

# Lynton & Barnstaple Railway



## Blackmoor Gate to Woody Bay Station

**This section of the reinstatement is wholly within the Exmoor National Park boundary.**

The A399/A39 road junction at Blackmoor Gate will be crossed using a tunnel comprising two railway tracks aligned to avoid the mature beech trees at this location. The railway cutting will be at the rear of the public car park which will be in a slightly altered position with a new and improved toilet block provided and also a small visitor centre.

The rolling stock shed is positioned to the east of the public car-park in fields at Rowley Moor Farm. To maintain correct track elevations most of this building will be set down into the field with only the roof visible.

The main car-park entrance will be from the A399 south of the road junction thereby minimising the increase of traffic at this junction.

The original track alignment from Blackmoor Gate will be followed. This provides many opportunities for views across the National Park. The line is concealed for significant portions of its alignment, winding in and out of view through cuttings, woodland areas and valleys.

From Blackmoor Gate the route follows the original alignment through Rowley Cross before dropping into Holwell Wood and on to Parracombe Bank.

How to 'bridge the gap' at Parracombe Bank was given detailed consideration that included landscape, ecology and construction aspects. The conclusion is to rebuild the bank with a generous culvert to span the River Heddon at this point. This allows full access for wildlife and minimises the removal of trees that have populated the bank since the railway closure.

The line then follows the original route through Parracombe to Killington Lane. The halt (with a passing loop) will be re-instated at Parracombe to allow an efficient timetable operation. Visitors will be able to utilise the village's facilities and connect with local rights of way.