

Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society (MCFS)

Walks in Appleton Parish

Appleton Parish Council asked us to provide some circular walks that residents can enjoy by walking mainly from the Parish Hall. They are intended to entice you to see some or even all of the network of paths within the parish. The walks are of differing lengths and difficulty, albeit none are difficult. Some can be walked in stout shoes but others, particularly if it has rained, may require walking boots.

Enjoy the 40 miles of walks in this booklet, getting lost only in your thoughts.



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This document, which is provided in pdf format, may be copied in whole but not in part. You may print copies of this document for your personal use and to allow you to organise walks for a group of walkers provided that you do not make any charge for the documents. For part or total inclusion in another publication or for any other purpose written permission from the author is required.

Maps

The Open StreetMap base maps used can be seen at:

www.openstreetmap.org/#map=14/53.3548/-2.5686

By going to this web page you can pan and zoom the map to give you street level maps which you'll need if you don't know the street names which are referred to in the walk instructions. It provides the larger scale maps which you may find useful for clarification of detail.

You may also find www.streetmap.co.uk useful. It does more than streets!

Warrington Borough Council PRow maps can be found at

<http://maps.warrington.gov.uk/connect/> (you need to tick the PRow box on the left.)

All the main maps within this publication are produced with north at the top (& east to the right!!).

Maps use metric units (metres and kilometres) but distances here are given in miles as most walkers appear to be imperial rather than metric. The quoted walk distances are pretty accurate, having been checked by my gps, but walk times are approximate averages not allowing for any stops. I walk very quickly but you may enjoy a more leisurely pace.

Safety

You are responsible for your safety. You'll need to wear appropriate clothing and, in particular, footwear. A mobile phone may not work in all the areas covered by this publication. To summon help in a sparsely populated area the national signal is 6 short blasts on a whistle repeated after an interval as necessary.

Parking

Whilst most of these walks start from the Parish Hall car park you are asked not to organise group parking here as the parking is limited and designed for the Hall users. You may choose to start the walk from an intermediate point. Wherever you park, please park responsibly so that residents, service and emergency vehicles are not obstructed.

Notes

Some walks go out of the parish to form a circular route. Don't worry. You won't need your passport and the natives are mostly friendly!

As the walks are designed to collectively include as many paths as possible the same route may not necessarily be used to get between two identical points.

PRow (see Abbreviations on next page) footpath numbers are included e.g. [FP25] to help you report a problem if you come across a fault or obstruction. The MCFS regularly checks the PRows but what was fine yesterday may have issues today.

Where a FP crosses the middle of a field you should use the FP rather than walk around the field edge. If the crop (not grass) is above 6" high you find the best way to continue the walk and report the non reinstatement of the path.

Please leave gates open or closed as you found them and take all litter back with you. Banana skins and orange peel are litter.

MCFS walkers carry secateurs to cut back vegetation around gates, stiles and finger posts in rural areas. Please help WBC, Appleton Parish Council and the MCFS to keep the paths clear.

This document was produced without charge to Appleton PC. If you would like to support the MCFS then please see our website www.mcfs.org.uk for details of what we do, our walks and how to join us.

Abbreviations

[FP9]	Appleton Footpath No 9
[BR26]	Appleton Bridleway No 26
[RB14]	Appleton Restricted Byway No 14
[Ant FP34]	Antrobus Footpath No 34
[Gra FP3]	Grappenhall & Thelwall Footpath No 3
[Hat FP4]	Hatton Footpath No 4
[Hat RB5]	Hatton Restricted Byway No 5
[Str FP1]	Stretton Footpath No 1
[Wal BR5]	Walton Bridleway No 5

BR	Bridleway
E	East
FP	Footpath
Fp	Finger post
gps	The walkers equivalent of a SatNav used in cars
L	Left
LHS	Left hand side
N	North
PH	Public House, Inn
PRoW	Public Right of Way
R	Right
RB	Restricted byway
RHS	Right hand side
S	South
WBC	Warrington Borough Council
W	West



Finger post

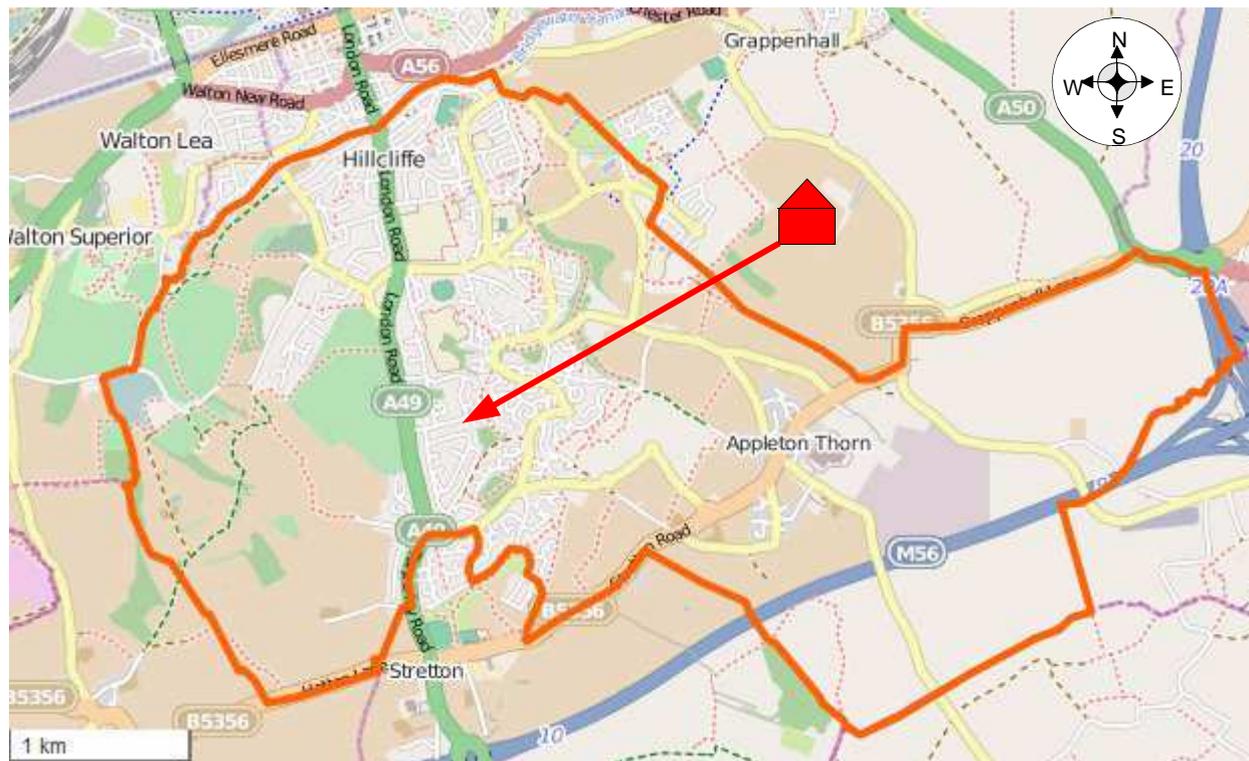


Waymark post

List of Appleton PRowS

ProW No	Part	Length km	Path name or location
FP 1		0.6	Highwood Rd to Birchdale Rd
BR 2		0.7	Hillfoot Farm to Red Lane
FP 3		0.2	Hillfoot Farm to canal
BR 3L		0.3	Bradley Hall to Howshoots Farm (nr M6 J20)
BR 4		0.2	Hillfoot Farm to Hough's Lane via Walton 5
FP 4S		0.1	Mosswood Hall to FP 22
FP 5		0.7	Walton Golf Course
RB 6		1.4	Hatton 5 to Firs Lane
FP 6A		0.7	Dairy Farm Lumb Brook to Grappenhall 6 & 6A
FP 7		0.6	Hatton Lane to Hatton 4
FP 8		0.5	Broomfields Rd to RB 14
FP 9		0.9	Warrington Golf Club
FP 10		0.4	Quarry Lane to Firs Lane
FP 11		0.6	Hillfoot Farm to Fox Covert cemetery
FP 12	a-b	0.1	Lumb Brook to Greenfields Ave. via Wharfside Court
FP 12	c-d	0.4	Cobbs Rugby field
FP 13		0.3	London Bridge to Waverley Ave.
RB 14		0.3	FP 8 to Caversham Close (Broom Cottage)
FP 14A		0.2	Broomfields Road to St Monica's Close
FP 15	a-b	0.5	St Monica's Close to Dale Lane
FP 15	b-c	0.2	Dale Lane to Lumb Brook Road
FP 16		0.1	Lumb Brook Rd. (Dairy Farm) to Stansfield Dr.
FP 17		1.0	Grappenhall Lane to FP 18
FP 18	a-b	0.2	Lumb Brook Rd (Wright's Green) to FP 17
FP 18	b-c	0.1	FP 17/18 to Grappenhall 6A
FP 19		0.3	Green Lane to Lumb Brook Rd
FP 20		0.7	Cann Lane S to Green Lane
FP 21	a-b	0.2	Dudlow Green Rd to Old Pewterspear Lane
FP 21	b-c	0.2	Old Pewterspear Lane to Cann Lane S
FP 22		0.6	Stretton Rd (FP 4S) to Walnut Tree Lane
FP 23		1.1	Barleycastle Farm to Bradley Hall
FP 24		0.4	Yewtree Lane to Yewtree Farm (cul-de-sac)
FP 25	a-b	0.2	Walnut Tree Lane to Blackcap Road
FP 25	c-d	0.4	Blackcap Road to Green Lane
BR 26		0.8	Green Lane
FP 27	a-b	0.7	Antrobus FP 34 to FP 35/36 (Appleton Moss)
FP 27	c-d	0.3	FP 37 to Pepper St.
FP 28		0.9	Bradley Hall (cul-de-sac)
FP 29		0.5	FP 27 to Arley Road
FP 30		0.6	Old Pewterspear Lane to Owen's Corner
FP 31		1.2	Hillside Rd to Dennow Cottage
FP 32		0.1	Dennow Farm to Bellfield Farm
FP 33		0.1	Park Lane
FP 35		0.5	Stretton Moss to Appleton Moss FP 27/36
FP 36		0.3	FP 27/35 to Arley Rd (S of M56)
FP 37	a-b	0.3	Stretton FP 10 to FP 27 (N of M56)
FP 37	b-c	0.5	FP 27 to Arley Rd (N of M56)
FP 38		0.3	Dudlow Green Rd to Longwood Road

Appleton Civil Parish



The above map shows the parish boundary and the location of the Parish Hall.

The Appleton Civil Parish boundary is about 12.7 miles (20km) long. The 8 parishes that share the boundary are (clockwise): Stretton, Hatton, Walton, Stockton Heath, Grappenhall & Thelwall, Lymm, High Legh and Antrobus.

Appleton's 10,000+ residents can enjoy 14 miles (22km) of Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) and many other local paths which don't have the legal standing of PRoWs. Please note that these paths are not the same as the pavements alongside urban roads and walkways along rural roads.

Two long distance paths, the Delamere Way (Church Street, Frodsham to the London Bridge, Appleton) and the Mersey Valley Trail (Runcorn Hill to Lymm, Spud Wood) pass through Appleton. The Cheshire Ring Canal Walk is just outside the parish boundary which runs along the centre of the Bridgewater Canal.

At 105 metres above mean sea level, the grass top of the reservoir on Warrington Golf Club is the highest point in Warrington. The telecoms mast adjacent to the reservoir is a very useful landmark.

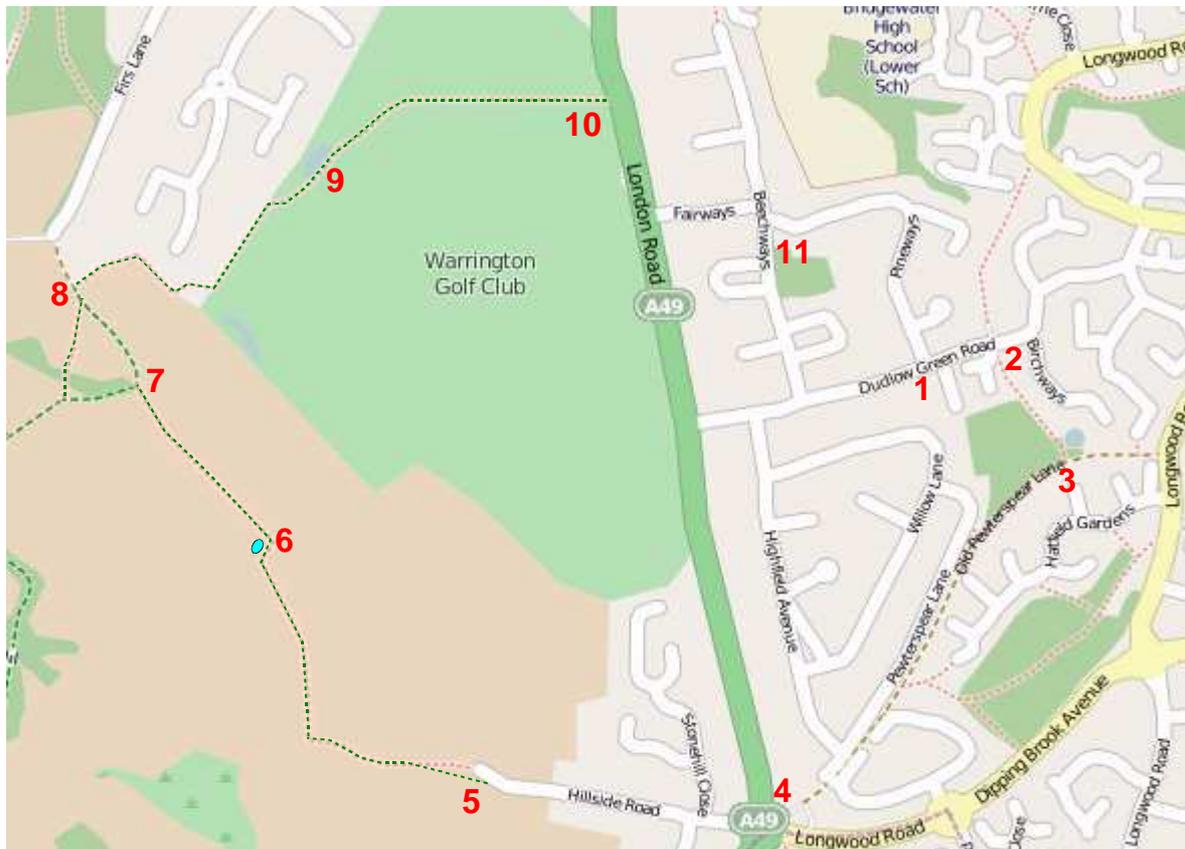
Appleton has the London bridge Inn, the Thorn Inn and Dingle Tea Rooms for your refreshments en route. It has shops at Dudlow Green Road and Bridge Lane.

The above map base can be found at:
www.openstreetmap.org/#map=14/53.3548/-2.5686

Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, Appleton, Warrington WA4 5EQ
Appleton Parish clerk 01925 268153 clerk@appletonpc.org.uk

Walk 1 – Hillside Road to Warrington Golf Club

A 2.6 mile easy walk with two avoidable stiles between locations 5 & 6 on the map.
Time about 55 minutes.

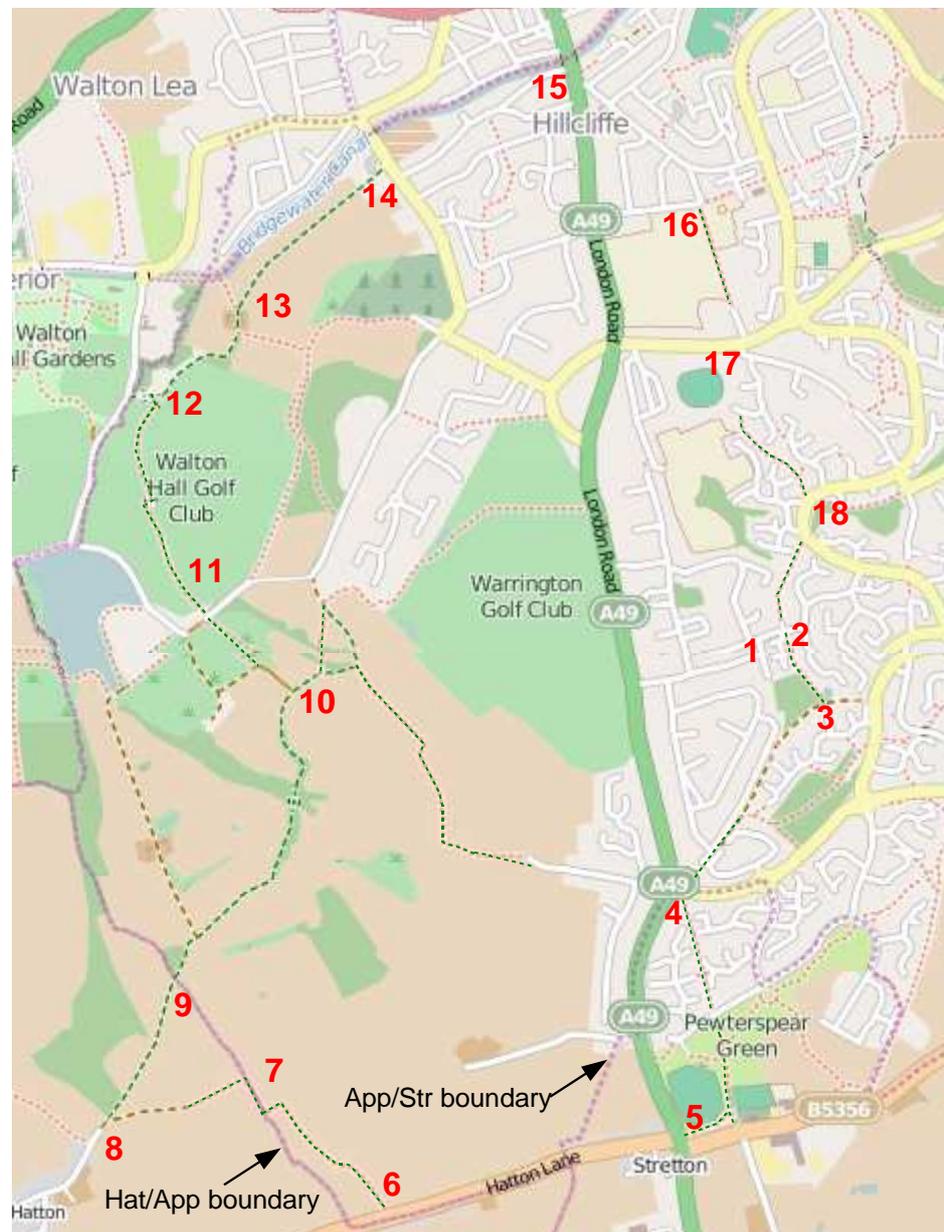


1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road.
2. Turn **R** at the finger post to your right onto the surfaced path [FP21] and walk south to the T junction. N.B. Don't take the opposite path to your left through the arch.
3. Turn R onto Old Pewterspear Lane track [FP30] and walk to Owen's Corner.
4. At Owen's Corner (A49 roundabout) cross to Hillside Rd and walk past all the houses on the left until you reach the gate across the road.
5. Go over the stile (or use the side gate) to your L into the field and walk [FP31] with the hedge/fence immediately on your R. Go over the next stile (or use the side gate) then you reach the gap in the fence where you dogleg to your R and follow the well used field edge path with the ditch on your L to the pond.
6. Walk around the pond keeping to the field path until you join the unsurfaced road which joins you from the L.
7. Don't turn L, walk straight ahead on this road [RB6] until just after a path [FP32] joins you on your L. Look out for the waymark post immediately past the barn on your R.
8. Turn R and walk [FP9] between the barn and the farm building before coming to the houses on your L. Continue until you come to the golf course entrance on your R. Go onto the course and then immediately turn L, following the waymark posts to the immediate R of the pond.
9. Follow the tall waymark posts (taking care to avoid golfers and golf balls) as you work your way towards the R to London Rd. In most cases you'll see the next post before leaving the last one.
10. Turn R on London Rd. and then L into Fairways.
11. At the Beechways/Pineways corner you dogleg to Pineways and walk past the pond on your R and then back to the Parish Hall.

Walk 2 – Hatton and the Delamere Way

A 6.3 mile walk with 5 stiles between locations 6 & 8 on the map. Time about 2h 20 minutes. Safety: A whistle is advised.

Cheat! Walk to London Rd. and turn left. Catch the Hatton (No 9) bus and get off at the 2nd stop ('Lynton') on Hatton Rd. Your path is almost opposite at location 6. This saves 1.2 miles.



1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road.
2. Turn **R** at the finger post to your right onto the surfaced path [FP21] and walk south to the T junction. N.B. Don't take the opposite path to your left through the arch.
3. Turn R onto Old Pewterspear Lane track [FP30] and walk to Owen's Corner.
4. At Owen's Corner (A49 roundabout) cross Longwood Rd and take the path [Str FP1] through Pewterspear Green. Follow the almost straight path until you dogleg to the church graveyard wall. Turn R at this wall to the A49 traffic lights at the Cat & Lion PH.

{Here at the Longwood Road end of the Green you have the Janus Sculpture and then the Roman Soldiers Sculpture at the dogleg and finally look at the '1991 Stretton and Appleton Map' placed on the stone structure where you turn R to the A49.}

5. Cross the road and walk along Hatton Lane for 0.5 mile until you reach the houses on your left with the 'Lynton' bus stop. Your path is on your right.
6. Cross the stile into the field [FP7] with the hedge on your L. At the end of the field go L over the stile and turn R so that the hedge is now on your R. (The stiles have a waymark which tells you which way to walk after you've crossed the stile.) Walk to the end of this field then turn L.
{Enjoy the views to the N at this the highest point on the walk.}
7. Turn R over the stile and with the hedge on your L look for the stile and ditch bridge on your left which you cross and go straight on across the middle of the field. You are now in Hatton [Hat FP4]. At the next stile the field path becomes a green lane called Goose Lane.
8. At the T junction turn right onto the bridleway [Hat RB5]. You are now on the Delamere Way which is waymarked with MCFS Delamere Way waymarks.
9. At the ponds on your L you re-enter Appleton [RB6]. Continue until shortly before the house on your R where you reach the access road joining from the L.
10. Turn L to keep on the Delamere Way then take the path [FP33] to the R on the L bend.
11. Cross the road (Park Lane) diagonally to your R to enter Walton Golf Course [FP5]. Be aware of golfers and golf balls. The route is well waymarked. Keep L, walking on grass, with the ditch just to your L. When the ditch turns sharp R the path turns R to the bridge which you cross and then walk fairly straight between waymarks to the L of the sand bunker before a R curve (note the angle of the waymarks) to the gate where you exit to the road.
12. Turn R [BR4] to Hillfoot Farm (you can either follow the waymarks or, if the path is wet, use the surfaced road). Ignore [FP11] on your R to Hill Cliffe at the 'farm gate'.
13. Walk straight through the 'farmyard' and exit by the opposite gate. This 'farmyard' is a public bridleway which means that you have a right to walk or ride a horse across it but you are not allowed to picnic etc. here and you should respect the rights of the residents who have to allow you 'safe passage'. Ignore the path [FP3] to your L and continue on the Delamere Way [BR2] to Red Lane.
14. Turn R onto Red Lane and then first L onto Birchdale Road then to London Road (A49). Note the path [FP1] on your R about half way down this road, which climbs up to Highwood Road which then joins Red Lane just below the Hill Cliffe lych gate.
15. At the A49 turn L to use the crossing to reach the London Bridge PH which is the end of the Delamere Way. Walk S past the path [FP13] on your L then turn L into Dingleway and walk to St Monica's church on the R as the road bends to the L.
16. Turn R into Broomfields Road and then take the path [FP8 & 14] between St Monica's and Bridgewater schools leading to Caversham Close and the Broom Avenue/Lyon's Lane junction. *(Note that some street maps have the street names wrong here. They should be N = Caversham Close, E = Broom Avenue, S & W = Lyon's Lane.)*
17. Diagonally cross to Lyon's Lane and then turn R into Chalfont Close and turn R opposite house no. 19 into the 2nd cul-de-sac. Take the unsigned local path between the houses on your L. Walk straight across the Pangbourne Close-Shepperton Close path 'crossroads' to Longwood Road.
18. Turn R on Longwood Road and then turn R shortly after Shepperton Close at the finger post for the path [FP38] which leads to Dudlow Green Road through the arch at the flats. Turn R and the Parish Hall is to your L.

Walk 3 – Hillcliffe to Walton Gardens

A 4.7 mile walk with no stiles. Time about 1h 50 minutes.

The 43 metre (140 ft) climb from the Bridgewater Canal to the Hill Cliffe lych gate is a good aerobic exercise.



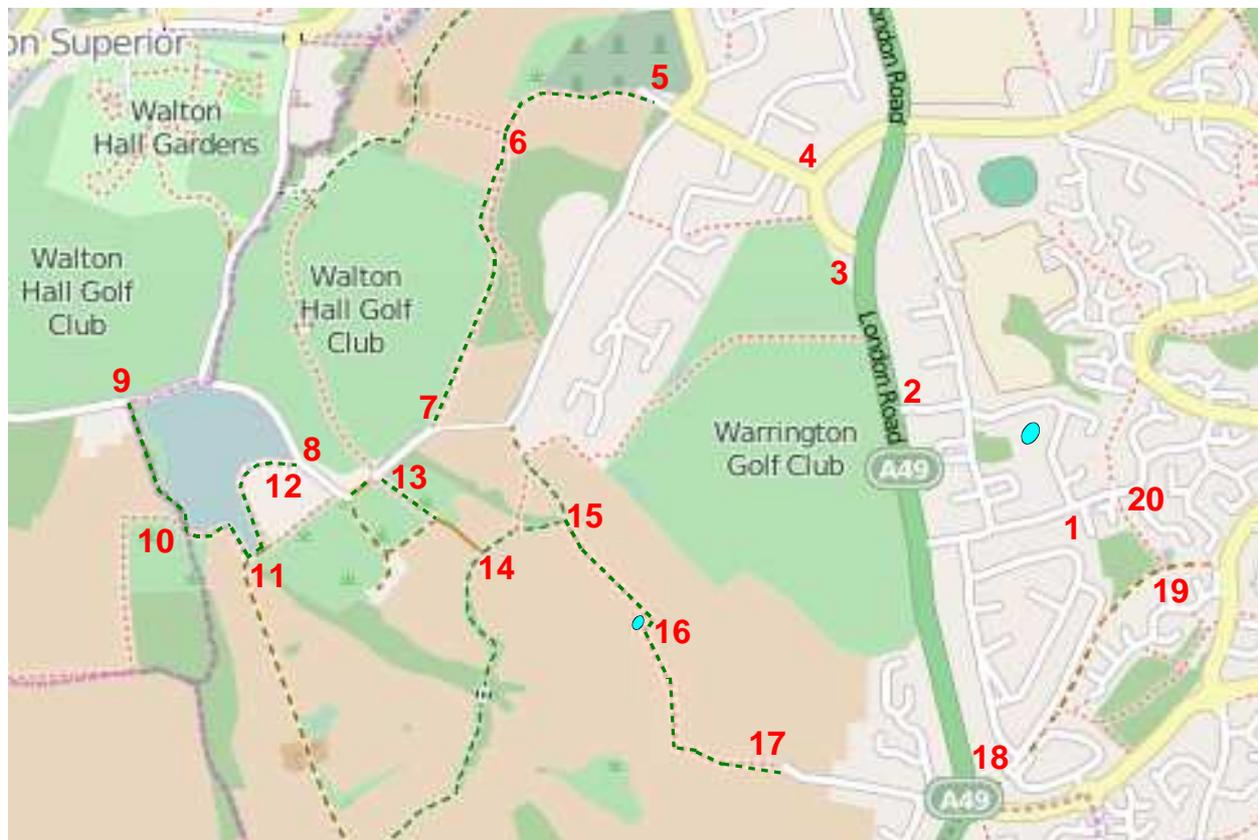
1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road and L into Pineways. Turn R at Beechways and immediately L into Fairways.
2. At London Road turn R after crossing to the Golf Club. Pass the path [FP9] on your L and turn L into Quarry Lane.
3. Take the path [FP10] on your L which crosses Field Lane before reaching Firs Lane.
4. Turn R and walk past the underground reservoirs on your L to reach the Hillcliffe (Fox Covert) Cemetery lych gate to your L.
{Stop here and look at the information sign on the wall to the L of the gate. You are standing 72m above mean sea level. Hopefully it will be clear enough for you to see most of the landmarks indicated. St Elphin's church has the 7th tallest spire in the UK (3rd ? Tallest in England) at 86m. Salisbury is the highest in the UK at 123m. Fiddler's Ferry chimney is 200m high. The mast on Winter Hill (456m above mean sea level) gives Appleton it's TV signal. Winter Hill was the scene of the Manx air crash in bad weather on 27 February 1958 when only 7 of the 42 on board survived.}
5. Go through the kissing gate to the L of the entrance to the 'new' Fox Covert cemetery to take the path [FP11] until you reach the kissing gate and path (also [FP11]) which branches to your R. (The straight on permissive path is part of the Mersey Valley Trail.)
6. Turn R and walk down to Hillfoot Farm.
{Look behind you to the top of the hill and, if the trees permit, you'll see a large house with a fantastic view.}
7. Turn L along the bridleway [BR4] (you can use the road where the bridleway branches L after the R bend in the road if the bridleway is too muddy) and past the path [FP5] to

- your L (which goes across the golf course) until you reach Hough's Lane. The last few steps are on [Wal BR5] which is one of the shortest paths in S Warrington.
8. Turn L onto Hough's Lane for about 150yds.
 9. Take the permissive path on your R at the wide entrance to the Hall grounds where the golfers cross. Keep R and then walk with the fence on your L. When the path becomes a grassed area veer R to Walton Hall. Walk around to the front of the Hall and go through the gateposts to the driveway and turn R. Walk down the driveway with the pond on your L and the zoo over to your R. At the bottom of the driveway turn R past the toilets and take the footbridge to your L (alongside the road bridge).
{While you're here you may wish to look at the water feature to your L, check the progress on the greenhouses and visit the children's zoo diagonally to your R. You could also check the car park pay machine to see how much you've saved by walking!}
 10. When you exit to Walton Lea Road turn R and immediately go down the steps to the canal towpath towards Stockton Heath (canal on your R).
See 11 before completing this step.
 11. If the steps are too difficult then carry on walking to Hough's Lane and join the towpath just past Hough's bridge where there's a gap in the railings by the car parking area.
 12. At Red Lane bridge (sign on bridge) go L [StH FP6] up the steps and then R onto Red Lane crossing the canal. Walk past the allotments to your L and the Delamere Way [BR2] to your R.
 (Should you choose to walk up Red Lane to position 15 then please don't attempt to walk up the road. Walk on the RHS to the church and go through the gate into the cemetery where an edge path will take you to the lych gate. Note that the drop over the wall is rather large.)
 13. Turn L into Birchdale Road and after about 350 yds take the path [FP1] at the finger post on your R at the end of the pavement just beyond the Birchdale Court flats.
 14. Walk up this path as it crosses Warren Drive/Kingsley Drive. At the 'green' keep R to Warren Road. At Delphfields Road the path doglegs R then L to reach Highwood Road where you turn R to Red Lane.
 15. Turn L at Red Lane and then L to Windmill Lane taking great care of the traffic until you are safely on the Windmill Lane pavement.
 16. At Quarry Lane take the R road (No Entry road sign – it's one way) and walk to London Road. Turn R and walk to Dudlow Green Road.
 17. Turn L and walk back to the Parish Hall.

Walk 4 – Appleton Reservoir

A 4.8 mile easy walk with two avoidable stiles between locations 16 & 17 on the map. Time about 1h 40 minutes.

The path around the reservoir between 8 & 12 can be very wet at times which may result in you retracing your steps on the road back to 8 and then continuing from step 12.



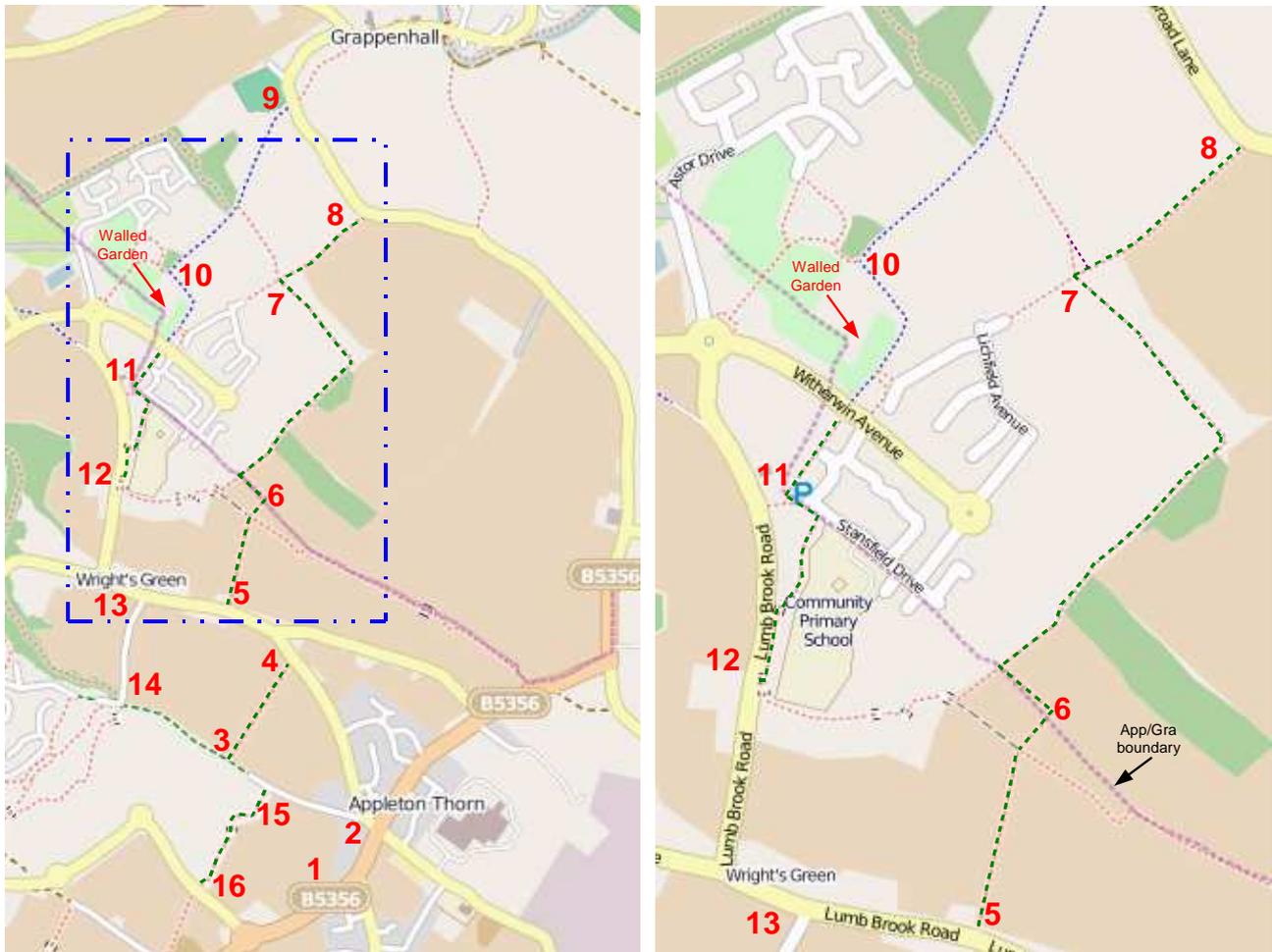
1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road and L into Pineways. Pass the pond on your L and then turn R at Beechways and immediately L into Fairways.
2. At London Road turn R after crossing to the Golf Club. Pass the path [FP9] on your L.
3. Turn L into Quarry Lane (one way) and pass the path [FP10] on your L.
4. Turn L into Windmill Lane (pavement on RHS) and then walk to the Hillcliffe (Fox Covert) Cemetery lych gate.
{Stop here and look at the information sign on the wall to the L of the gate. You are standing 72m above mean sea level. Hopefully it will be clear enough for you to see most of the landmarks indicated. St Elphin's church has the 7th tallest spire in the UK (3rd ? Tallest in England) at 86m. Salisbury is the highest in the UK at 123m. Fiddler's Ferry chimney is 200m high. The mast on Winter Hill (456m above mean sea level) gives Appleton it's TV signal. Winter Hill was the scene of the Manx air crash in bad weather on 27 February 1958 when only 7 of the 42 on board survived.}
5. Go through the kissing gate to the L of the entrance to the 'new' Fox Covert cemetery to take the path [FP11].
6. At the kissing gate ignore the path [FP11] which branches to your R. Take the straight on permissive path which is part of the Mersey Valley Trail until you reach Park Lane (or is it Firs Lane here?). Ignore any L or R branches, keeping the fence to your R when you reach the golf course.
7. Turn R and follow the road to reach the reservoir. You are about to walk around it in an

- anti-clockwise direction. (Notice the path [FP5] to your R and then almost immediately [FP33] to your L. You take [FP33] on your return.)
8. Here there are steps up to the top of the wall. (You return to here in navigation point 12.) Walk on the road around the E & N sides of the reservoir, past Hough's Lane till you reach a path to your L at the end of the wall. (The more fit walkers might choose to climb the steps at point 8 and walk on the wall to point 9. This gives you better views of the water birds and avoids road walking where there's no walkway but you do have to negotiate the valve house steps.)
 9. At the stone steps take the L permissive path with the water on your L.
 10. Ignore the permissive path to Hatton your R and take the narrow path to your L which runs alongside the stone wall. It widens out then narrows slightly again near its end.
 11. At the road turn L and then L again. Walk with the reservoir on your L until you reach the stone steps at Park Lane.
 12. Turn R and follow the road until until you reach the slightly hidden path [FP33] on your R. (You looked for it at point 7.)
 13. Turn R and walk this path. At the unsurfaced road keep straight on to take you to the L bend.
 14. Just round the bend [RB6] you pass Dennow Farm on your R and pass the path [FP32] on your L.
 15. The house at the T junction is Dennow Cottage. Turn R at the house to take the path [FP31] along the R of the field to the pond and raised ground opposite.
 16. Go round the pond and keeping the ditch on your R walk the well used field edge path. Dogleg through the gap in the hedge/fence then go over the stile (or use the side gate).
 17. Go over the stile (or use the side gate) and turn R onto Hillside Road. Walk along the road to Owen's Corner (A49 roundabout).
{Owen's Corner, at the end of the 19th century, when it was a crossroads with Hillside Road and (Old) Pewterspear Lane rather than a roundabout, had the Shovel and Broom pub on the SW corner and a smithy on the N side. But who was Owen?}
 18. Go straight across the A49 and take the path [FP30] indicated with a finger post to the left of Longwood Road. Walk about 0.4 miles along Old Pewterspear Lane past the small pond on your L until you come to a tarmac surfaced path [FP21] on your L.
 19. Turn L and walk to Dudlow Green Road.
 20. Turn L and the Parish Hall is on your L.

Walk 5 – Grappenhall Walled Garden

A 4.4 mile walk (with a stile at location 3 that may be avoidable) starting from Appleton Thorn to the Grappenhall Walled Garden with an optional extension to Grappenhall Village.

Time about 1 hr 35 minutes (excluding stops and the possible extension).

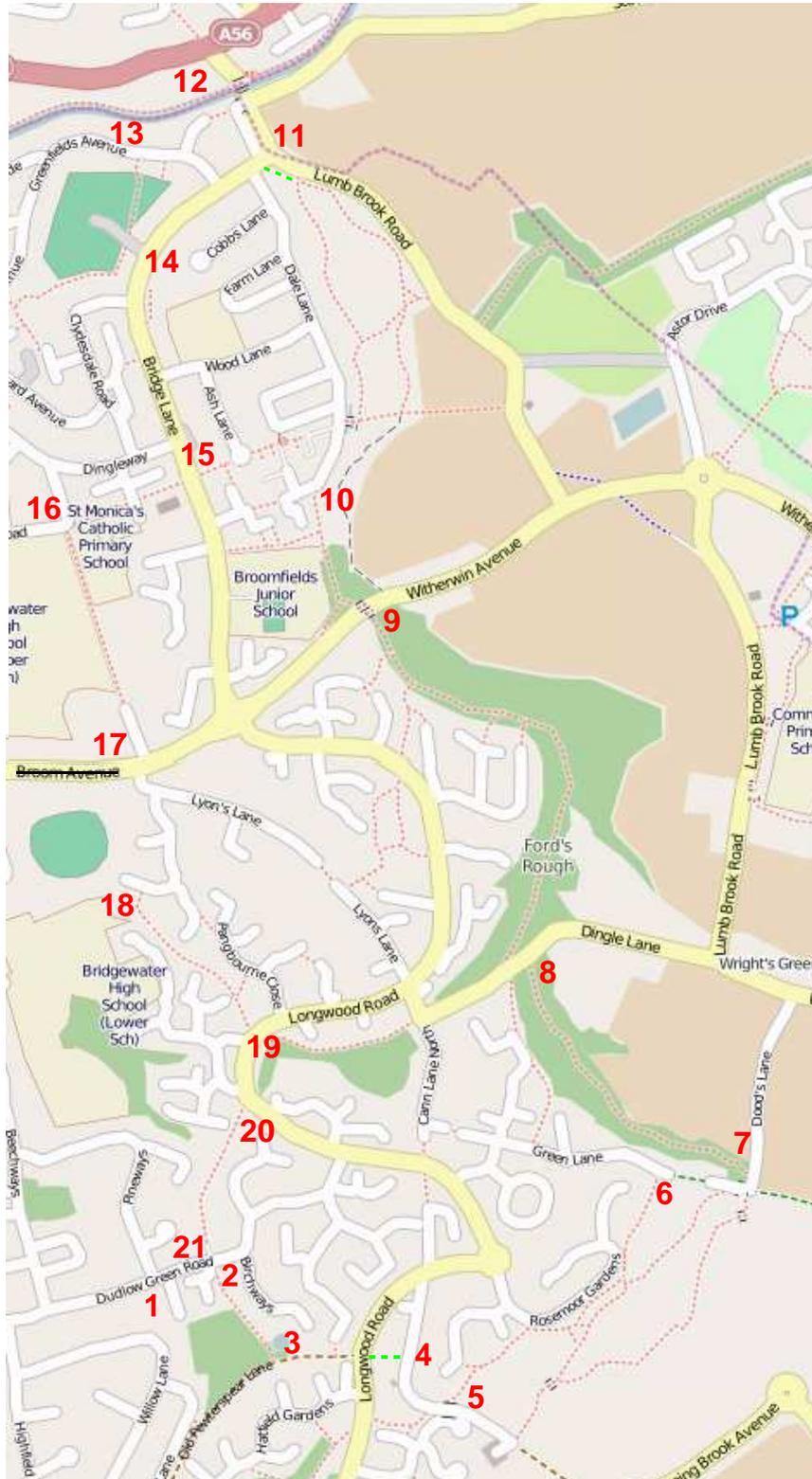


1. From the lay-by on the N side of Stretton Road (B5356) between the Blackcap Road roundabout and Pepper Street walk towards Appleton Thorn and turn L at the Thorn Inn/Church crossroads.
{The Village Hall used to be the village school until a new school was built on Arley Road. The disused building was converted to the Village Hall c1980. When the adult prison was closed the playgroup, which met in the prison, had nowhere to go.}
2. Keep L by the church wall to go to Green Lane (not Lumb Brook Road)
{Look at the information about the Thorn Tree, the Bawming Ceremony and the link with Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee when you pass the tree.}
3. Walk down Green Lane [BR26] and take the path [FP19] to your R shortly past the road gate. You may be able to get between the stile and the tree to avoid the stile.
4. Walk to Lumb Brook Road and turn L past the New Lane junction and the Lily Pond.
{The Lily Pond at this junction was claimed at the Land Registry by the Village Hall for use as a village fishing facility.}
5. Take the path [FP18] to your R immediately before the houses. Walk to the end of this field and then to the tall waymark post in the middle of the field. (You'll go past the

- path [FP17] to the R which goes to Grappenhall Lane and then almost immediately a L 'path' around the field edge which is used but is not a legal path. The route to the waymark post is the legal path.)
6. At the tall waymark post turn L [Gra FP6] to the hedge now in front of you and then turn R. The path is usually clear from the ground tracks. This path doglegs L over a stream and then continues with the stream on your R to the end of the field where you turn L.
 7. At the staggered path crossroads turn R (even though there's no R finger on the post) and head for Broad Lane, passing the path to your L which goes over the bridge. (If you wish, you can take a short cut here by taking the L local path and walking to point 10 then continue the instructions from the 4th line of instruction 9.)
 8. At Broad Lane go through the kissing gate and turn L walking with care along the road.
 9. At the point where the paths cross Broad Lane, just before Grappenhall Cricket Club, you turn L through the metal restricted access barrier on to the surfaced local path. (Here you can take the path [Gra FP3] to your R for a diversion into Grappenhall Village and return to this point.) Walk past a path on your L and an entrance to Grappenhall Heys on your R until the path turns L at the back wall of the Walled Garden. *{The garden, which may not be open every day has a café which also has limited opening, can be accessed from Witherwin Avenue. You are about 2/3 of the way round the walk}*
 10. Turn L and then R to Witherwin Avenue. Cross the road, take the path facing you and cross a local road. Where the path curves to the L (and also carries straight on to Lumb Brook Road) follow the L curve and head for point 11 which is opposite 40 Stansfield Drive and at the end of the wall on your R.
 11. At the waymark post on your R, turn R to walk to point 12 on a pleasant path [FP6A] just clear of Lumb Brook Road.
 12. Join Lumb Brook Road through a kissing gate on your R. Stud Farm and the bus stop is across the road. Walk L to Wrights Green, ignoring Dingle Lane on your R, then turn R into Dood's Lane.
 13. Walk past the entrance to Lumb Brook Valley on your R just before you reach Green Lane [BR26] where you turn L.
 14. Look out for the path [FP19] to your L which you took at point 3, go through the road gate and take the path [FP25] to your R through a kissing gate.
 15. Follow path [FP25] until you reach the Blackcap Road kissing gate where you turn L. *{HMS Blackcap was the name of the airbase that used to be on the airfield which is now the trading estate.}*
 16. Walk to Stretton Road, turn L and return to the lay-by on your L where you parked.

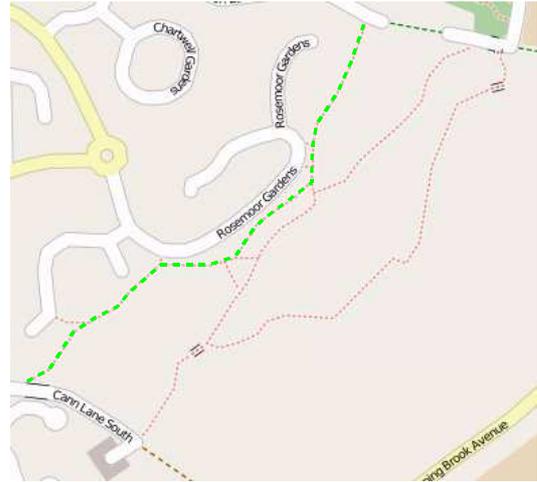
Walk 6 – Lumb Brook Valley

A 4.0 mile walk through the Lumb Brook Valley from Ford's Rough to the Bridgewater Canal bridge. Lumb Brook Valley is particularly beautiful at bluebell time. Time about 1h 25 minutes.



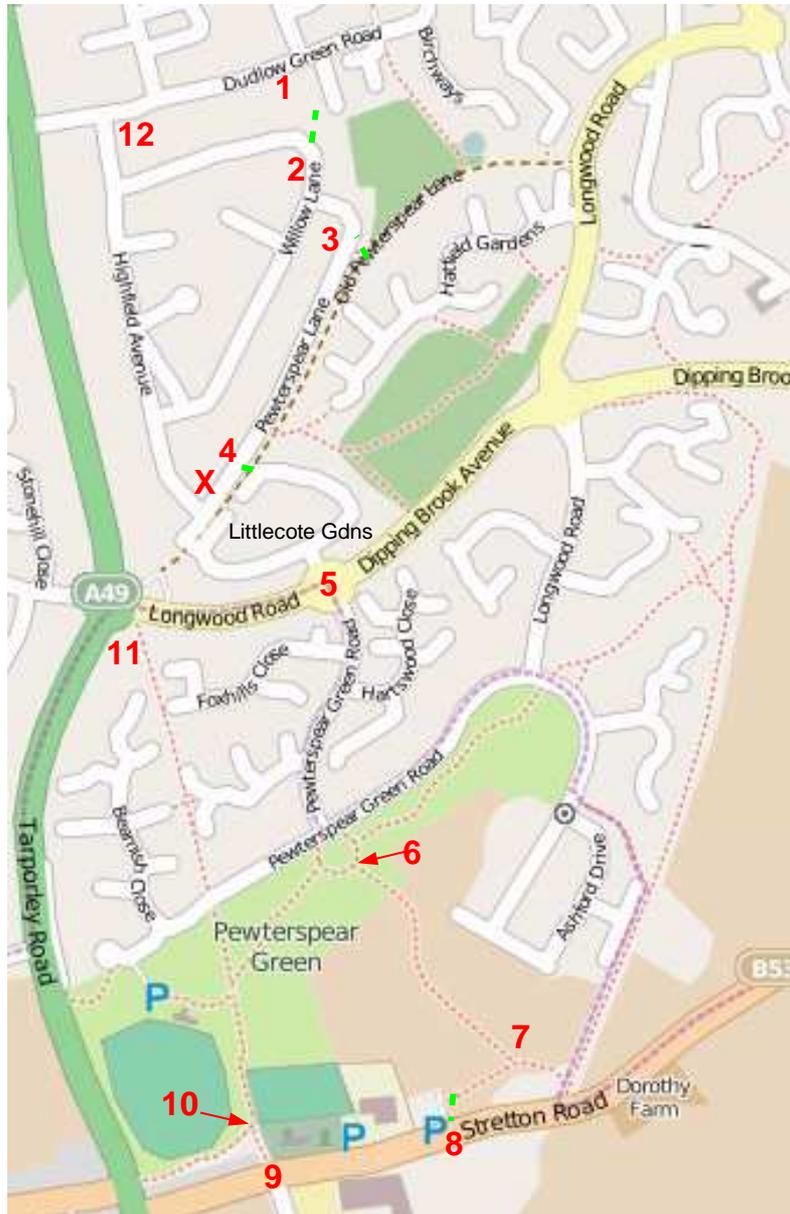
1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road.
2. Turn **R** at the finger post to your right onto the surfaced path [FP21] and walk south to the T junction. N.B. Don't take the opposite path to your left through the arch.

3. Turn L onto Old Pewterspear Lane track [FP30] and walk across Longwood Road to Cann Lane South.
4. Turn R and take the local path to your L just before the bridge over Dipping Brook. It has brick 'gateposts' with finials. See sketch map.
5. Ignore the 4 short paths on your L leading to Rosemoor Gardens but keep L with the brook on your R until you reach Green Lane through brick 'gateposts' with finials.
6. Turn R and then L into Dood's Lane immediately past the finger post on your R [FP20].
7. Take the local path on your L to enter the Fords Rough part of the valley. Walk with the brook on your L towards Dingle Lane.
(Yes! Ignore the map. Ford's Rough is here!)
8. At Dingle Lane turn L through the gate and then R at the steel restricted gap to continue down the valley through The Dingle to Witherwin Avenue. Keep the brook on your R, apart from when crossing the two bridges, and ignore the paths to your L which go to the housing roads.
9. Walk under the 1997 Witherwin Avenue bridge and continue with the school and houses to your L and the brook to your R.
10. Turn R as you join Dale Lane and look for the finger on the lamp post pointing L to [FP15] just before the bridge to the Millennium Green on your R across the brook. Cross the bridge and turn L.
{The Millennium Green has a picnic table area and a path [FP15] to Lumb Brook Road.}
11. Turn L immediately before the gate to Lumb Brook Road to reach the Bridge Lane/Lumb Brook Road junction. Cross Bridge Lane and take the road to the L of Lumb Brook Road (which is in Grappenhall at this point.) until you reach the path [FP12] just before the canal bridge.
{Here Lumb Brook goes under the canal and across the road to the church before crossing Grappenhall Road (A56) and then heading to Alexandra Park and into the Manchester Ship Canal.}
12. Turn L and walk up the track through Wharfside Court to Greenfields Avenue where you turn R and cross.
13. Ignore the finger post to your L and then take the surfaced path shortly beyond it at the top of the slope. Walking towards your L to reach Bridge Lane via the road which runs between the houses.
{At the time of writing there is still a known problem with [FP12] here which will be resolved when the Cobbs Rugby Field is developed.}
14. Turn R and walk up Bridge Lane, past the shops, to just beyond Dingleway on your R where it is crossed by [FP15]. The path to the L takes you to the Millennium Green.
15. Turn R and walk across St Monica's Close to [FP14A] and on to Broomfields Road.
16. Turn L to take the path [FP8 & 14] between St Monica's and Bridgewater schools leading to Caversham Close and the Broom Avenue/Lyon's Lane junction. (Note that some street maps have the street names wrong here. They should be N = Caversham Close, E = Broom Avenue, S & W = Lyon's Lane.)
17. Diagonally cross to Lyon's Lane and then turn R into Chalfont Close and turn R opposite house no. 19 into the 2nd cul-de-sac.
18. Take the unsigned local path between the houses on your L. Walk straight across the Pangbourne Close-Shepperton Close path 'crossroads' to Longwood Road.
19. Turn R on Longwood Road and then shortly after Shepperton Close there's a finger post on your R.
20. Take the path [FP38] which leads to Dudlow Green Road through the arch at the flats.
21. Turn R and the Parish Hall is to your L.



Walk 7 – A stroll to Stretton Church

A 2.2 mile easy stroll mainly on surfaced paths. Time about 50 minutes (60 if you do stroll).



1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road and turn R & R to go between the Parish Hall and the shops. Take the path from the rear of the car park to Willow Lane.
2. Turn L and then L again into Pewterspear Lane. Walk to the end of the houses on your L where the pavement ends.
3. Take the L concrete path to Old Pewterspear Lane [FP30] and look for the wooden fence and metal gate to your L (3rd path exit L that you pass).
(If the path is too wet for you then keep on Pewterspear Lane and walk to Highfield Avenue X where you can turn L and then R onto Old Pewterspear Lane and after 40 paces go through the kissing gate to Littlecote Gardens walking anti-clockwise to get to 5 and continue the walk.)
4. Go through the gate into Littlecote Gardens and walk clockwise until you reach the 2nd L

- where you can see the roundabout on Longwood Road.
5. Cross Longwood Road to Pewterspear Green Road until you reach Pewterspear Green.
 6. The 'pedestrian roundabout' here is known as the Earth Sculpture. Take the middle of the 3 surfaced paths and walk to a Y junction in the path.
 7. Take the R fork and walk to Stretton Road.
 8. Walk on the pavement until you reach the finger post just past the church, opposite Spark Hall Close.
{Have you noticed the church clock?}
 9. Turn R [Str FP1] until you reach the path from the Cat & Lion traffic lights joining you from the L.
{Look at the '1991 Stretton and Appleton Map' placed on the stone structure.}
 10. Keep straight on walking along the Roman Road.
{Here you have the Roman Soldiers Sculpture and at the Longwood Road end the Janus Sculpture.}
 11. At Longwood Road cross to the finger post to start to walk along Old Pewterspear Lane. Turn L into Highfield Avenue (shown at **X**).
 12. Turn R at Dudlow Green Road and the Parish Hall is ahead on your R.

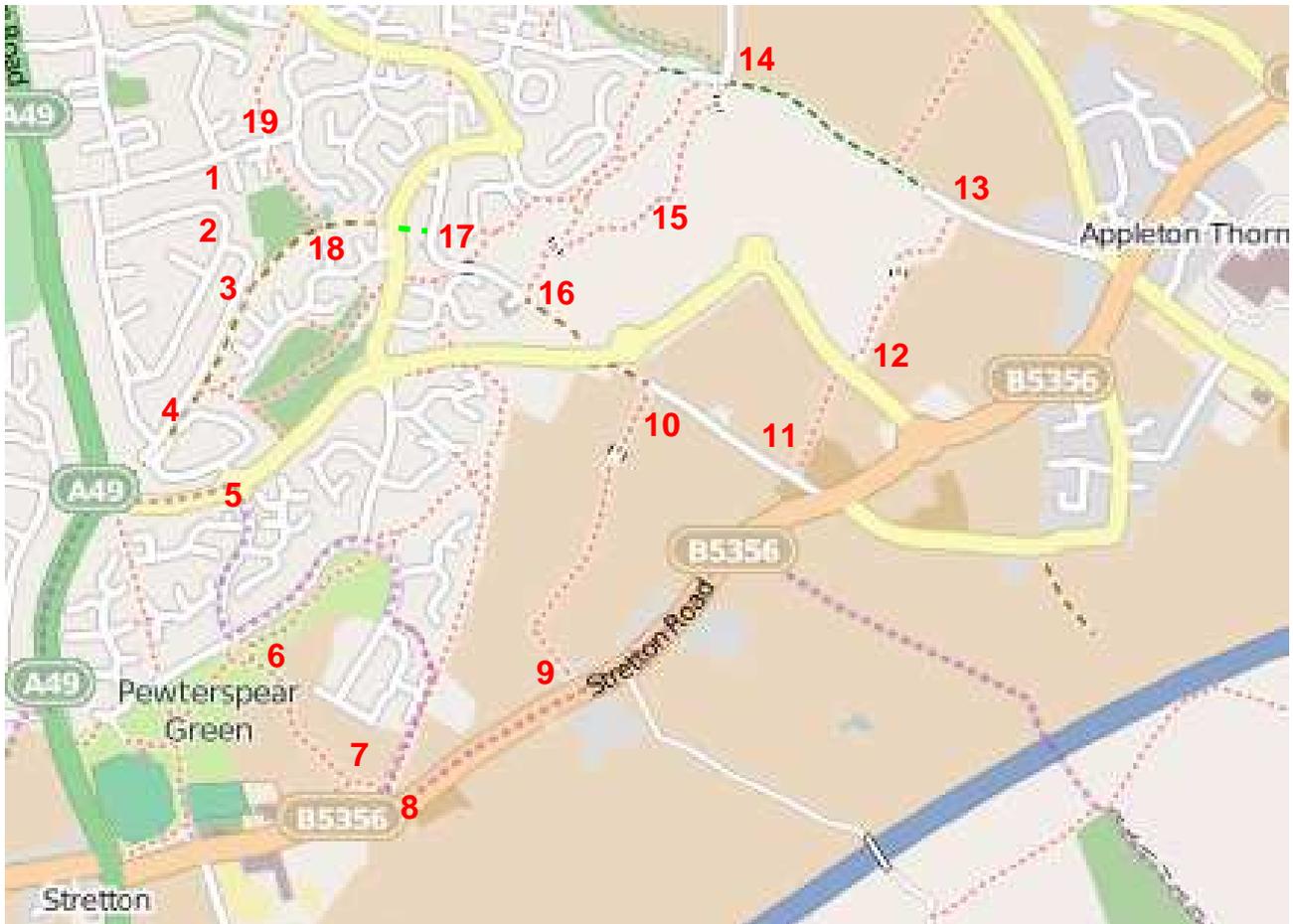
NOTE: You can see from the map that many more walks on surfaced paths are possible if you turn left at points 6 or 7 on the map.

Walk 8 – Pewterspear to Green Lane

A 3.6 mile walk. Two stiles between 9 & 10, one at 11 and four between 14 & 16.

Time about 1h 30 minutes.

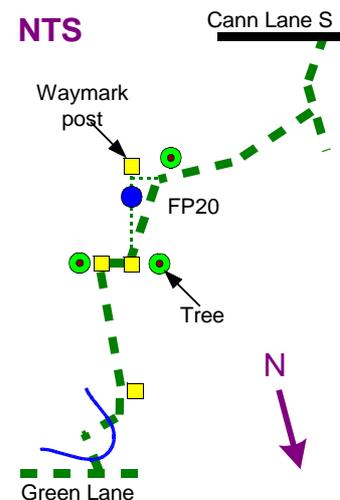
Can be wet after rain, particularly between 14 & 16.



NOTE: You might like to use the map for the previous walk for the first 6 navigation points of this walk.

1. From the Parish Hall turn R onto Dudlow Green Road and then immediately R to go between the Parish Hall and the shops. Take the path from the rear of the car park (straight ahead) to Willow Lane.
2. Turn L and then L again into Pewterspear Lane. Walk to the end of the houses on your L where the pavement ends.
3. Take the L concrete path to Old Pewterspear Lane [FP30] turn R and look for the wooden fence and metal gate to your L (3rd path exit L that you pass).
4. Go through the gate into Littlecote Gardens and walk clockwise until you reach the 2nd L where you can see the roundabout on Longwood Road.
5. Cross Longwood Road to Pewterspear Green Road until you reach Pewterspear Green.
6. The 'pedestrian roundabout' here is known as the Earth Sculpture. Take the middle of the 3 surfaced paths and walk to a Y junction in the path.
7. Take the L fork and then at the T junction turn R and walk to Stretton Road.
8. Turn L and walk on the grass verge (LHS) for about 300 yards until you reach the finger post (at the bus stop) in the gap between the houses opposite Mosswood Hall Farm. *{The 731 metre cul de sac path [Str FP8] on your R at Mosswood Hall Farm used to be an important path before the M56 was built. It is hoped that one day this will be extended to become a through path again.}*

9. Turn L and walk on the path [4S] straight to the tall waymark post in the middle of the field and then turn R [FP22]. Keep the hedge on your R as you walk to Walnut Tree Lane.
(Note: Walk straight to the waymark on the legal path. Don't be tempted to walk around the field boundary which is not a legal path.)
{Does the waymark still have the tractor tyre at its base?}
10. Turn R and road walk until you reach the path [FP25] on your L.
11. Turn L and walk to the kissing gate leading to Blackcap Road.
{This kissing gate was eventually installed after a lot of hard work by the MCFS when the path was illegally blocked. HMS Blackcap was the name of the airbase that used to be on the airfield which is now the trading estate.}
12. Cross the road and continue on [FP25] to the kissing gate at Green Lane [BR26].
{At Green Lane you could go 300 yds R up to the crossroads to find out about the Thorn Tree, its links to Glastonbury and the Bawming Ceremony before returning here to resume the walk.}
13. Turn L and walk past the FP to your R until you come to the road (Doods Lane) also on your right.
14. Immediately past Doods Lane at the finger post turn L to cross the bridge and the stile over Dipping Brook onto [FP20]. The path veers to the L and then goes R over another bridge and stile. Look for the waymark post against the hedge on your R and walk 45° L up the slope until you can see the two trees in the middle of the field. Aim for the waymarks between the trees. The sketch map to the R (not to scale) is provided to help.
15. The path between these waymarks and the field edge on goes through a pond so take a line to the R of the pond and turn R when you reach the field boundary. Close to Cann Lane S you join a path from your R where you go L to the road.
16. Turn R onto Cann Lane S and road walk round a L bend, ignore the local path crossing the road and then after the R bend where the road straightens you look for the finger post for path [FP21] to your L.
17. Turn L and cross Longwood Road to Old Pewterspear Lane. Ignore the access to Teddington Close on your R and look for the next (surfaced) path [FP21] on your R which takes you to Dudlow Green Road.
18. Walk to the end where you emerge opposite the arch.
19. Turn L and the Parish Hall is ahead on your L.



Walk 9 – Pewterspear to Walnut Tree Lane

A 2.5 mile walk. Two stiles between 9 & 10. Time about 1h.

This walk is the previous one with navigation points 11 to 15 avoided.

The following instructions replace 10 to 16 in the previous walk.

10. Turn L over the stile and cross Dipping Brook Avenue using either the path (which curves to your R across the central reservation close to the roundabout) or the bridleway (which curves to your L) to reach Cann Lane South.
16. Carry on road walking round a L bend, ignore the local path crossing the road and then after the R bend where the road straightens you look for the finger post for path [FP21] to your L.

Walk 10 – Appleton Moss

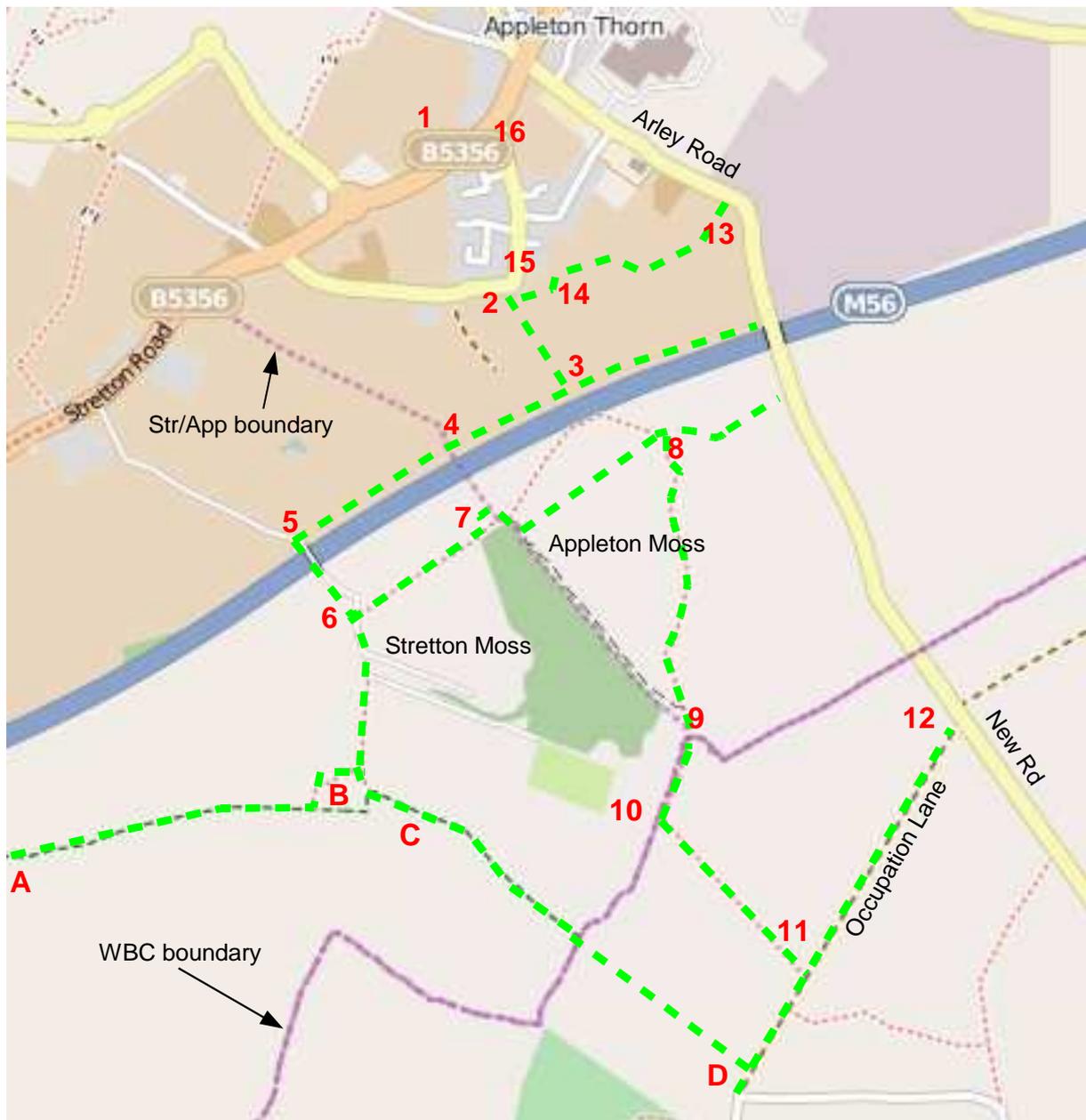
A 4.5 mile walk starting from Appleton Thorn. Time about 1h 45 minutes.

Very steep at 5, an avoidable stile at 8 and a bridge stile at 9.

Safety: Boots, whistle, map & compass are advised.

Not the most scenic or tranquil but certainly the most challenging of these walks.

Maps for this area are often incorrect in their portrayal of footpaths. The paths shown in green on this map are correct. The paths shown bounded by points 3, 7 & 8 are incorrect.



The route A, B, C, D or 6, B, C, D can also be walked but please note point C.

- A** Mosshall Lane to A559 (Northwich Road) at Lower Stretton.
- B** Moss Hall Farm. Path now goes to N of farm.
- C** The path is often very deep in mud/slurry around this point.
- D** The path is unofficially diverted around a house and new pond before you join the road.

1. From the lay-by on the N side of Stretton Road (B5356) between the Blackcap Road roundabout and Pepper Street walk towards Appleton Thorn. Turn almost immediately R into Pepper Street and walk to where the road turns R.
2. Turn L and walk along the path [FP27cd] to the M56. (Remember this path start for your return journey and noting the path to your L as you enter the field.)
3. Turn R and walk along the path [FP37] to the bridge over the stream where you go into Stretton. (Headphones quieten the traffic noise!)
4. Continue along [Str FP10] to the road bridge over the M56.
5. Scramble up the bank to the bridge, turn L to cross the motorway. Walk to the 'road' to your L just past the field on your L. There is/was a wooden finger post here.
6. Turn L and walk along the path [Str FP7] which has been widened into a road which is starting to rival the M56.
7. Veer L and cross the stream back into Appleton then turn R [FP35] to the field hedge where you turn L looking out for the waymark on the stile to your R.
8. Turn R [FP27ab] where you are waymarked across the training track to the pond on your L. Walk round the pond and turning L to the field boundary/ditch where you turn R, keeping the ditch on your L until you reach the training track again. Here you're waymarked to the bridge which is ahead, slightly to your R.
(This uneven and often wet path across the moss takes you across a horse training track twice before arriving at a bridge at the WBC boundary. The path is poorly walked and sometimes the vegetation makes it not well defined. Notice that you're walking S for most of the path.)
9. Cross the bridge into Antrobus and walk [Ant FP34] with the field boundary/ditch to your R.
10. At the wire fence and raised bank, go through a gap in the fence, turn L and walk along the raised bank to Whitley Reed Farm passing through a field gate on your way.
11. Turn L and walk along the quaintly named Occupation Lane [Ant FP15] to New Road.
12. Turn L and walk along the road (with care), cross the M56 and look for the finger post on your L just after you've gone round the L bend on Arley Road.
13. Take this path [FP29] which goes to a nearby waymark post slightly to your left. Here you go R to the next waymark post where you go diagonally to the R of the fenced drainage system and then walk to the R of the long hedge.
14. Look for the hedge gap where you dogleg to the L. Then look for your R turn which will take you back to Pepper Street.
15. At Pepper Street turn R and walk to Stretton Road.
16. Turn L and the lay-by is on your R.