

VILLAGE WALK AND SOCIAL TEA 3rd MAY

Twelve walkers and two well-trained dogs came on village walk no. 33. Despite the morning's rain the weather cleared to provide wonderful conditions for the 3-mile route. The village walkers had been invited by Langenhoe Hall Estates to view the £22 m solar panel farm that had been generating electricity for the National Grid since March 2015. The village walking group were welcomed by three generations of the Wormell family who each replied honestly to valid questions from the group. These included questions about possible reduction of wildlife in the 67 acres of the solar farm. In reply Mr Stephen Wormell emphasised that modern agricultural methods especially the use of toxic sprays certainly reduces wildlife survival. He sincerely hoped that many ground nesting birds would benefit from the canopy of the panels and would increase in numbers. He continued by stating that he and his staff strictly observe the wildlife breeding season and he ensures that no hedge maintenance is undertaken during this period. The land would continue to be 50% agricultural as sheep will be introduced within twelve months to graze the grass presently growing under the panels.

As usual the parish council sponsored the event and are appreciative of the efforts of all the persons who ensure that this village activity runs smoothly.

Gordon Davis