

Continue until you exit wood onto large playing field (12). Follow track (Long Stroops) around left edge of field. Passing the rear of Cedarwood School on your right. On your left, across the field you will see the old Ipswich Isolation Hospital which is now a private residence. Also visible are the old masts which now mark the location of the Suffolk Aviation Museum and visitor centre. After approximately 1 km pass Fentons Wood also on your right. At junction with Bell Lane (13), turn right. Pass Glanville Place and then Penzance Road on your left.

Continue walking. Turn right into Twelve Acre Approach (14). At entrance to Kesgrave Community Centre cross in front of gates and take footpath skirting around the boundary. Take footpath to right (Pilboroughs Walk). Continue. You are now back where you started. I hope you enjoyed your walk.

Places of Interest

Kesgrave Community Centre

The original Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre was built with voluntary labour over several years in the 1950's. The commemorative stone being laid in July 1957. When Grange Farm development commenced in 1989 the Hall had to be demolished to make way for the Ropes Drive (West) access road. The present superior Community Centre was officially opened by Mrs L D Rope on 19th May 1990 and now includes a conference centre and sports centre including tennis and cricket clubs.

Bell Public House

Founded at the same time as the Church, by monks from Butley Priory, as a 'hospital rest house' on the lonely heathland track from Ipswich to Woodbridge.

All Saints Church

The chancel dates back to the 13th Century and nave and porch to the 14th Century. The tower is of mainly 16th Century brick construction. In 1980 to mark the 7th Centenary a south facing extension was constructed with modern facilities and trebling the seating capacity. A new

pipe organ was also installed in the early 1990's. The Church Hall (near the roundabout) was officially opened in 1932 and cost £1,711 to construct.

Kesgrave High School

Opened in 1931 as Kesgrave Area School catering for pupils between the ages of 5-14 years. It later became a Secondary Modern School in 1953 and in the late 1960's a Comprehensive. A large extension was built in 1962 with further expansion of a Sixth Form in 2001.

The Holy Family & St. Michael, Catholic Church

Built in 1931 to commemorate the death of Squadron Leader Michael Rope in the R101 disaster. A model of the airship hangs in the church and some of the R101 is incorporated in the doors. The church was first extended in 1955 and again in 1993.

Grange Farm

The farm was so named by Mr W O Jolly who bought the farm in 1923. Previously the farm was known as Crabbs Farm (1855-1891) and Hall Farm (up to 1923). It remained in the Jolly family until 1989 when farming ceased and the present housing development commenced. The Farmhouse, now a public house, dates back to the 16th Century.

Dobbs Grave

In the south eastern corner of the parish and formerly at a lonely heathland crossroads is a suicide's grave. Dobbs may have been a shepherd at Crabbs Farm early in the 19th Century. There is a story of a ghost, but fact and legend are difficult to separate in the story of Dobbs.

Acknowledgements:

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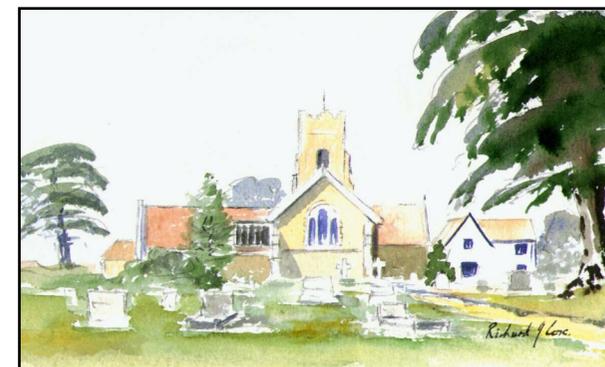


Produced by Kesgrave Town Council



Parish Walks

WALK 1



All Saints Church

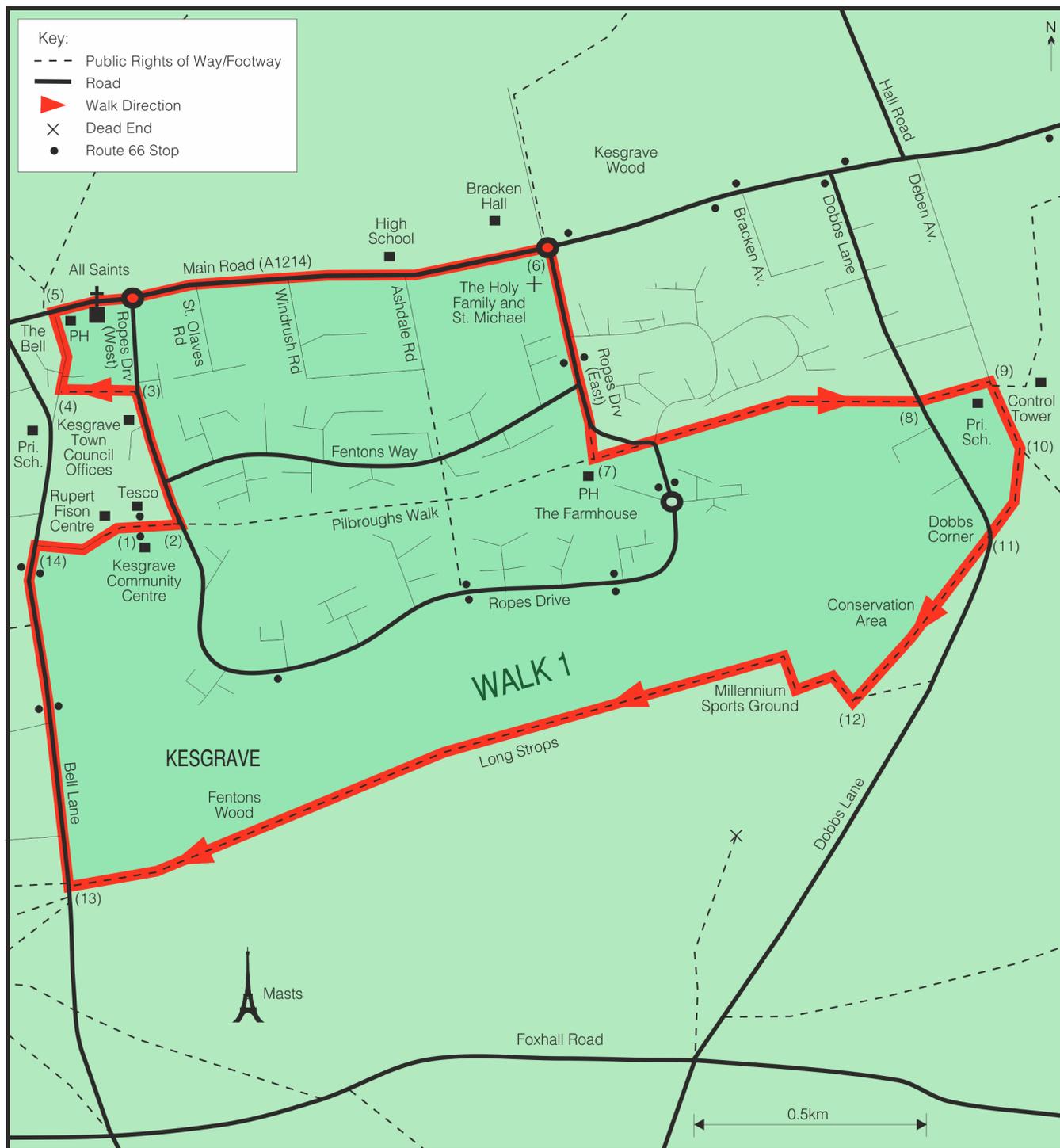
Kesgrave



Suffolk County Council
PARISH PATHS
partnership
A COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION INITIATIVE



GREENWAYS
countryside project



Introduction

This walk takes you around the village of Kesgrave, through built up areas and along bridlepaths, for a distance of about 7 km. Completion of the walk should take 1.5 to 2 hours. Recommended car parking can be found at the Rupert Fison Centre, the Kesgrave Community Centre (1). Access can be gained to the walk using route 66 getting off at 'Kesgrave Community Centre'.

The Walk

Starting at the route 66 bus stop, nearest to the Kesgrave Community Centre (1), continue along the combined footpath/cycle track towards Grange Farm. At the end of the bowls green, just before the library, take the footpath bearing left towards Ropes Drive (West). At junction with road (2) turn left and cross over the guided bus route.

Continue on the footpath crossing the entrance to the Tesco car park. Pass the Kesgrave Town Council Offices on your left. Continue along Legion Green and turn left into Lankester Way (3). At the junction with the road (4) turn right and make your way towards The Bell, Public House.

At the Main Road (5) turn right. Pass All Saints Church on your right. Take the subway under Ropes Drive (West) and on exiting turn left, go up the incline and continue along Main Road. Pass the High School on your left.

Just past the Catholic Church (6), The Holy Family and St. Michael, turn right into Ropes Drive (East). Continue on footpath towards The Farmhouse Public House as road bears left. At the junction with Pilboroughs Way (7) combined footpath/cycle track turn left. Continue along track towards Dobbs Lane. Pass through bollards.

At the junction with Dobbs Lane (8) cross road and continue up cul-de-sac (60-74 Dobbs Lane) with Gorseland School on your right. Go through gap. At the Junction with Deben Avenue (9) turn right and walk towards Martlesham Heath. Passing on your left the Control Tower of what was Martlesham airfield.

At the end of the play area take the track (10) to the right. Keep right on the Sandlings footpath. Pass through the trees. At the corner junction with Dobbs Lane (11) taking care, cross straight over into Dobbs Wood, and follow the footpath sign straight through the wood. You have now entered a conservation area. Walk through the trees, keeping the houses and perimeter fence well to your right.