

Tithebarn Cycle Bridge

Dyer & Butler

Devon County Council

Under £3m and Community

£650,000

The Project was carried out on behalf of Devon County Council and consisted of the design and construction of a 60m long steel warren truss bridge with steel plate deck and steel parapets, supported on reinforced concrete foundations founded on bored piles. Also included in the design and construct package was approximately 200m of associated footpath/cycleway including fencing, drainage, signing and lighting.

There are several new housing developments being constructed within the area, to the West and East of the M5 Motorway and as part of the new Tithebarn Link road system the Southern footpath of the existing Tithebarn Lane Overbridge was removed in order to create a consistent road width for two way traffic.

The new structure was constructed adjacent to the existing Tithebarn lane overbridge to provide a segregated, safer, alternative route for pedestrians and cyclists.

Due to the 60m span of the steel bridge it had to be transported to site on 4 trailers and assembled on site using a 350t crane. The lift into its final position could only be carried out by positioning a 750t crane on the Southbound Carriageway of the M5, this required a full motorway closure which, to minimise disruption was carried out overnight. Thanks to careful planning and execution of the works Dyer & Butler were able to re-open the motorway two hours ahead of schedule

The Tithebarn cycle bridge closes a significant gap in Devon County Council's cycle route linking Cumberland way to the Exeter Science Park off Tithebarn lane allowing safe off road access for both cyclists and pedestrians alike. The increase of purpose built cycle routes encourages the general public to reconsider their transport requirements particularly commuting to and from work, this also leads to an increase in cycling as a leisure activity.