

Sheet 4: Draughton – Hawpike Farm – Berwick East – Draughton

Walk East along Church Lane between the Village Hall (left) and the Church (right). Bear right immediately after the first cattle grid and continue past another cattle grid until the lane turns right at ninety degrees (Haynholme). Here you must continue straight ahead through the wooden farm gate and follow the wall downhill to a metal field gate followed immediately by a stone slab bridge over a beck. Cross this and climb the other side of the hill keeping the fencing to your right and continue roughly ENE to a further field gate. Once through this, continue across the fields keeping the wall to your right until reaching another field gate by a small stream (it may be muddy here).

After passing through this gate, turn slightly to the right to go uphill, diagonally across the field to a wooden stile over a fence (GR 0605 5254). Now turn SE across the field, roughly following the contour and down to the side of Hawpike Farm farm-yard. With the shed to your left, use the gate at the end of the field to reach a farm track. Turn right (S) and uphill along this track, through gates and a stile by a gate (usually locked) for 1 kilometre to reach the remains of Hag Head Laithe (GR 0651 5161), which are on the right, just next to the track.

The line of the footpath around the side of Haw Pike is confusing, with a plethora of stiles and gates that appear to lead nowhere. The following directions should get you where you need to go.

There is a line of four sycamore trees immediately beyond Hag Head Laithe. Bear right across the field from these trees and you will reach a line of three stiles above the gate of a small stone building (waterworks). It does not matter which one you choose the cross (the bottom one is probably easiest). Bear right again across this next field and you will eventually reach a hole in the wall between two weathered gateposts. Go through here.

Chelker Reservoir should now appear on your left. Continue ahead through two metal gates, closely-spaced, one after the other. The field wall should now be kept to your right. Follow the wall until you reach the metal gate in the far corner. Go through this, then turn immediately so that you are facing the direction of the way you came. Just to the right of the gate you should see a stone wall stile. Climb it and turn right along the edge of the field, keeping the wall to your right. Once you have crossed the next wall stile at the end of the field, go straight down the slope to the wooden stile and continue through the young deciduous copse beyond. You quickly reach the access lane for Berwick East. Turn right here and you will see Berwick East Farm directly ahead. Continue along the lane until you reach the corner of the farm building.

When you reach the corner of the farmhouse, turn right along the front of the building, pass through the wooden gate into the trees at the far end, and over the wall stile into the field beyond. From here, walk roughly along the contour line to the metal field gate. If you turn slightly to the left through the gate, you can walk diagonally down to the fence stile and return to Draughton the way you came.