

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND FARM COMPRISING THE ERECTION OF FIVE
WIND TURBINES PLUS UNDERGROUND CABLING, METEOROLOGICAL MAST, ACCESS
TRACKS, CONTROL BUILDING, TEMPORARY SITE COMPOUND AND ANCILLARY
DEVELOPMENT (INCLUDES ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT) AT SPRING FARM RIDGE,
GREATWORTH
IN THE MATTER OF A PLANNING APPEAL UNDER S.78 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
ACT 1990

BETWEEN:

BROADVIEW ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS LTD

Appellant

-and-

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Respondent

PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE: **APP/Z2830/A/11/2165035**

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL REFERENCE: **S/2010/1437/MAF**

RICHARD HALL BSc (Hons) PgDip

PROOF OF EVIDENCE

ON BEHALF OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

APPENDICES

Appendices – Contents

Appendix No		Page
3.2.1	Richard Hall - Employment History and Professional Experience	3
3.2.2	Local Highway authority Planning Consultation Response	5
3.2.4.1	NCC Countryside Walk – Greatworth	6
3.2.4.2	NCC Countryside Walk – Sulgrave	8
3.2.4.3	SNC Walk & Cycle Brackley – Walk 9 Greatworth	11
3.2.6	Extract from the Definitive Map and Statement (2010)	12

3.2.1 Richard Hall - Employment History and Professional Experience

- 3.2.1.1 I have been continuously employed by Northamptonshire County Council since May 2005 and before that, continuously employed by Bedfordshire County Council since August 1990. During this time I have been responsible for the Public Rights of Way (PROW) function of these Local Highway Authorities (LHAs) and managed teams responsible for the Definitive Map and Statement, Access Development and Maintenance/Enforcement.
- 3.2.1.2 I represented both councils in their capacity as LHA in the planning process between 1993 and 2007, responding to planning applications that affected PROW, and representing the LHA at Public Inquiries.
- 3.2.1.3 I have also represented both LHAs at Local Public Inquiries and Hearings as well as in the Magistrates' Court, in relation to Rights of Way and Definitive Map matters. I appeared as the PROW witness at the Barnwell Manor Wind Farm Appeal (APP/G2815/A/11/2156757) where I presented views consistent with this proof of evidence in relation to turbine distances from PROW.
- 3.2.1.4 I currently hold the post of Principal Engineer, Development Management. However at the time of consultation to application S/2010/1437/MAF I was the line manager to the Officer accountable for planning responses.

From: Carla Boswell [mailto:CBoswell@northamptonshire.gov.uk];
Sent: 5/9/2011 5:58:42 PM
To: Mick Tilley [mailto:MTilley@northamptonshire.gov.uk]; Warren, Michael [mailto:Michael.Warren@SouthNorthants.gov.uk]; Birkett, Robert [mailto:RBirkett@mgwsp.co.uk];
Subject: RE: Helmdon/Greatworth - Spring Farm - Proposal: 5 wind turbines (App ref S/2010/1437/MAF)

Please find comments below from Northamptonshire County Council Rights of Way Service with regards to the above planning application and a working copy of the Definitive map. Please can you send confirmation receipt of this email.

Rights of Way – FOOTPATHS AN8, AN9, AN10 & BYWAY AN36

BRIDLEWAYS AN37 AND AN32/AP15 INDIRECTLY

Thank you for your consultation regarding the above planning application from South Northamptonshire Council.

Northamptonshire County Council Rights of Way section has concerns to the application and would like to make the following comments in respect of Public Rights of Way. This response is without prejudice to any response from Northamptonshire County Council Development Liaison Team in the same way theirs is without prejudice to this one.

There are Public Rights of Way, Footpaths AN8, AN9, AN10 & Byway AN36, registered on the Definitive Map (2005) within and surrounding the proposed development, please see attached extract from the definitive map.

The main concern is the Byway AN36 runs between two turbines and is quite central to the wind farm site. This has wider implications to the bridleway network as a major connections to the Bridleways AN14, AN32 and AN37 in the surrounding area as recreational riding routes. Therefore we should impose the same restrictions as a minimum distance of 200m from Bridleways and Byways and that they should not cut through a wind farm site, thus resulting in a sub standard route.

The Turbine distance map demonstrates, that this distance is almost achieved for the byway, however because the byway sits between two turbines, which is not really acceptable for horse riders as there is no other way round for the Horse riders. Either one of these turbine should be moved, removed or divert the Byway, neither may be practically possible and so I would ask what contributions the developer has in mind to mitigate the loss of the bridleway network in the area?

Alternatively having permissive bridleway routes and a signage strategy around the turbines, for the duration of the wind farm, may be considered if no other options is available but this is subject to landowner consent and BHS consultation. Ideally we do not wish to see horse riding routes going through wind farm sites, but around them is the next best compromise.

Ideally the footpaths should all be at least height distance from each turbine, in this instance 125m, and as the mapping shows this is not the case for AN9, and AN10. Again asking what contributions the applicant would consider in mitigating the impact of walkers experience of the countryside from the development of the wind turbines? We would like to seek access improvements where stiles can be replaced with either gap, hand gate or kissing gate in order or preference and depending on land use around the turbines.

There is also the added complication of the planning application S/2010/1117/FUL -SPRING FARM and problems of AN10 from use of tanks obstructing the right of way and posing a danger to the public. If this footpath is diverted from the use at Spring Farm, this may affect the distances from the turbines but I cannot confirm that anything has been agreed yet so I do not know the details but it is an issue that needs considering in this application.

Once all these issues have been ironed out, the standard requirements must be adhered to as stated below.

With respect to construction works to be carried out in close proximity to and using Public Rights of Way as access, please note the following standard requirements:-

Cont'd...

- The routes must be kept clear, unobstructed, safe for users, and no structures or material placed on the right of way at all times, it is an offence to obstruct the highway under s36 HA 1980.
- There must be no interference or damage to the surface of the right of way as a result of the construction. Any damage to the surface of the path must be made good by the applicant, specifications for any repair or surfacing work must be approved by this office, under s131 HA1980.
- As a result of the development all of the affected Right of Way, Footpaths AN8, AN9, AN10 & Byway AN36 need to be closed by applying for a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order for public safety during construction phase. An Application form for such an order is available from Northamptonshire County Council website, a fee is payable for this service and a period of six weeks notice is required. Please follow the link below:
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/transport/row/legal/pages/temptros.aspx
- Any new path furniture (e.g. gates preferred over stile) needs to be approved in advanced with the Access development Officer, standard examples can be provided.

Diversion Orders

Conditions: -

Prior to the commencement of works affecting any existing public right of way full details of any enhancement, improvement, diversion or closure shall be submitted to and gain the approval of the local planning authority.

Suggested Notes: -

1. No works affecting any existing public right of way may commence without the express written permission of the highway authority's Rights of Way team.
2. The developer is reminded to apply to the local planning authority for any proposed diversion of a right of way under section 257 of the Town and Country Planning act 1990 required to facilitate the development of Spring Farm Ridge Wind Farm. The alternative route for such a diversion must be agreed with the highway authority's Rights of Way team and be available for public use prior to the closure of any existing route.

Northamptonshire County Council Rights of Way team is available and preferably required for the involvement, guidance and consultation at all stages of the diversion orders as necessary

This response is without prejudice to any Public Right of Way which may exist across the site but whose presence is not recorded on the County Council's Definitive Map and Statement.

Should you require any further information regarding these comments then please do not hesitate to contact me on the details below.

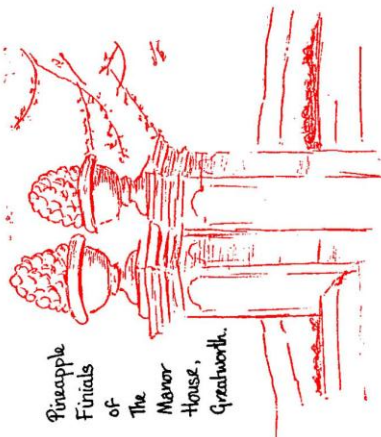
Many thanks

Best regards

Carla Boswell
Access Development Officer

Northamptonshire County Council
Highways, Transport & Infrastructure
Riverside House

Local Snippets:



Some fields on the map are marked with their respective field names. These old fieldnames usually reflect their past history - for example - Stone Pt, Daisy Ground, Riding Gale. From the viewpoint in Riding Gale (local field name) the footpath rises to 550 feet and affords a view of five churches. Three of these - Greatworth, Forthwich and Marston St Lawrence have towers. The churches of Kings Sutton and Middleton Cheney have spires.

Greatworth has an American connection. The first president of America, George Washington, was descended from Laurence Washington and Amy Tomsen. Amy Tomsen was Laurence's 2nd wife, his 1st wife died childless. Amy daughter of Robert Parlier of Greatworth, was widowed twice before marrying Laurence Washington. By Amy he had four sons and seven daughters, living at nearby Sulgrave Manor. The Washington family Coat of Arms is a window of St. James Church, Sulgrave bears evidence of Amy Parlier's connections with the Washingtons.

The "Oxier Bed", South-West of Greatworth, is so named after a group of very old Willow trees that grow in the wet area. The "withys" or new growth on the willows were once used for basket-making and peg-making.

St Peter's Church, Greatworth. South-facing chancel door.

Two square stone piers on moulded plinths with very large, finely carved pineapple finials mark the entrance to the original Manor. The very large house was destroyed by fire on Christmas Eve 1793. It is recorded that flames could be seen from forty miles away.

Until 1935 Greatworth was divided by the Midland R.R. and the Lane into two villages. Houses on the West side formed the village of Westkorp and those on the East constituted Greatworth Village. The united village now has two Manors.

The line of the Stafford Midland Junction Railway is easily definable (although not a public right of way), both East and South of Greatworth. It is part of the branch that ran from Donbury to Northampton and closed in 1951, only 79 years after its opening. Used mostly as a goods line it carried many truck-loads of cattle from Donbury Market.



- ★ enjoy the countryside & respect its life and work
- ★ guard against all risks of fire
- ★ fasten all gates
- ★ keep your dogs under close control
- ★ keep to public footpaths across farmland
- ★ use gates & stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- ★ leave livestock, crops & machinery alone
- ★ take your litter home
- ★ help to keep all water clean
- ★ protect wildlife, plants & trees
- ★ take special care on country roads
- ★ make no unnecessary noise

Information

approach by road: Greatworth is in South Northamptonshire, approximately 10 km, east of Banbury. The village can be reached via the main roads A43, A422 or B4625

Comments and enquiries

If you experience any difficulties on your walk please report them to the County Rights of Way Officer, Northamptonshire, Northampton. Telephone: 256701 Northamptonshire County Council are interested in your written suggestions and comments on these routes & leaflet. A full list of publications is available by sending an SAE to the County Leisure & Libraries Officer, 27 Guildhall Rd, Northampton NN1 1EF

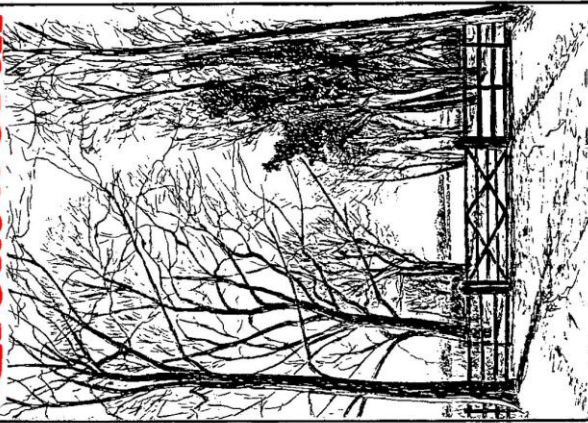
Compiled for Greatworth Parish Council

Drawings by Gerald Green, Liz and Mike Holman
Text by Pam Carpenter



An "Out and About in Northamptonshire" publication
COUNTRYSIDE WALKS LEAFLET No 14

Countryside Walks Greatworth



Bridgepath to Radstone, near Halse Gorse, in Greatworth Parish.

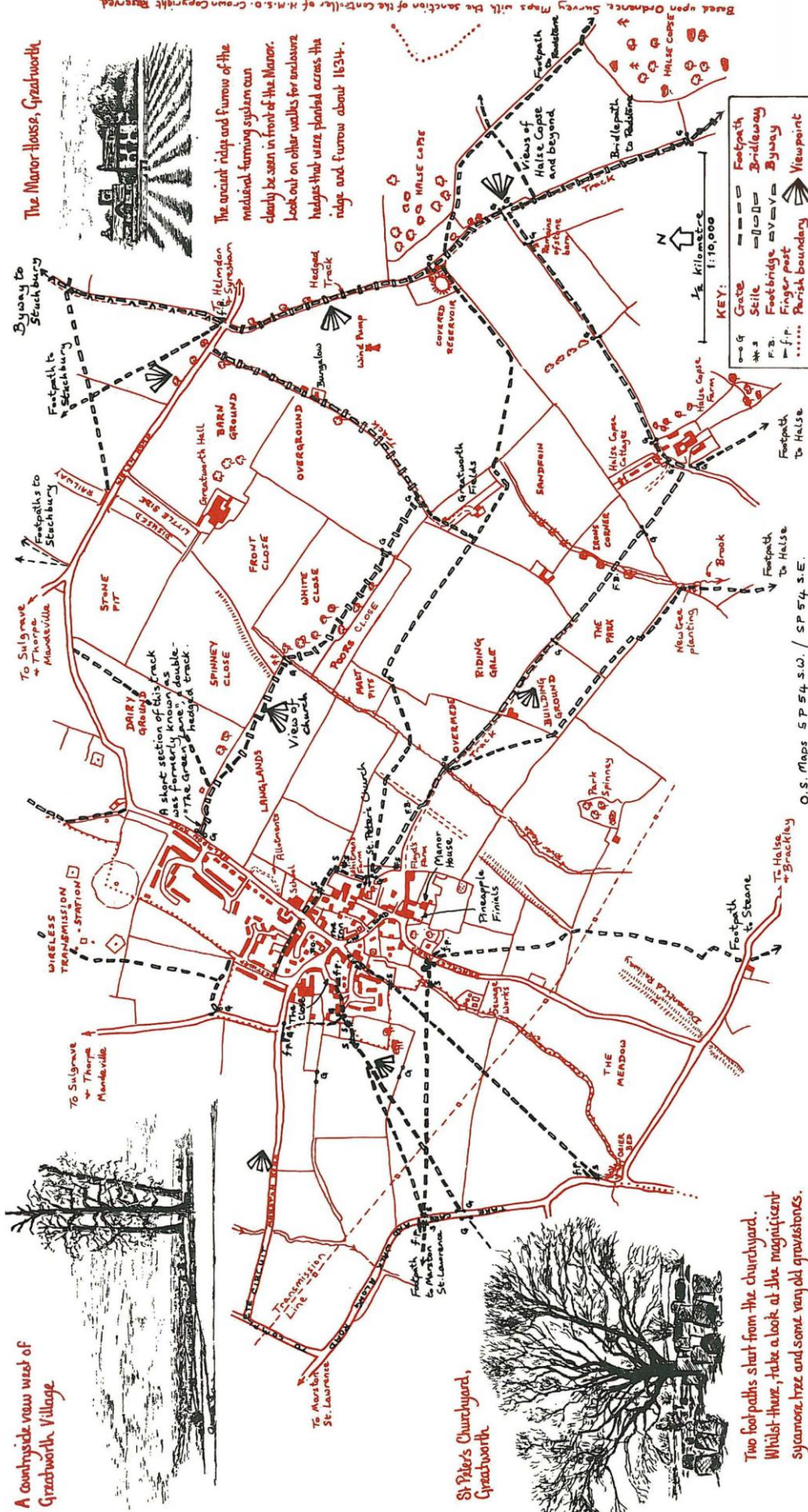
Northamptonshire
Leisure and Libraries

Countryside view west of
Greatworth Village

The ancient ridge and furrow of the medieval farming system can clearly be seen in front of the Manor. Look out on other walks for enclosure hedges that were planted across the ridge and furrow about 1634.

Based upon Ordnance Survey Maps with the sanction of the Controller of H.M.S.O. Crown Copyright Reserved.

Two footpaths start from the churchyard. Whilst there, take a look at the magnificent sycamore tree and some very old gravestones.



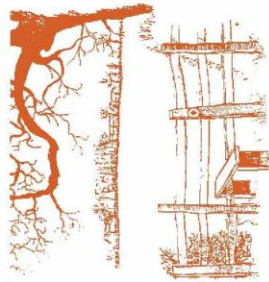
O.S. Maps SP 54 S.W. / SP 54 S.E.

SUGGESTED WALKS:

Roads and Streets are named and paths unmarked.

Village Circular. Less than 1 mile. 1 hour.
Follow down Manor Road turning right into Little Street at the junction with Weston Road. Cross over School Street into Church Street and Park Lane, turning right down Maggie Road to complete your circuit.

Sourveau Circular. 1 1/2 miles. 1 hour.
Follow the Helendon Road down to where a small stream crosses the road. A signed footpath A18 to Greatworth will be seen, on your right. Climb up to where it joins A16. Turn right until A16 takes you back to the Village via Newyass Farm.



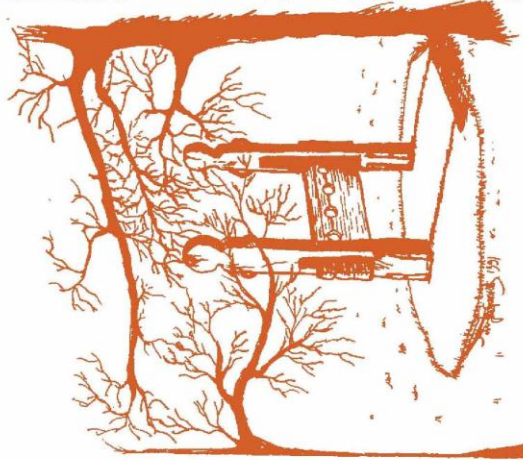
SOUTH WESTERN Circular. 2 1/2 miles. 1 1/2 hours.
As 2 but continue along A16 in a westerly direction until joining A112 in the corner of a large field. Follow this path until it joins the Manton Road, turn right to Maypie Farm. Follow Maypie Road to Sulgrave village picking up A111 running parallel on the right hand side.

Bassow Hill Circular. 2 1/4 miles. 2 hours.
Follow Manor Road, down past Sulgrave Manor. Take the Weston Gated Road until it climbs up to meet Banbury Lane. Turn left along the lane until A18 can be followed from the top of Barrow Hill. Take this path which eventually returns to the village via Stodwell Lane.

Weston Village Circular. 5 1/4 miles. 2 1/2 hours.
Take path A15 from Little Street. At the parish boundary this becomes S11. Either follow this until it meets the Weston - Helendon Road, then turn left into Weston. Or, follow S11 around behind the village. From Weston pick-up the S15 until it reaches the Banbury Lane. Walk along the lane turning left onto A13. This returns to Sulgrave via the "Gated Road".

Countryside Walks

Sulgrave



Elizabethan Stacks
(County Heritage Site)



A Walkers' Code

- Enjoy the countryside & respect its life and work.
- Guard against all risks of fire.
- Fasten all gates
- Keep your dogs under close control.
- Keep to the public footpaths across farmland.
- Use gates & stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops & machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments are protected by Law. Please respect them and all other archaeological sites.

If you experience any difficulty on your walk such as barbed wire, locked gates or damaged stiles and footbridges, please report them to the Principal Rights of Way Officer, West Office, Amer House, Hudson Road, Brventry. Tel: 0327 760081.

Your general comments on this leaflet and the routes will be welcomed by the Director of Planning and Transportation, Northampton House, Northampton. NN1 8WZ. Countryside Walks Leaflet No. 33.

Northamptonshire Countryside Services
is a branch of Northamptonshire
Planning and Transportation Department

Supported by the
COUNTRYSIDE
COMMISSION

SULGRAVE

The name, Sulgrave, is derived from the old English 'sulh' meaning a channel or passage, and 'graf', meaning a pit, or trench. There has been a village situated on this site for over a thousand years of recorded history. It stands on a low spur in a broad, deep cut valley, the headwaters of the river Taw or Tove.

This area of Northamptonshire stands on a limestone belt, stretching from the Dorset Coast to Whitby in Yorkshire. Sulgrave is basically a stone village with evidence of local quarrying within the village. Helmdon Stone was the main material, and a fine building of the older houses show that this was in many cases undressed. The spurns, cills, joints and lintels were mainly of Hamerton Stone, and in certain cases a dark red iron sandstone from Eydon was used for facing walls.



Old Quarry
The old quarry built 1770. Original destroyed by fire. Original Elizabethan ironwork.

Old Village
The old village built 1770. Original destroyed by fire.

Castle Mound
Site of Norman Ringwork Castle. Excavations in 1910 and 1916 proved that this castle was built on the site of earlier Roman Hall. This was continuously lived on from circa 915 AD to about 1135 AD.

The Sulgrave Parish Council wish to thank all who have been involved in the production of this leaflet and in the waymarking of paths.

Moor Cottage
c.1700. A fine stone house with a brown Eydon Stone.



Wesleyan Chapel
Built 1863. Built 1870. Range of Cottages.

Barrow Hill Farm
House 165. 19th Century.

Apple Tree Farm
18th Century. 19th Century.

Old School
Built 1720 by John and Mary Hedges of Sulgrave Manor for ten local boys.

Old Forge House
Built 1770. Original destroyed by fire.

St. James Church
Built in the reign of Edward III 1327-1377.

Wesleyan Farm
Public Footpath A19.

Castle Mound
Site of Norman Ringwork Castle.

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Kiln Farm
c.1700. A fine stone house with a brown Eydon Stone.

Wesleyan Chapel
Built 1863. Built 1870. Range of Cottages.

Barrow Hill Farm
House 165. 19th Century.

Apple Tree Farm
18th Century. 19th Century.

Old School
Built 1720 by John and Mary Hedges of Sulgrave Manor for ten local boys.

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Built 1770. Original destroyed by fire.

St. James Church
Built in the reign of Edward III 1327-1377.

Wesleyan Farm
Public Footpath A19.

Castle Mound
Site of Norman Ringwork Castle.



SULGRAVE MANOR

Built in 1539 by Laurence Washington, a wealthy wool merchant who purchased the Manors of Sulgrave and Studbury, from Henry VIII for £24,000. He lived until the age of 83, and is buried, with his second wife Anne, in the Parish Church. His great great Grandson, Col. John Washington, probably born at Sulgrave, was to emigrate to Virginia, in 1656 after the English Civil War. Col. John was George Washington's Great Grandfather.

The Manor House was altered by John Hedges in 1770 when the North Wing was added in the style of Queen Anne. The house was purchased in 1913 by the Anglo-American Race Committee, fully restored, and in 1921 was opened to the public as a Remount reminder of the special relationship between the two English-speaking Nations.

The Whal House
Where the Essex men worked the wool and took their taxes.

Sulgrave House
Formerly Bell House 19th Century.

Chapelstones
Site of former Baptist Chapel. built in 1844 demolished 1924.

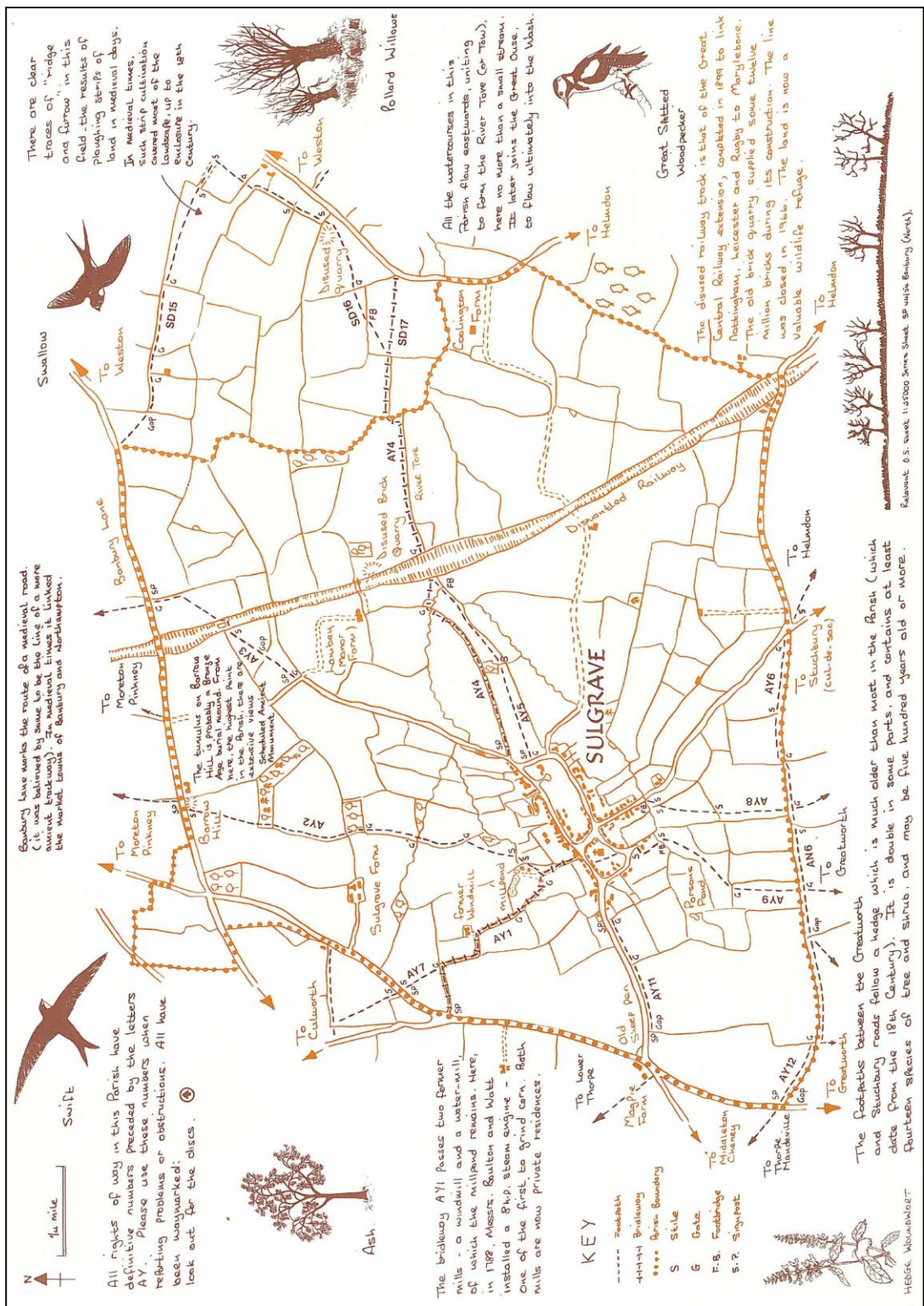
Corner House
dated 1770. Three bays. white deal roof. Park and fine Sun-dial above. dated 1772.

Old Forge House
Built 1770. Original destroyed by fire.

St. James Church
Built in the reign of Edward III 1327-1377.

Wesleyan Farm
Public Footpath A19.

Castle Mound
Site of Norman Ringwork Castle.



18

WALK 9

GREATWORTH

A gentle walk with views over Stuchbury starting from the car park at The Inn in Greatworth (welcomes walkers, open every day apart from Monday daytime)

Distance: 3 miles

Time: 1 hr 20 mins

OS Map: Explorer 206

Start: The Inn, Greatworth

Grid Ref: 455150E 242438N

Pushchairs/Prams	No
Young Children	Yes
Wheelchairs	No
Dog Walking-Bins provided	Some
Benches/Seating	No
Picnic Areas	No
Traffic Free	No

1


Turn right out of the pub car park and then right onto Helmdon Road.

2

Walk to end of houses and then turn left over stile and then a second stile. Cross field (aim to right of buildings) and cross stile, keeping hedge to your left and follow to main road.

3

Over stile and cross B4525 and 10 yards to the right enter Stuchbury Manor Farm over cattle grid. Half way along track veer off to the left to stile. Cross field past farm buildings on right and rejoin main track through half gate in far corner of field.



Canada goose

2pts

4


Follow track up hill and turn right through gap in hedge, cross field, turn left at marker and then right at second marker through copse past pond on left and over wooden bridge.

5

Cross field to far corner, through gap and re-cross B 4525 and follow single track road for 100 yards.


6

Turn left through gap, cross field, through gap in hedge and turn right onto bridleway, rejoin Helmdon Road and walk back to pub



Bee

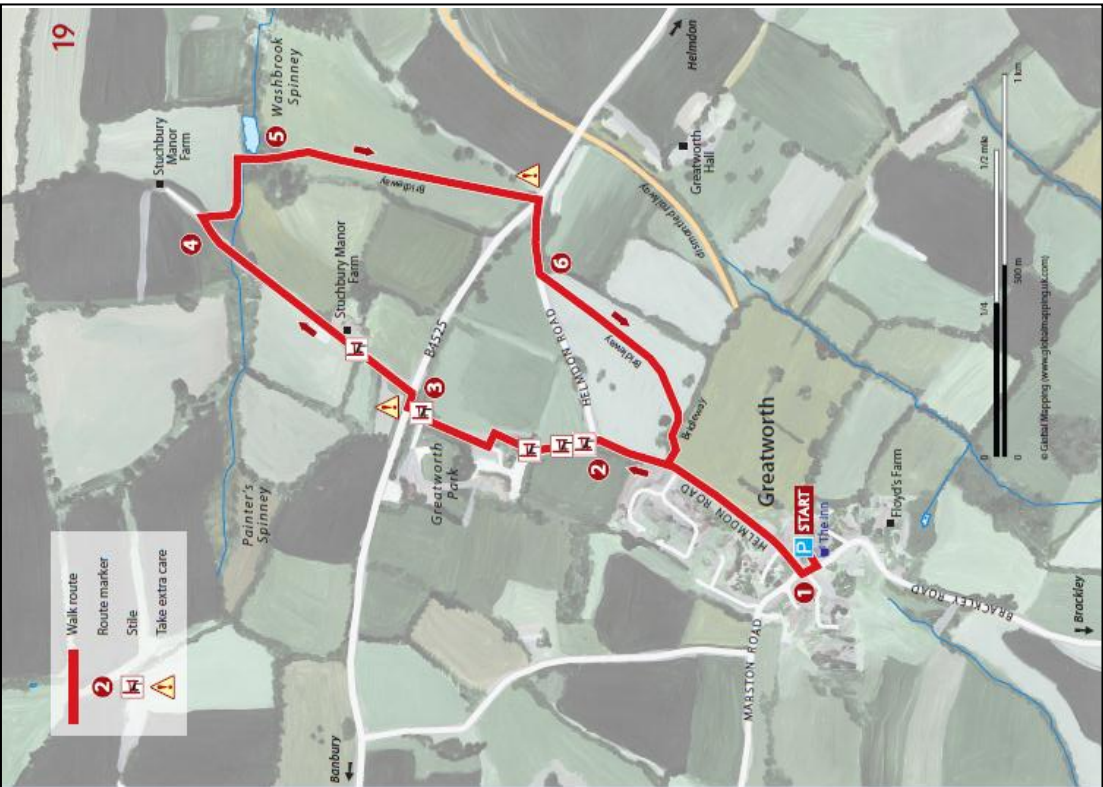
2pts



Woodpecker

5pts

19



11

Appendix 3.2.6 Extract from the Definitive Map and Statement (2010)

To be made available and displayed at the Inquiry