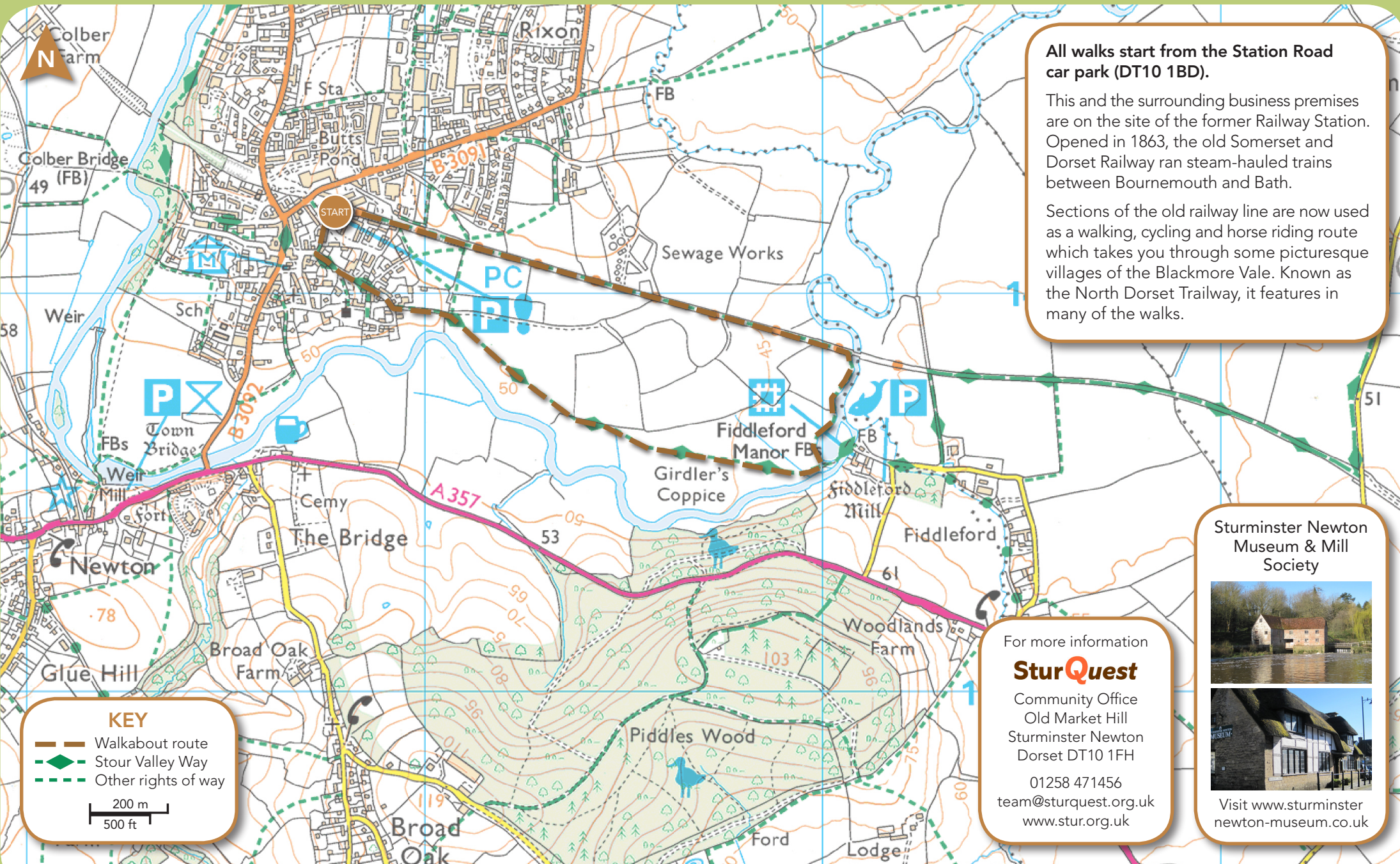
A gentle walk along the old railway line, passing the attractive mill buildings at Fiddleford.

## STARTING POINT

Station Road car park,  
Sturminster Newton

## DISTANCE

approximately  
2 miles



**All walks start from the Station Road car park (DT10 1BD).**

This and the surrounding business premises are on the site of the former Railway Station. Opened in 1863, the old Somerset and Dorset Railway ran steam-hauled trains between Bournemouth and Bath.

Sections of the old railway line are now used as a walking, cycling and horse riding route which takes you through some picturesque villages of the Blackmore Vale. Known as the North Dorset Trailway, it features in many of the walks.

Sturminster Newton  
Museum & Mill  
Society



Visit [www.sturminster-newton-museum.co.uk](http://www.sturminster-newton-museum.co.uk)

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