



This map is designed to encourage use of the parish paths which provide a wide variety of walks of different length. You can choose to do a circular route lasting anything from 10 minutes to a couple of hours or much longer linear walks on Devil's Dyke or the Stour Valley Path which will take you all the way to the coast, or explore all 128 miles of the Icknield Way Path, one of the oldest roads in Britain.

The map includes paths outside the parish to facilitate planning longer routes but only paths within the parish are identified by their numbers on the Definitive Footpath Map - the official map which confirms that the public has a legal right of way on the designated footpath. The landowner has a duty not to obstruct the right of way and shares with the County Council a duty to maintain the path so that it is passable.

The paths numbered 26*, 27* and 28* are not on the Definitive Footpath Map as they are the subject of a dispute between the County Council and the landowner. They are shown here because they are available for use while the landowner's appeal against their status as rights of way is pending, but you will not find them on Ordnance Survey maps at present.

The Parish

The first recorded use of the name Dullingham was around the year 975 AD when it was used to describe a wood in the area. The name comes from Old English and means "Homestead of the Dullingas, the people named after Dulla".

The area had been settled many centuries before by successive waves of invaders from continental Europe, but it seems there is no archaeological evidence of earlier inhabitation in Dullingham itself, or in the other two communities which now form part of the modern village, Cross Green and Dullingham Ley.

Throughout its history Dullingham was an agricultural community and this remained true well into the 20th century; in the recent past the equine industry has become very important and there are now several studs in the parish which are a source of local employment as are the businesses which provide services to the studs. About a third of the employed residents work in the parish and the rest travel outside to work. Just over 700 people live in the parish today.

While the profile of the community has changed significantly from the traditional rural community, Dullingham retains some of its most important features: the church thrives, we have an active village hall and an excellent primary school, two good pubs, a thriving sports club and a strong sense of community.

The village also retains some of its most important physical features: a sense of openness, with houses set back from the road, and a network of paths which provide easy access to beautiful countryside. Despite the pressure of development and the changes this continues to bring, the parish remains a delightful place to live and work and is much loved by residents.

Landscape

The village lies in a shallow stream valley surrounded by the smooth rolling hills typical of East Cambridgeshire chalkland which traditionally supported mixed stock farming (mostly sheep) and arable farming (mostly cereal and sugar beet).

Most of the chalkland is a landscape of large fields and hedges with relatively few trees; there are however some woods in the parish and the village itself is richly endowed with trees. The traditional field pattern is today further subdivided by stud developments.

Walks

Walks in the village provide plenty of interest with delightful views of open countryside - the traditional settlement pattern has left many valuable open spaces - and some striking architectural features such as our very beautiful 12th century church and a number of extremely interesting domestic buildings some dating from the 16th and 17th centuries, many of which are listed.

Outside the village the footpaths provide a number of striking views and a remarkable variety of wildlife - 13 species of mammals, including a herd of deer, and 62 species of birds (Kingfishers if we include the River Stour just south of the parish boundary!). Seasonal changes and the annual cycle of agriculture and stud activities provide interest throughout the year.

Our footpaths are a wonderful amenity for residents and visiting walkers: walk the paths, enjoy the exercise and rejoice in the fact that we have such variety on our doorstep - and two pubs to visit afterwards!

Countryside Code

- ☐ Keep to the paths at all times
- ☐ Use gates and stiles; do not climb over walls and fences
- ☐ Leave gates as you find them
- ☐ Keep your dog under control - do not let it harass livestock or wildlife
- ☐ Leave nothing but footprints behind you.

Stud Farms

Horses have special needs - they are prone to infections and they can be very skittish. Keep your distance from horses and never feed them.

Acknowledgements

The footpath map is based on early Ordnance Survey maps supplemented by aerial photographs and local knowledge. Ordnance Survey material is reproduced with the kind permission of the Ordnance Survey. The printing of the map was funded by a grant from the Cambridgeshire County Council Parish Paths Partnership scheme.

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