

Local Walks from Oakington and Westwick -an update

This update is published during the coronavirus crisis, to give people a few more ideas about how they can use their daily exercise time if they have already exhausted the most accessible walk routes here.

Some of these alternatives use private roads and field paths, please access such routes with due care and caution, and in particular please observe the [Countryside Code](#) at all times, field paths often run alongside fields on private land and producing our food, so be careful to avoid the crops, and keep dogs and children well away from the crops. You do not have an explicit right to use such paths, if told to keep off by a sign or a farmer or landowner you should comply.

Firstly, work on Northstowe continues, and walks 1 and 8 are still somewhat affected by this. On walk 8 the path from the Guided Busway into Longstanton via Rampton Drift is now open again, at the time of writing. The first section from the Busway is still a grass track, though more rutted than it used to be. The track then crosses a Northstowe spinal road that gives access to the secondary school, and care is needed due to traffic, particularly construction traffic, using this road. The path beyond had been tarmacked and gives pedestrian and cycle access up into Rampton Drift and on to Longstanton.

Walk 1 is also largely open again, at present one section crosses the construction work on the Northstowe Southern Access road, and is suitable really only for adult pedestrians, great care would be needed in crossing that road with a dog or children. There are splendid views towards Bar Hill though, and sights of the construction of the Wilson's Road bridge that this path will follow in the not-too-distant future.

To avoid the hazard of reaching the Bridleway heading south on Dry Drayton Road, why not try the field path on the west side of Oakington Brook. This can be reached either by:

- a) Using The Drift off Longstanton Road (almost opposite the White Horse), and follow the track extension of The Drift until you reach a field with views of the Business Park and Phypers Farm. This is the field that caught fire a couple of years ago. Turn left to follow the track clockwise round the perimeter of the field, you will reach and follow the Brook to the Phypers Farm bridge. There is a ditch crossing about 20 metres towards the farm from the bridge and brook, then turn back on the Phypers Farm path to the bridge.
- b) Follow the footpath on Dry Drayton Road from the Crossroads to the Garden Centre, and just beyond the Garden Centre cross Dry Drayton Road to enter the Phypers Farm path past Phypers Cottages to the bridge over the Brook.

At the west end of the bridge over the Brook, turn left to follow the path alongside the Brook towards the A14, parallel to Dry Drayton Road. You will firstly cross the entrance road to the Business Park, then a farm track that crosses the Brook on a second bridge, and then reach the Bridleway which crosses the Brook on a green-painted steel bridge. You can then follow the rest of Walk 1 up to the Access Road crossing, Wilson's Road and Longstanton.

For walks 6, 7 and 8 there is a slightly shorter route to Lamb's Cross and the Gun's Lane paths. From the Guided Busway, follow the footpath alongside Station Road towards Westwick, until you are

opposite the far end of Westwick Terrace, about 30 metres past the Parish Council notice board. Cross Station Road onto a gravel track at the north end of Westwick Terrace, and you can follow that track up to the Bridleway mentioned in Walk 6. Turn left onto the Bridleway and follow this round the edge of the field until you reach Lamb's Cross.

We would be delighted to hear of routes you may be aware of beyond any mentioned here, please use the [Contact Us](#) page to tell us details.