

## Park near the Woodford Village Green. NN14 4HE

1. Head in a SW direction towards the decorative village sign taking either the narrow Pound Lane (once the location of the village pound, and in Victorian times known as Pebble Jetty) or Addington Road and left into Church Green. Head down the hill enjoying the expansive Nene valley beyond the C13 Church. Take a brief detour into the Church, (or visit on your return see 9 below). Turn right at the junction with Church Street.
2. Continue along Church Street, the field on the right is known as Days Close (A) and was the home of Pyel's Manor (a former Lord Mayor of London). Earthworks still exist.
3. Pass through the kissing gate at the end of the road and continue straight ahead up the small incline to the next gate. Follow the footpath around the left-hand side of the field before passing through another kissing gate onto a concrete track.
4. Turn left along the track and continue straight on to the next kissing gate and the entrance to Glebe Farm. Pass through the gate and continue past the working farm with care and onwards for about 450 metres to the next gate, shortly after which is the track bed of the former London and Birmingham (later London and North Western) Railway which ran between Northampton and Peterborough. The service earmarked for closure in a modernisation report in 1959 which was confirmed by Beeching in 1962 finally closing 1964.
5. At this point a detour may be made by crossing straight over the track to a local tea room at Woodford (Top) Mill (T). Alternatively, take a left turn and follow the former track bed, now known as the Greenway, continuing over a steel viaduct (B), known as locally Broadpole bridge which spans the River Nene. Note the avenue of poplar trees to the right.
6. Continue along the Greenway to the second crossing of the River. Woodford Lock is to your left with the adjacent former Mill Pond. Immediately after the bridge take the gate to the left. It is difficult to imagine that until the 1960s there was a large water mill, mill house and barns in this area (C). At the start of the 1900s this was a popular location for the hire of rowing boats for use on the river attracting many people from Kettering especially prior to the opening of Wicksteed Park.
7. Continue along the riverbank for about 500 metres taking the left fork when the path splits. Continue along the gently rising path until the path divides again. The easier gradient is to the left and offers views of the former garden terraces of the St John Mansion demolished in the 1800s.(D) Continue until reaching Church Street. Alternatively taken the right footpath which continues up the hill once again overlooking the terraced areas and also the former house location before turning left onto the former sunken lane. Follow this short route to Church Street.
8. Continue along Church Street. Any of the "right-hand" junctions will return you to your starting point. Note the large "pebble" mounting stone (E) at the junction of Bakers Lane.
9. The unpaved lane to the left just after Bakers Lane is a secondary access to the Churchyard from where a view of the river may be obtained, and Church appreciated from the east.
10. On reaching the village green, refreshments are available at the Dukes Arms adjacent to the green, or at the tea room (G), a short walk along Addington Road at Manor Farm

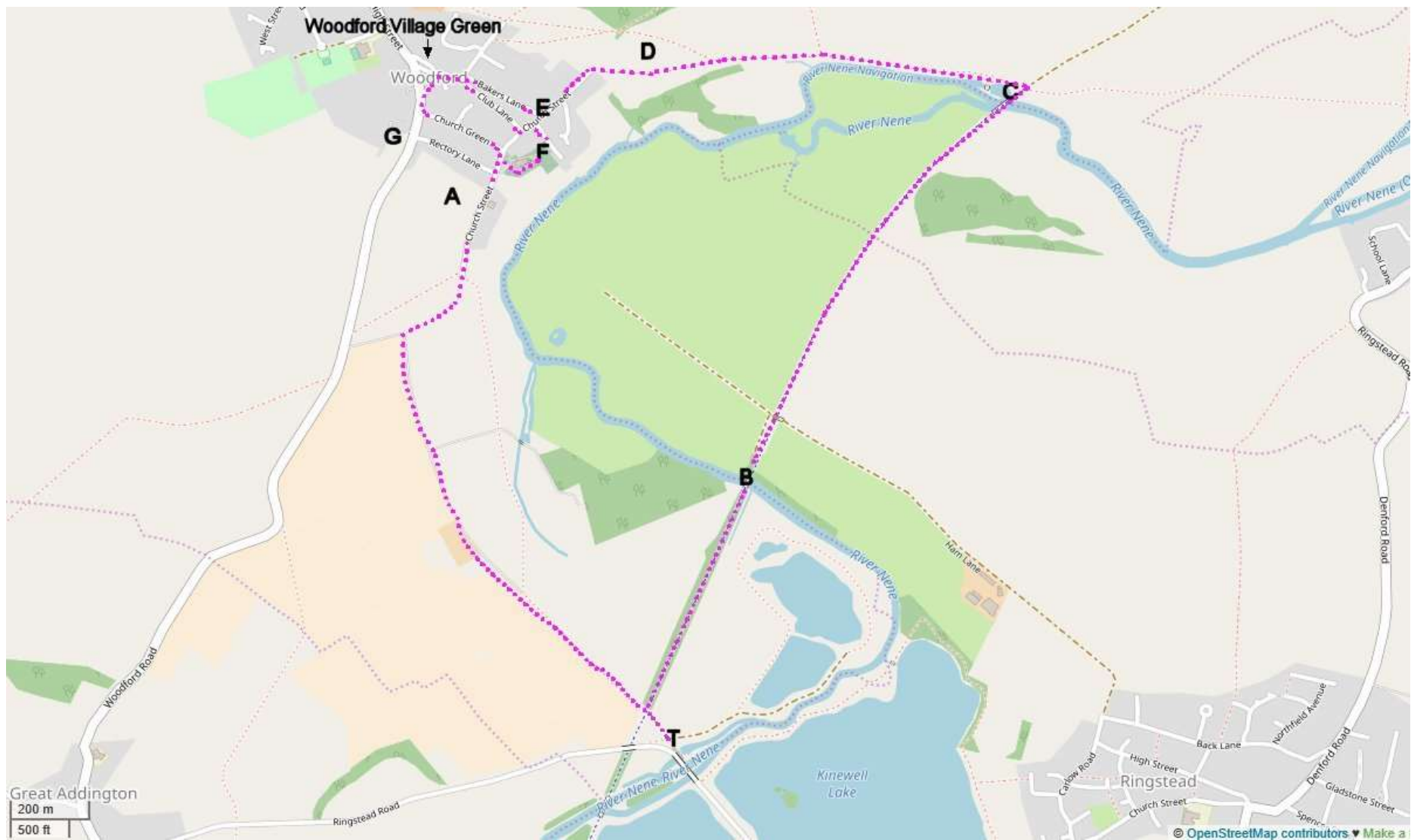
This route from points 1 to 6 is wheelchair friendly, however the rising path mentioned in paragraph 7 would be a challenge due to the incline. A suggested alternative would be to follow paragraphs 1 – 5 before retracing your route.

Total distance approximately 5,500 metres or 3 ½ miles

# walks from Woodford



## The Nene Valley



## The Countryside Code

### Respect other people:

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- leave gates and property as you find them and follow footpaths

### Protect the natural environment:

- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control

### Enjoy the outdoors:

- plan ahead and be prepared
- follow advice and local signs