

GSWW 350 Freshwater Bridge, near West Bay



A project was set up to replace a footbridge on the South West Coast Path in West Dorset. The existing footbridge had become tired and no longer fit for purpose. It was too narrow and constructed of concrete and metal scaffold poles as hand rails.

The location of the bridge is at Freshwater, between West Bay and Burton Bradstock.

At Freshwater we changed the design of the old bridge and built a bigger and wider bridge. We used Oak to replace the old concrete and metal bridge. This is a vast improvement on the old bridge. This was too small and was in a poor state of repair. It looks much better and is in keeping with the rest of the SWCP furniture in the area. We also replaced a stile and an awkward old gate, at each end of the bridge, with two oak gates to make the access much easier. A small section of barbed wire fence alongside the bridge was replaced with post and rail fence.



The old bridge from the south showing the old metal railings, the narrow bridge and stile making access difficult.



The old bridge from the north showing the narrow bridge and awkward gate making access difficult. The barb wire fence can also be seen in the distance to the left of the bridge.



The new bridge from the south showing wider wooden bridge and kissing gate rather than stile. The wooden railings replace the barb wire fence.



The new bridge from the north. Showing improved access with wider bridge.