

## **Sandbach Footpath Group**

### **BRADWALL MANOR WALK.**

**About 3.5 miles, no stile**

**Allow 2 to 2½ hours**

*As with all country walks, some paths are wet, muddy and uneven, so wear strong footwear and have clothing to suit the weather.*

*On narrow country lanes, take care to watch for traffic, and when walking on the road make sure you can see oncoming traffic.*

Starting from the Military Arms near the Commons in Sandbach Town.

With your back to the Military Arms go to the left along Congleton Road, ignoring Newfield Street and Furnival Street on the left until you reach Offley Road on the left.

A new housing estate is being built nearby and, at the time of writing, the right of way footpath has recently re-opened after a period of closure. There are options, A and B, from the junction of Congleton Road and Offley Road. Looking at the plans for the building site both options will continue to be available.

#### **Option A, off Congleton Road**

Continue about 100m further along Congleton Road and then turn left into Claymore Road, which is the entrance to the new estate.

Keep going in the same direction on the left side of the road, ignoring roads to either side and about 250m from Congleton Road, black and white railings appear on the right, then go through a kissing gate into a field.

#### **Option B, off Offley Road**

Turn left into Offley Road and after a few metres, turn right, through a metal gate, and onto a tarmac path.

The school grounds should be on your left. At the end of the school grounds, go through another metal gate and continue in the same direction, with a hedge on your right.

After about 100 metres from the gate, approach another metal gate, but do not go through it on this occasion. Instead turn right to take a path with a hedge on your left and railings on your right. The Rugby Club is a little way over to your left.

The path wriggles along in generally the same direction and at the end go between two brick pillars and turn left, black and white railings appear on the right, then go through a kissing gate into a field.

#### **Both Options**

In the field, the hedge should be on your left and after about 200m, at the next boundary in the field corner, go through a kissing gate and continue straight in the same direction across the next field. In the opposite hedge go through a kissing gate into the fishery, to cross a causeway between two ponds, taking the lower or left hand path to the next kissing gate in the hedge in the hedge.

Through that kissing gate into the next field and take a line slightly left of the previous direction. At the other side of the field go through a kissing gate the field boundary on your left along the edge of the field.

At the end of that field go over a wooden footbridge with a metal gate at each end and into the next field. After the bridge, go very slightly right, heading to the left of an electricity pole beyond a wooden horse jump near the middle of the field, then go on to a line of oak trees. Pass to the left of another wooden horse jump amongst the trees and continue in the same direction to a metal gate in the diagonally opposite field corner.

Through that gate and turn left onto a track. After about 250m, pass the entrance to Bradwall Manor Farm on the left, where the track becomes metalled. Continue on the track until it meets the road, and then turn left along the road. This is Pillar Box Lane and where it meets Bradwall Road, turn left. In about 80m look for a kissing gate on the right, just past the speed limit signs.

Through the kissing gate into a field with a wooden fence on your left. There is an electrified wire just behind the top bar of the fence, so take care not to touch it. About 30m after leaving the road go through another kissing gate into a large field.

After about 100 metres in the large field, go through another kissing gate and continue in the same direction as before with the field boundary on your left. This is a long field about 300m to the end, but about 10m before that turn left through a kissing gate into another field.

Continue with the hedge on your left and then after about 150m, go through another kissing gate adjacent to a farm gate. Just after that the path wiggles left, then right, but continues in the same direction as before.

The path drops height very slightly and you should see a post with the yellow Cheshire East marker arrow pointing right to a big double metal farm gate. Go through a little gate or a gap to the left of the double gate and then onto Cookesmere Lane where you turn left.

Continue along Cookesmere Lane to approach some houses, ignoring a track to the right and follow the road bending left then right. Ignore Queens Drive on the right, Swallow Drive and Sycamore Drive on the left and Belmont Avenue on the right.

At the end of Cookesmere Lane you reach a staggered road junction, to cross Sweettooth Lane onto Bradwall Road to continue in roughly the same direction as before.

Ignore Victoria Street on the right, bear right at a mini roundabout and very soon at another mini roundabout, go left into Malt Kiln Way. Ignore Pavilion Place on the left and at a tee junction, go through a wooden gate slightly to the left and onto a path fenced on both sides.

At the end of the fence continue straight and you should see a green space on your left and houses to your right. The path leads into Green Street and at the end turn left onto Congleton Road to return to the Military Arms.

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