

# Out and about

This issue's walk starts at Hoe Valley Community Building, next to Woking Leisure Centre in Woking Park, and takes in part of the picturesque Hoe Valley Park, where wildlife-spotting is popular whatever time of the year.

## Key facts

**Start/finish:** Woking Leisure Centre Car Park, Woking Park, off Kingfield Road.

**Distance:** 5 miles (8km).

**Time:** 2.5 hours plus refreshment stops.

**Type of walk:** Suitable for walkers of all abilities, this walk is quite flat and follows part of the Hoe Stream to the south of the Borough. The ground mainly follows public footpaths, which can be muddy after rainfall, although there are some short stretches alongside minor roads. Please note, both unmaded paths and pavements can become slippery during periods of wet or icy weather.

**Transport: By car:** Park in Woking Leisure Centre Car Park, where up to four hours free parking is available.

**By public transport:** Woking is well connected to local towns and villages via the bus and train network. Buses from Woking Railway Station (No. 34) go to Kingfield.

Alternatively, it takes around 15 minutes to walk to Woking Leisure Centre from the south side of the station.

## The route

**1.** With your back to Woking Leisure Centre, walk down the long drive to Kingfield Road and cross at the pedestrian crossing.

**2.** Cross Westfield Avenue and, before the bridge, take the pathway on your left to enter Hoe Valley Park and join the Hoe Stream.

**3.** Follow the pathway passing Chestnut Pond on your right. You can relax here and enjoy spotting some of the local wildlife.



## Hoe Valley Park

The creation of a new, landscaped park was designed to promote mixed ecology and encourage wildlife bio-diversity. It features two new play parks, footpaths and cycleways to increase accessibility to all areas of the park. A variety of wildlife has been encouraged back to the Hoe Valley, through the creation of ponds, meadowlands, bat boxes, habitats for water voles and greater crested newts, as well as the planting of almost 1,000 saplings.

**4.** Continue along the pathway past the new basketball court, bearing right before reaching the bridge. You should now have the flood defence wall on your left. Continue along the pathway,

passing a school on your left, and through the woods along an unmaded footpath until you come to a wider path.



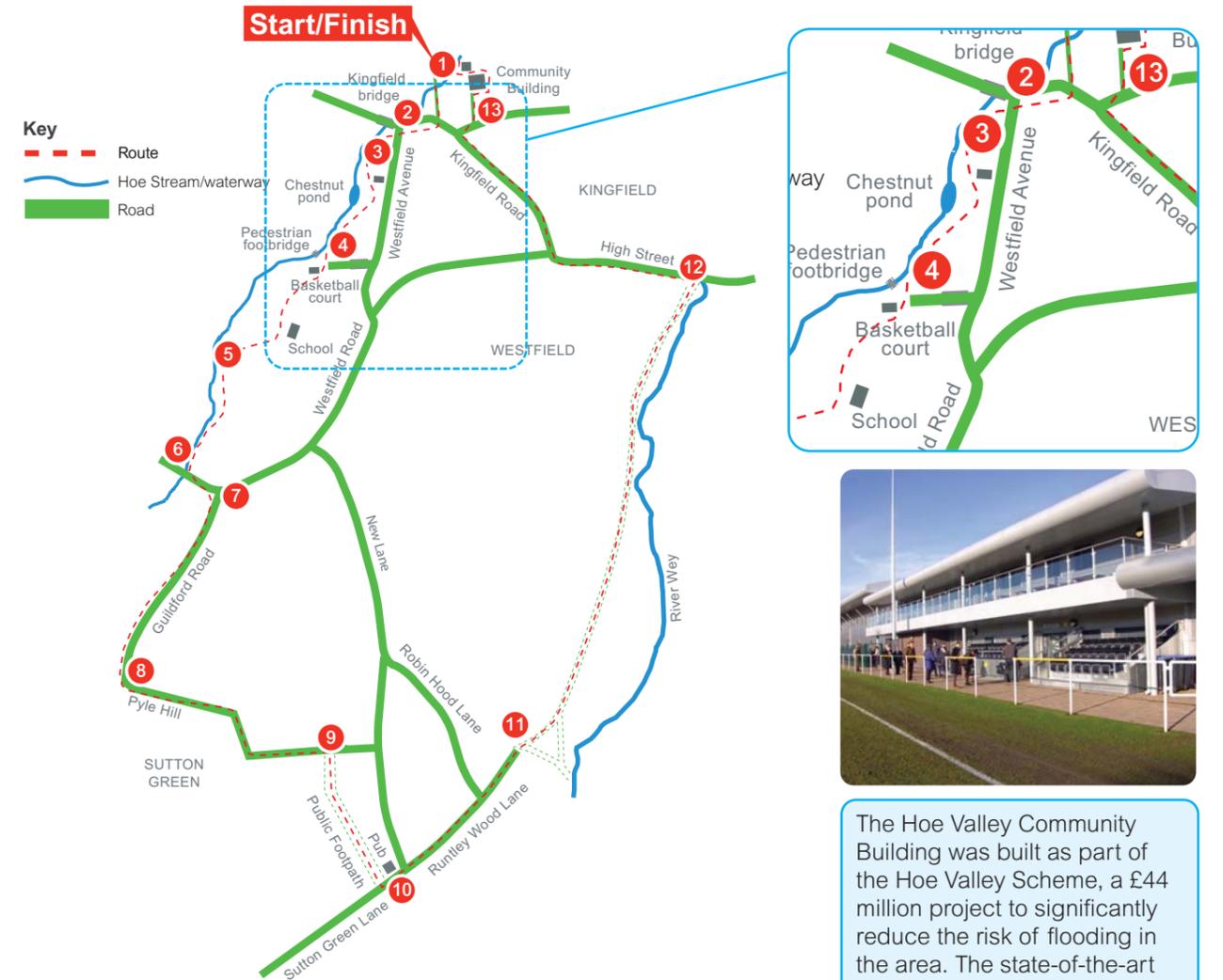
**5.** Turn left and continue through the woods keeping the Hoe Stream on your right.

**6.** At the slight rise at the end of the path, join Guildford Road and turn left along the pavement, passing the Mayford Arms pub.



You can stop here for refreshments or wait until the Olive Tree at Sutton Green, which is a further 1.5 miles away (2.5km), or the freedom café at Woking Leisure Centre at the end of the walk.

**7.** At the mini-roundabout, turn right to remain on the old Guildford Road, keeping to the right-hand side.



**8.** When the road bears sharply right towards the A320, turn left and walk up Pyle Hill.

**9.** Before reaching the end of Pyle Hill, turn right onto a marked public footpath and continue until reaching Sutton Green Lane.

**10.** Turn left, passing the Olive Tree Pub, and continue along Sutton Green Lane and continue along Runtle Wood Lane.

**11.** Join the path at the end of the lane, which will take you past



Runtley Wood on your left before becoming a single track alongside part of the River Wey.

**12.** When the path meets Old Woking High Street, cross with care and turn left along the pavement. At the mini-roundabout, turn right and continue along Kingfield Road.

**13.** Turn right into Elmbridge Lane and take the first left which leads past the new Hoe Valley Community Building and to the end of the walk.



The Hoe Valley Community Building was built as part of the Hoe Valley Scheme, a £44 million project to significantly reduce the risk of flooding in the area. The state-of-the-art community building provides a permanent home for nine local community groups and was specifically adapted to suit the needs of each group. The purpose-built, highly energy efficient building benefits from:

- a low maintenance 'living' roof, providing a habitat for local wildlife
- roof-lights, sun-pipes and light-wells that serve to bring natural light into the building
- being powered and heated using sustainable technologies.

If you have a favourite walk you would like to share with other local people, please contact [editor@woking.gov.uk](mailto:editor@woking.gov.uk)

Did you enjoy the walk? Tweet us [@wokingcouncil](https://twitter.com/wokingcouncil)