

## POINTS OF INTEREST

The tranquil **Fiddleford Mill** is a popular spot for fishermen.

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

The mill itself is no longer working, but still contains some of the machinery. Notice the **carved inscription**, dated 1566 set into the wall to the right of the door.

The panoramic view from the back of Piddles Wood here includes **Hambledon, Okeford and Bulbarrow Hills**, forming the edge of the Blackmore Vale.

The diverse woodland is owned by Hinton St Mary Estate, and in the late spring, this area is renowned for its extensive **display of Bluebells**.

The **Town Bridge** was built in the late 15th century and widened in the 17th century. A metal plaque in one of the pedestrian refuges, threatens deportation for anyone who damages the bridge.



Photo credits: Helen Baggott, John Lewis, Graham Rains, Jan Wardell

## STURMINSTER NEWTON WALKABOUTS

### WALKABOUT 3 Fiddleford Mill / Piddles Wood / Broad Oak

A mostly level walk, with a steady climb up into Piddles Wood - a delightful wooded area with plenty of flora and fauna, including deer if you're lucky! (approx. 5 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.

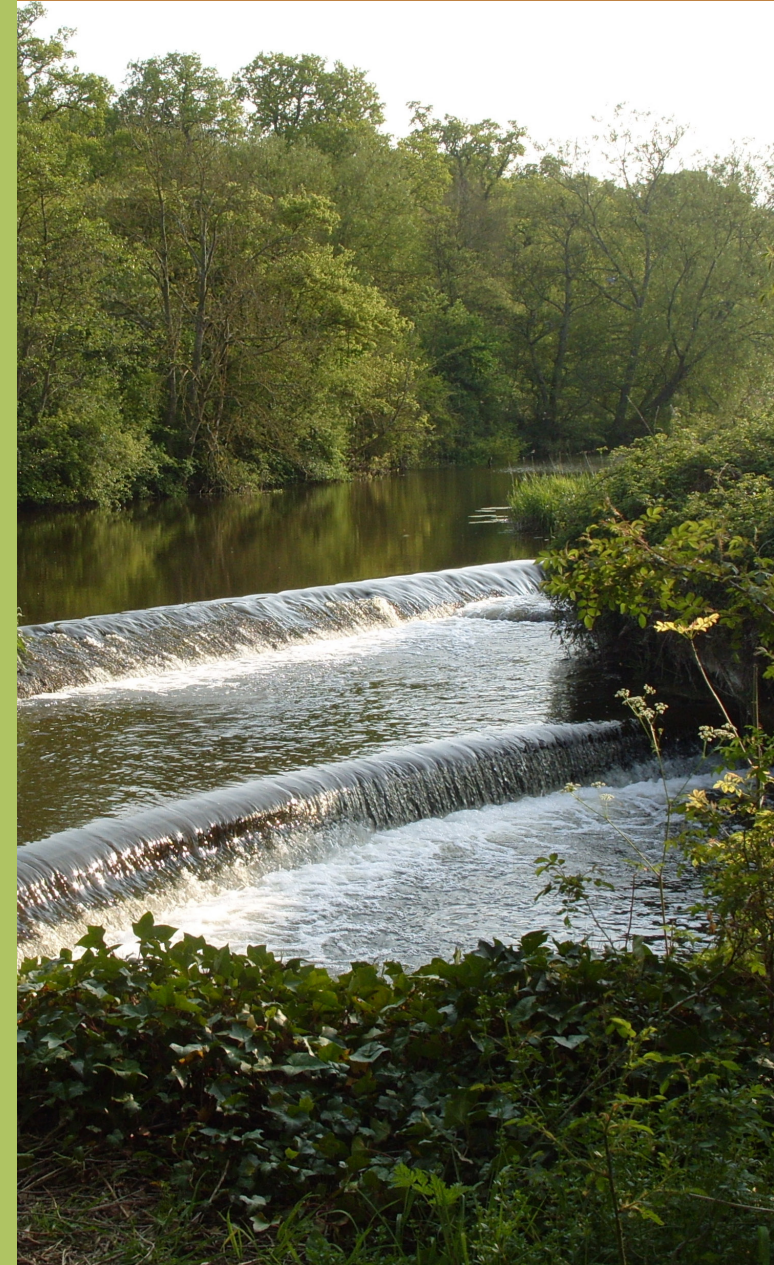


Sturminster  
Newton  
Town Council



## STURMINSTER NEWTON WALKABOUTS

Fiddleford Mill / Piddles Wood / Broad Oak



**FIDDLEFORD MILL / PIDDLERS WOOD / BROAD OAK**

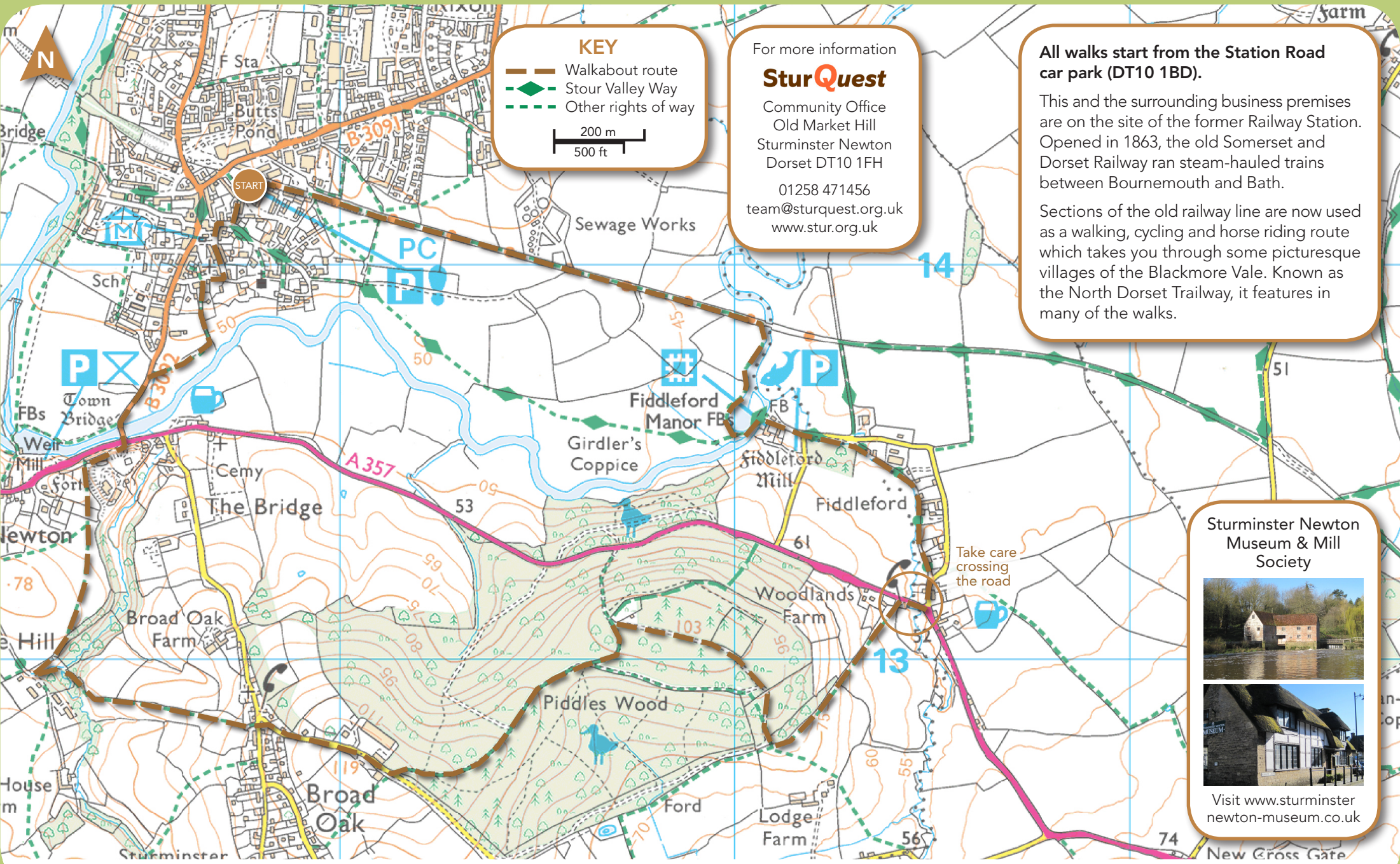
A mostly level walk, with a steady climb up into Piddles Wood - a delightful wooded area with plenty of flora and fauna, including deer if you're lucky!

**STARTING POINT**

Station Road car park,  
Sturminster Newton

**DISTANCE**

approximately  
5 miles



**KEY**

- Walkabout route
- Stour Valley Way
- Other rights of way

200 m  
500 ft

For more information

**SturQuest**

Community Office  
Old Market Hill  
Sturminster Newton  
Dorset DT10 1FH

01258 471456  
team@sturquest.org.uk  
www.stur.org.uk

**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)