

Village Walk 40 report

Village walk no. 40 attracted 21 adults and a teenage girl part of the Gibson family who had recently moved from Bury St Edmunds, the walk also received support from a dog called Maple, an off white cockapoo and its owner. The leader was particularly keen for the group to walk this route as it was the subject of being rerouted in favour of the landowner who was prepared to bear the full financial cost of the rerouting. The group drove to Fingringhoe Church where there was unrestricted Sunday afternoon parking and then walked to Ferry Road Corner, north-westerly past Frere Road and at its end continued through the gravel pits to the bridleway parallel with the river and obtained magnificent views of Alresford Ford Cottage and of Brightlingsea Church standing on high ground in the distance, the leader was able to show the walkers part of the new, proposed route, that eventually exited onto the Nature Reserve Road close to 'Jaggers' with its pair of lookalike plastic mute swans on the pond. The walkers continued onto South Green where on an elevated location were able to see the River Colne at high tide which almost surrounds Fingringhoe. The group continued onto Furneaux Lane and down to the Whalebone PH to collect their cars. On arriving back at the A & L hall for the village tea the walkers were given the news that Derek and Ena Ingham had given notice they were no longer able to make the tea because of their ages. A spontaneous round of applause was given to Derek and Ena, Keith and Rosemary from Layer Road undertook to carry out these duties. This was the longest ramble the village group use each year, approx 3 miles, and are rightly proud of their 40th walk achievement. This walk sponsored by the Parish Council had received support from a few ladies of Mersea Island and one Colchester lady.

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