

Walk 2

Village Hall - The Shippy - Woodhouse Farm - Village Hall



The walk is approximately 4km (2.5 miles) across fairly flat countryside with about a quarter on country lanes. It should take about 1 hour 15 minutes. The walk is suitable for all abilities but you will need to be fit enough to negotiate stiles. It is important you wear waterproof footwear as the fields can be very muddy at times.

1. Leave the Village Hall car park, turn left along the main road and continue past Royds Close and the garage, and cross Brazenhill Lane.

(See Walk 1 for details of the Moathouse.)

Continue along the main road for about a further 50 metres, and on the left you will see the old Haughton school which was converted into a private residence in 1983.

Immediately past the old school turn left and enter St Giles' churchyard through the iron gates. (2)

2. *St Giles, the Parish Church of Haughton, dates back to the 13th century.*

Continue along the churchyard path, passing to the left of the tower and round the back of the church to arrive at the gate on Brazenhill Lane.

Turn right onto Brazenhill Lane, and then left, to pass between the new graveyard and the rectory.

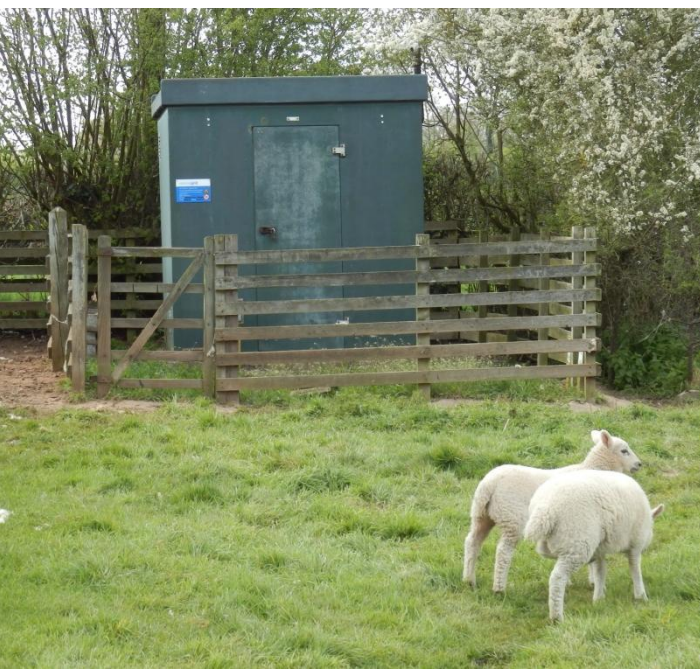
The rectory was built in 1958 to replace the old rectory which stood where Beech Close now is. The new graveyard came into use in 1927 when the church graveyard became full.

Continue along Brazenhill Lane, passing the playing field car park, to a finger post and stile on the left. (3)

3. Cross this stile, and continue with the fence on your left, crossing a further stile to arrive at a small green water-control building.



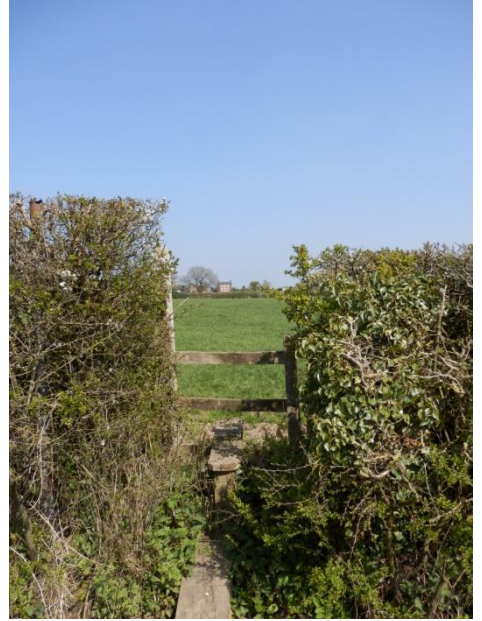
Turn right at this building and continue with the hedge on your left. At the end of the hedge continue straight across the field to a stile and bridge in the opposite hedge.



Once over this stile and bridge go straight across the next field, passing to the left of a pond, to arrive at a field gate in the far corner.



Pass over a stile, cross Brazenhill Lane, and pass over a stile in the opposite hedge.



Continue straight across this field, pass through a gate, and go across a second field to a mesh fence. Pass through a metal gate, then a field gate, and continue along a grassy track before passing through a gate to Brazenhill Farm drive. (4)



4. Turn left along this drive to arrive at Brazenhill Lane. Over the lane, cross a stile next to a gate. Continue with the fence on your left to a stile next to an electricity pole. Pass over this stile, turn right and head for a stile by an oak tree next to a pond.

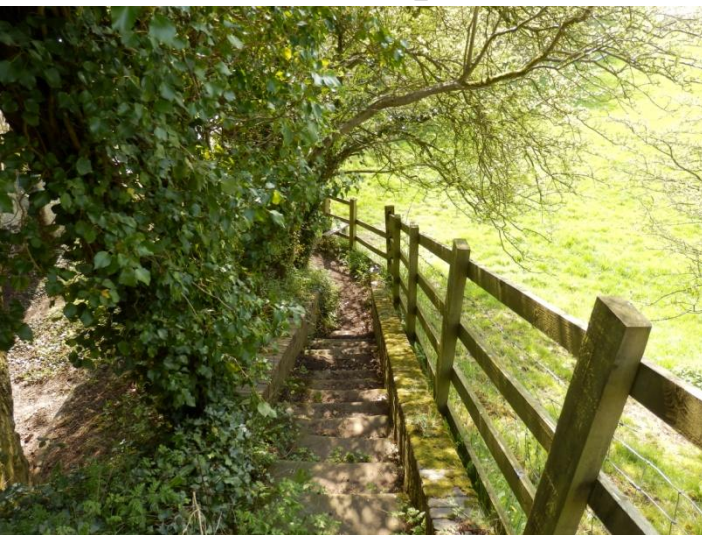


Cross this stile and go straight on, heading for the far right-hand corner of the field. Pass over a stile and bear slightly left to a set of steps. Go up the steps to a stile, to arrive at Station Road bridge. (5)



5. Cross the road, turn right, go to the end of the parapet and left down some stone steps.

At the bottom of the steps, on the right, cross over a stile and walk with the hedge on the left to a further stile and bridge in the cross-hedge.



Ignore these and turn right, with the remains of the thorn hedge on your left, passing to the right of two ponds, to cross a stile and a bridge.



Turn left and then right, keeping the field boundary on your left, to arrive at a double stile onto Woodhouse Lane. (6)



6. Cross the lane, turn left, and continue with the hedge on your right for about 150m, to a farm road on the right with a fingerpost.



Turn up this road and in about 300m pass "The Shippy" on your right.



In a further 100m, at a fingerpost on the right, turn left through a field gate.

Continue straight on with the hedge on your right, to a stile and bridge in the corner of the field.



Pass over this stile, turn right, passing to the right of a pond, to a fingerpost and stile on your left.



Cross this stile and continue, with the hedge on your left, over a bridge to a further stile in the left-hand corner of the field, which leads onto Woodhouse Lane.



Turn right along the lane and continue until you arrive at a fingerpost and stile on the left, just past the entrance to Woodhouse Farm. (7)

7. Pass over this stile, cross the field, and go through a field gate in the middle of the far hedge.



Here, on the left, you will see Woodhouse Farm, a black and white half-timbered building which was in use in the 16th century. The crucks, however, are evidence of a medieval building. This was one of several local houses with a moat, and the nearby pool is believed to be part of the original moat. It is believed there was a brick kiln next to the house which was making bricks until about 1890.



Continue on with the pool and hedge on your left, and pass over a stile to a further stile. Over this stile, turn half-right and follow the fence on your right to the fence by Millennium Way.



Turn left and continue with this fence on your right, over two stiles, and a stile and a bridge, to arrive back at the stile by the Station Road bridge. Pass over this stile and turn right through the car park. (8)



8. Walk up onto Station Road and turn right along the road towards Haughton for about 400m, to a fingerpost and stile on the left.



Cross this stile and a second stile, and continue to a stile on the right by a field gate into Meadow Drive. Walk up Meadow Drive to the main road and turn left.

Here on the left you will see the Old Hall. The exact date of the building is not known, but it probably dates from Henry VIII's time, 1509 –1547, with a red-brick addition at the rear dating from the early 1700s. The gable fronting the road has four separate tiers of ornaments and the corbels are carved from a solid trunk, with the tree root uppermost to utilise the spread of the base. The chimney stacks are fan-shaped and the weather-course indicates that the roof was originally thatched.



Continue past the Old Hall and you will return to the Village Hall car park.



***In memory of Fred Price, who originally created these walks
(in association with the Ramblers)***