

List of Walks

Walk 1	St James' Church, Ailey & Newton
Walk 2	The Sturts & Kinley
Walk 3	The Sturts & Waterloo
Walk 4	Kinnersley
Walk 5	Vaughan's Way & Letton
Walk 6	Kinnersley to Almeley and back
Walk 7	The Ferney & Logaston
Walk 8	Ernle Gilbert Reserve & Parks Wood
Walk 9	Pig Street & Davies Meadows
Walk 10	Vaughan's Way & Norton
Walk 11	Sarnesfield Coppice
Walk 12	Norton Canon Church & the old railway



Condition of the footpaths and bridleways

The condition of footpaths will vary from year to year, depending upon weather conditions and agricultural activity, but the Parish has four footpath officers who seek to ensure paths are kept in a reasonable state of repair. Each of these officers is a parish resident and is responsible for a designated number of paths. When they are made aware of a problem, depending upon the amount and type of work necessary, they will either seek to organise a work team of fellow resident volunteers to cut back vegetation and carry out basic repairs, or liaise with the contractor appointed by the parish to carry out the work.

If you become aware of a problem on a path, please notify the council by email at clerk@kinnersleygroup.co.uk, or contact the relevant footpath officer, details of whom can be found on the parish website: www.kinnersleygroup.co.uk.

Preface

We would like to welcome you to this updated series of walks around Kinnersley and District Group Parish located in the north-west of Herefordshire, between Hereford, Kington and Hay-on-Wye, on the northern edge of the floodplains of the River Wye. The parish includes the villages of Kinnersley, Norton Canon, Letton and Sarnesfield, the hamlets of Hurstley, The Sallies, Logaston and Ailey to name but four, and is encircled by the villages of Weobley, Almeley, Eardisley, Winforton and Staunton-on-Wye. It is predominantly an agricultural area, shaped by the county's farming traditions.

Within the parish there are approximately 42km of footpaths, including a section of Vaughan's Way, a waymarked trail between Kington and Bredwardine which links Offa's Dyke Path with the Wye Valley Walk, and a section of The Wyche Way, that runs between Kington and Broadway, linking Offa's Dyke Path with The Cotswold Way. The condition of paths is monitored by volunteer Parish Footpaths Officers who liaise with landowners over issues such as stiles and gates.

Within the parish there are a number of historical buildings, churches and pubs, together with woodlands, streams and nature reserves, many of which can only be accessed by footpath. In addition, in Kinnersley there are a number of wooden posts (called obelisks in the walk descriptions) located by the side of many of the paths that have inscriptions recording villagers' memories of days past. These were erected as part of a Village Artmakers initiative in 2005.

The 12 circular walks vary between 3.5km and 12km in length and are designed to include most of the footpaths in the parish, and some in neighbouring parishes. Not only will the walks lead you through lesser known parts of the parish, but from them you will gain a different perspective on what you thought was familiar.

We hope that as you get to know the paths you will create your own alternative routes, perhaps use the few public paths we have not included and also those permissive paths created, on a temporary basis, by farmers under countryside stewardship or other schemes.

The booklet from which these walks have been taken for inclusion on the website was first issued to all households in the parish in 2016 and has now been updated to take into account the replacement of stiles by gates and other changes. Copies of the booklet will also be held in local pubs, churches and bed and breakfasts for reference use.

The footpath officers will welcome being made aware of any problems encountered. Details can be sent to the Parish Clerk at clerk@kinnersleygrouppc.co.uk. In return we ask walkers to respect the Countryside Code set out below.

The booklet was developed as a result of the Parish Plan developed by parishioners in 2014, and thanks go to Kinnersley and District Group Parish Council for the funding of its reprint, and to Andy Johnson for his help in updating it.

Kinnersley and District Group Parish Council: www.kinnersleygrouppc.co.uk

Countryside Code

Enjoy the countryside and help local farmers

Whilst enjoying the footpaths that criss-cross the Group Parish, also understand the needs of farmers whose land you're crossing and help them in their work:

If parking a vehicle where you want to start your walk, make sure you don't block a gateway, driveway or other entrance.

Leave gates as you find them: if a gate is closed it's usually to keep livestock in or out; if open it might be to allow livestock access to water. When in a group, the first person through a gateway must ensure the last person knows how to close it or whether to leave it open.

You should always aim to keep to the path, and the local footpath officers will be aiming to ensure paths are kept in a reasonable condition. If you do find a path blocked or obstructed (by growing crops, a fallen tree, etc.) then you have the legal right to find a suitable way around the obstruction. But do then report the obstruction (for details as to how to do this, see above).

Please don't leave any litter. It's not just unsightly, it could harm livestock if eaten.

If livestock is being gathered in or moved, keep out of the way and follow directions from the farmer.

If you come across a farm animal that seems to be in distress, then try and find and alert the farmer.

If walking with a dog, make sure you have it on a short lead when near livestock, and under control at other times. However, if cattle in a field take a close interest in your dog, then it is better to let it off the lead to reduce the risk of harm to yourself. Remember: a farmer may shoot a dog which is attacking or chasing farm animals without being liable to compensate the dog's owner.