

Stalbridge Trailway and Nature Reserve



The Trailway

This is a traffic-free recreational route shared by dog walkers and horse riders. Unlike ordinary bridleways, it has a hard surface suitable for cycles, wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters. The trailway follows the route of the old Somerset and Dorset Railway. It is hoped to one day join Stalbridge to a long-distance trail, all the way from Poole to the Somerset border. The 700 metres of trailway and 800 metres of connecting links were paid for by North Dorset's Liveability Project in 2006.



The Nature Reserve

The old railway and adjoining former sewage works land has been leased from Wessex Water to be managed as a nature reserve. Habitats now include a reed bed, small wooded and scrub areas, grassland and abundant hedges. The site supports a good variety of finches and warblers, and over 20 species of butterfly have been recorded.

The wetland area, which contains newts and specialised plant species, belongs to Nor.Dor.Dis.Cll. and is annexed to the reserve. Please respect the tranquillity of the area by not leaving litter, not disturbing wildlife and keeping to paths.



Volunteers

If you would like to help manage the site, then join the Stalbridge Trailway & Reserve Supporters (STARS!). We meet once a month from August to April to clear paths, create habitats and remove rubbish. Contact site ranger Nick Brown, on 01963 362476/364201. If you are interested in the larger North Dorset Trailway project, contact the North Dorset Rangers on 01258 456970.



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Supported by :-





To Station Road

To Marnhull

Green Finch

Southern Hawker Dragonfly

Dog Rose

Common Toadflax

Oaks

Maple Grove

Wild Rabbit

Grassland

Willows

Pump House

Grassland

Whitethroat

Purple Hairstreak

Marbled White

Reed Bed

Elm Hedge

Tadpole

Water Mint

Playing Field

Wetland Area

To Jarvis Way

To Jarvis Way



KEY...

Trailway

Public Bridleway

Permissive Bridleway

Public Footpath

Permissive Footpath

Public Footpath used as Permissive Bridleway