

□ 01473 805575 The Case is Altered, Capel Road, Bentley, IP9 2DW www.thecasepubbentley.co.uk

## Case Walk No.2 Capel St Mary

Walk reviewed: 5/8/19 Text updated: 12/8/19

Note: WP stands for waypoint and the locations indicated as such in the text correspond to waypoints defined for the route entitled Case Walk 2 on the OS Maps web site, see <a href="https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/route/3469861/Case-Walk-2">https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/route/3469861/Case-Walk-2</a>

This walk is approximately 6 miles and runs across fields to reach the underpass to Capel St Mary at the A12. It then skirts around Capel St Mary and returns to the Case is Altered via the same footpath from the underpass. As the walk is essentially a loop around Capel, you could cut it short to return to Bentley at any stage. The route is a mixture of offroad and on-road sections and some of the sections can be quite muddy and some run through long grass.

From the Case is Altered walk Northwards up Case Lane (**WP1**), past the entrance to the playing field and continue on to the footpath and then out into open country. The path soon becomes a track, and across the first field when you reach a footpath junction (**WP2**), carry straight on ignoring the connecting track out to the Capel Road. The path then bends round to the right and crosses a farmyard. Turn left when you reach the old barn, labelled Grove Farm (**WP3**), to head North again onto another public footpath. Note: This section (upto WP4) can be quite muddy. Continue through wooded areas on the track known as Pond Hall Lane ignoring turnings to the left and right marked private. Just before you reach a wooden footbridge over a ditch, turn left (**WP4**) onto a signposted footpath between two ash trees heading West towards the A12. The footpath runs alongside an open drainage ditch then enters more woodland. As it exits the wooded area (**WP5**), bear half left to cross an open field. When you reach the far side of the cultivated field carry straight on across a rough area (**WP6**) of long grass and continue to follow the track along the edge of the field which will eventually lead down a slope to a roundabout on the A12 sliproad at junction 32A (**WP7**).

**Take care at this point** – you need to cross the road and keep to the left hand pavement under the underpass but it's best to turn left at the roundabout and walk to the crossing point marked by a dropped kerb at the bottom of the slip road which leads up to join the A12 Southbound.

After the underpass, bear left after the Jet garage and walk along London Road (**WP8**) with the White Horse pub on your right. Walk to the end of London Road then bear right just before you reach the A12 (**WP9**) following the direction indicated by the road sign that says "Capel Grove only". Keep to the right hand pavement until vegetation makes that impossible then follow the road as it bends sharp right (**WP10**) leaving a residual footpath running ahead alongside the busy A12. This route is labelled as a private road but it is also a public right of way. Follow the road (Red Lane) as it bends left and right but **take care as there is no pavement and visibility is limited**.

As you approach the start of buildings at Capel Grove look out for the end of the field on the left then look for a gap in the hedge on the right hand side. This marks the entrance to a footpath that is virtually hidden from view at first glance (**WP11**). Turn right onto this footpath and then bear left at the signpost (**WP12**) to follow the onward route marked Bridleway. Follow this sheltered path until you emerge into an area of residential housing (**WP13**) continue straight ahead on the pavement (along Cedar's Lane) and turn left when you reach the main road, The Street (**WP14**).

Just before you reach the Pound Lane turning on the left, cross the road and take the path on the right towards the main entrance to St Mary's church (**WP15**). Follow the path past the main church entrance and skirt around the building to the left, pass the new church hall at the rear and exit the church yard via the short flight of steps (**WP16**). Then continue on the path straight ahead. Cross the road and continue on the footpath opposite (as indicated by the yellow, post mounted, footpath marker). Continue in the same direction until you reach the new Saxon Meadows housing development, then turn right onto the footpath that crosses in front of you (**WP17**). Follow this path and eventually emerge onto Days Road and turn left (**WP18**).

Walk North up Days Road and take the signposted footpath on the right (**WP19**) just after the main entrance to Saxon Meadows on the left. **Take care, the footpath upto WP22 can be muddy and slippery**. At the intersection of several footpaths, keep right where a path leads forward on both left and right sides of the hedge in front of you (**WP20**). Then turn to the right and walk along the path to the left of a wire fence edging a field.



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At the next footpath junction, take the path to the left (**WP21**) which then arcs round to the right, then follow it across the open field and continue onto the sheltered path. Eventually emerge at Thorney Road (with a bus stop on your right) and turn left (**WP22**). Follow Thorney Road as it gradually arcs round to the right.

When you reach the main road (The Street), **take care and cross the road at this point** (visibility is very poor as you approach the bend later), turn left (**WP23**) and continue towards the Jet garage using the right hand pavement.

Continue under the underpass (**WP24**) and then re-trace your steps (via **WP25**, **WP26**, & **WP27**) back towards Case Lane and the start of the walk at the Case is Altered.