

Sustainable Water

Back Beck and Bridge 55



At this point Back Beck flows along the field boundary and under the old railway bridge (Bridge 55). Before the building of the railway in the 1890s the beck would have flowed more naturally through the field to the west of the railway embankment. After heavy rainfall this field floods both as a result of rising groundwater and through the beck overflowing its banks.

Downstream just beyond Bridge 55 the beck flows over a high step weir into a relatively deep pool before passing through a small riparian woodland in front of the school. It

then follows the line of Back Beck Lane and joins Town Beck at Aynholme Bridge.

The pool below the weir is a good place to see brown trout. There are also signal crayfish in this stretch of the Beck but for now at least it seems that the weir by Bridge 55 is an effective barrier to the further upstream migration of crayfish.

