

# Bridport Renewal Corridor

The emerging vision for the Bridport Renewal Corridor is for an innovative, sustainable, and high quality “renewal” that is easily accessible by narrow gauge train, by cycle, by hoof and on foot.

One in which local communities, landowners and businesses can thrive sustainably, in a zero-carbon way that enhance biodiversity, wellbeing, and reduce our environmental footprint whilst honouring the outstanding natural beauty of the landscape.





## Introduction

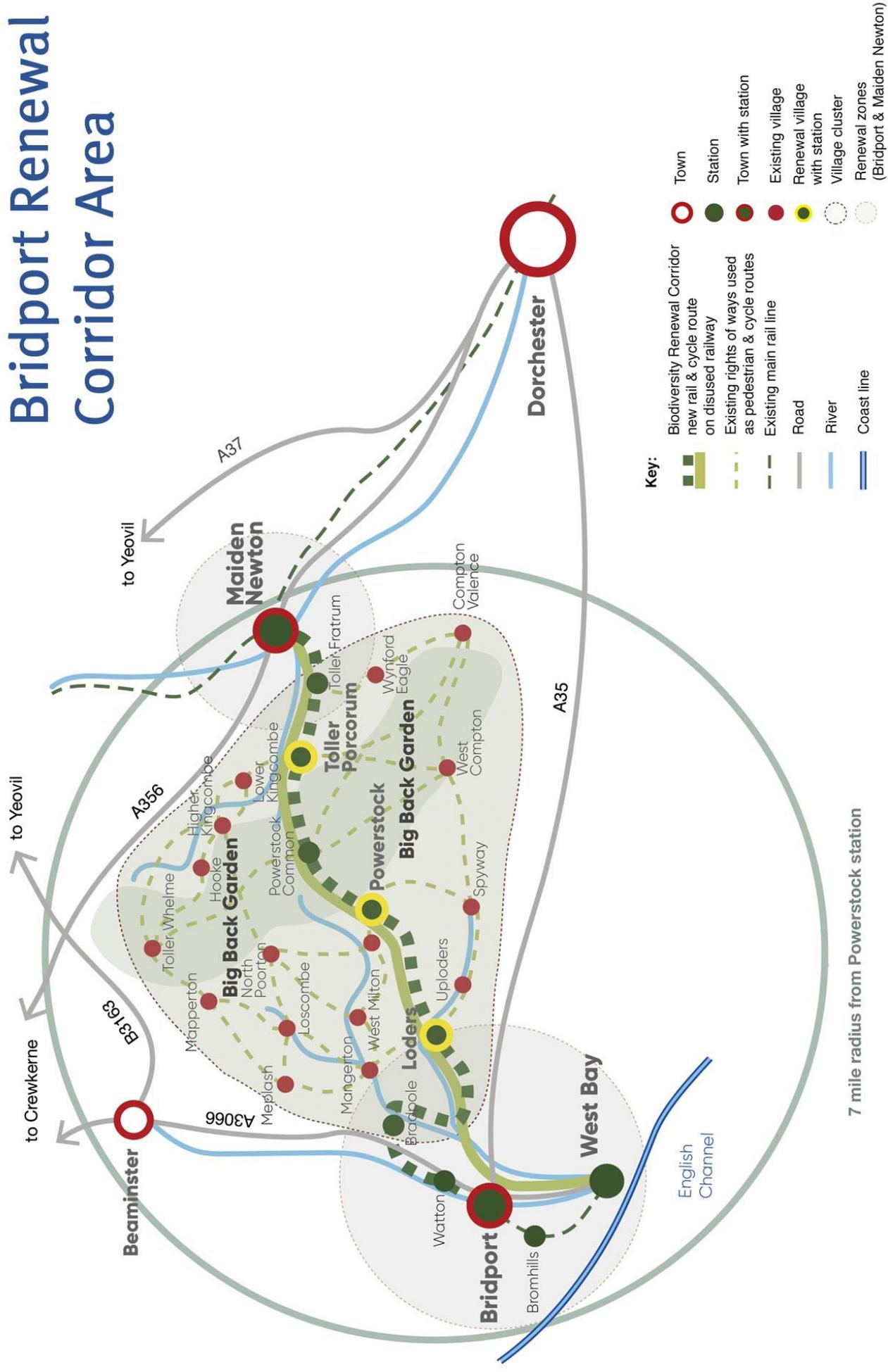
The emerging vision here is inspired by the convergence of three principle ideas coming together to form the basis of a holistic approach.

- Firstly, the idea of a **Bridport Community Railway** that takes its cues from the Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland railways and the new hydrogen powered train units for the Zillertalbahn railway in Austria. A corridor of biodiversity with a multi-user trailway linking West Bay, Bridport, Bradpole, Loders, Powerstock, Toller and Maiden Newton.
- Secondly the award-winning ideas presented by the **Velocity** team on the sensitive regeneration and development of new movement networks and clustering of villages for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Together with the ideas presented by **Smart Community Projects** for local affordable housing.
- Thirdly the idea of embracing **Community Alliances**, Innovation Partnerships that deliver holistic local solutions to the social, economic, and environmental challenges we face today.

It starts with a conversation and deep listening to co-create together in order that we can work creatively together to move towards a brighter zero carbon future.



# Bridport Renewal Corridor Area



7 mile radius from Powerstock station



## Community Benefits

Many villages are quintessentially picturesque but traditional community life is dying and up until now not much thinking or research has been spent on ways to deal with this. With the gradual reduction of car use we see the opportunity to re-invigorate community life and think about how we can do new development and housing in villages differently.

## Emerging Principles

Inspired by VeloCity and applied to the Bridport Renewal Corridor

- **People over cars** creating new movement networks
- **Compact not sprawl** keeping the special character of our village
- **Opportunity over decline** unlocking land for new places to live and work
- **Connected not isolated** linking villages with shared resources, to benefit everyone
- **Resilient not fragile** promoting sustainable environments, health, and well-being

## Social

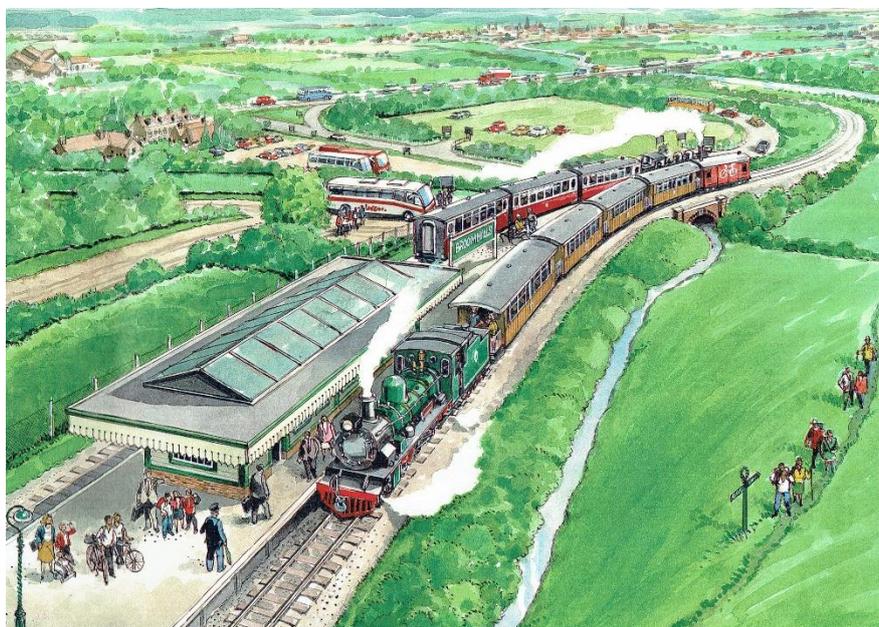
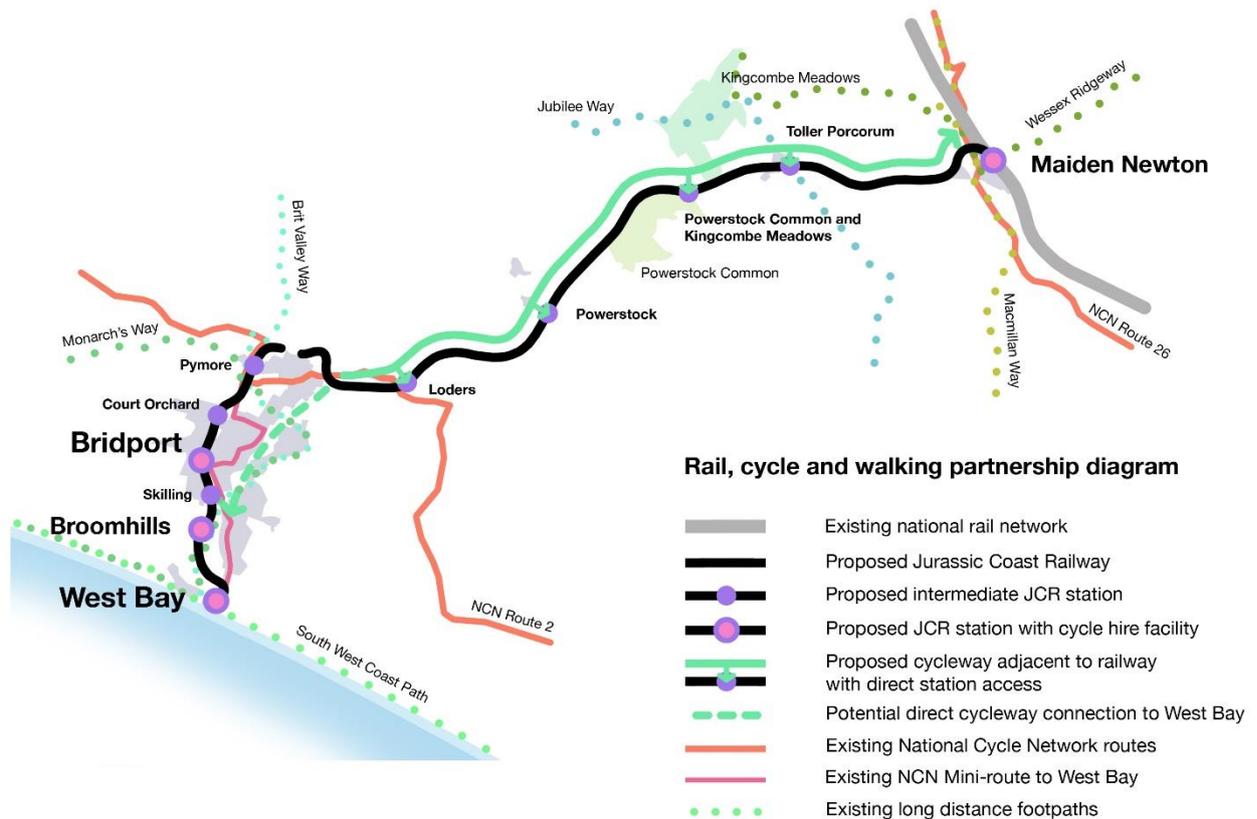
- **Community cohesion** = more neighbourly communities helping each other out.
- **Safer streets to walk**, socialise and play due to more 'eyes on the street'.
- **Wider mix of people** – including young families and smaller homes for single people or elderly downsizing.
- **Improved health and wellbeing** - e.g. elderly downsizing within their community; shared childcare, reduced loneliness.
- **Desirable setting**, sense of place, sustained and renewed village life.
- **Walkable villages** - enhanced physical health
- **Access for Education and Jobs** – Creating a more connected community
- **Providing mobility without a car** – helping reduce car dependency and costs

## Economic

- **Affordability of housing** - e.g. cheaper to build row houses/flats than detached houses, cheaper to run and maintain (energy costs, upkeep).
- **Supporting New housing Development**
- **Wider mix of people** including work force for local services.
- **Critical mass of people to attract more and varied services** locally with opportunities for local SMEs and microbusinesses.
- **Higher land value**
- **Enhanced accessibility**, as more infrastructure and services are closer to where people live, work and play.
- **Reduced healthcare costs** due to more active lifestyle
- **Boosting Tourism** and access to and from Jurassic Coast
- **Regenerating Local Economy** – Local jobs for local people

## Environmental

- **Open countryside** protected from adhoc low density, linear development
- **Lower carbon footprint** (smaller homes, less energy demand and co-housing models - heating, cooling etc)
- **Opportunity to use landscape more productively** (local food production)
- **Reducing food miles** and mechanical transport
- **Reduced commuting and use of private transport** by creating more walkable neighbourhoods with more local services
- **Decreased pressure to develop on land** adjacent to high-density areas
- **Integrated Transport** – Bus – Rail, Cycling, Walking



# Bridport Community Railway

At the heart of the Bridport Branch Renewal Corridor is the Bridport Community Railway.



## Community Owned

A community owned light railway designed to serve the communities and villages in the area and a community land trust to ensure the future of the railway in perpetuity.

## Zero Carbon Transport

We propose to use hydrogen and battery powered trains for all year-round core services providing a zero carbon transport.

## Park & Tram/Train

Providing several options to park and tram, solving traffic congestion to Westbay and extra parking for Bridport to enable new renewal in the town centre.

## Efficient Heritage & Eco Tourism

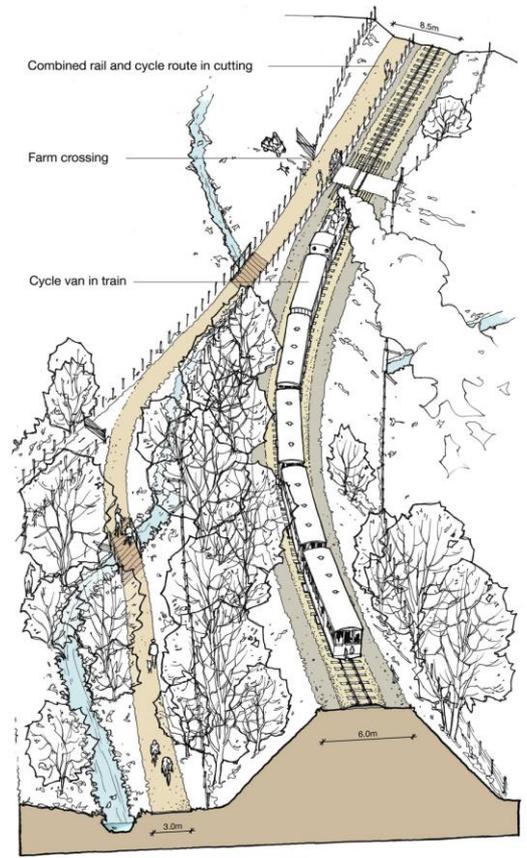
Providing a valuable heritage steam eco-tourism attraction for the area incorporating the latest advances in technology including pre-heating the boiler with solar power energy and alternative fuels like bio-briquettes and biomass that are grown locally supporting local agriculture.

## Engineering Jobs & Innovation Lab

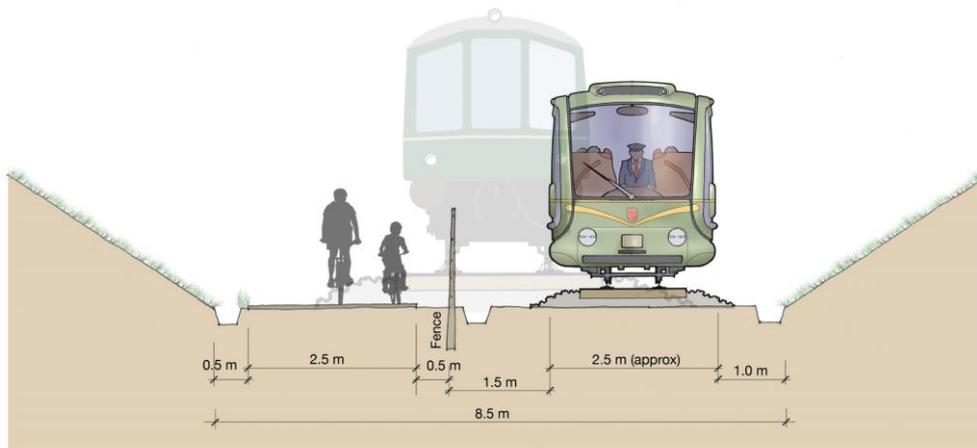
Providing opportunities for a zero-carbon light rail workshop and innovation centre providing manufacturing facilities and apprenticeships.

## An Innovative "Living Lab" for the future of rural light rail

This vision seeks to deliver an innovative approach to the sensitive development of the countryside as an exemplar project that can be replicated.



Aerial sketch to demonstrate principle of railway/cycleway shared alignment (based on a location north of Loders). Railway rebuilt in centre of existing embankment and cycleway realigned beside stream below. Cycleway then climbs to rail level to run parallel with railway in existing cutting. Where railway and cycleway align, detailed studies will be undertaken to ensure adequate access for both routes.



Section through shared railway formation showing new narrow gauge railway and cycleway. (Former standard gauge train shown ghosted behind for comparison)

# Bridport Renewal Alliance

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.” – Margate Mead*

## Join the Conversation

[www.bridportrenewal.org.uk](http://www.bridportrenewal.org.uk)



Community  
Alliances

