

The Chet River Circular – Platinum Jubilee Trail 2023 (Loddon and Chedgrave)

Background

2022 marked the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. To commemorate this historic milestone a series of events and initiatives were held throughout Norfolk to celebrate the occasion and leave an enduring legacy for our county.

When the ideas of how to commemorate Her Majesty's Jubilee were being considered, the idea of a series of Jubilee Trails was felt to be hugely positive, combining many of the elements identified as important in the Jubilee celebrations:

- accessibility to the natural world
- encouraging exercise and outdoor experience
- potential education and well-being benefits
- and a strong environmental message

The aim was to try and create trails which were within reach from all over Norfolk, where possible, with improved accessibility for all and linked into the existing rights of way network. The trails will be a combination of existing, and in places, improved rights of way, together with new trails which open up parts of Norfolk which previously had no public access. The trails encompass all aspects of wonderful Norfolk from coastal scenery, woodlands, arable, historic, urban and more.

The trail routes have been developed by the Platinum Jubilee Norfolk Committee, supported by advice from Norfolk County Council and the Westacre Estate.

The routes

There are five trails across Norfolk:

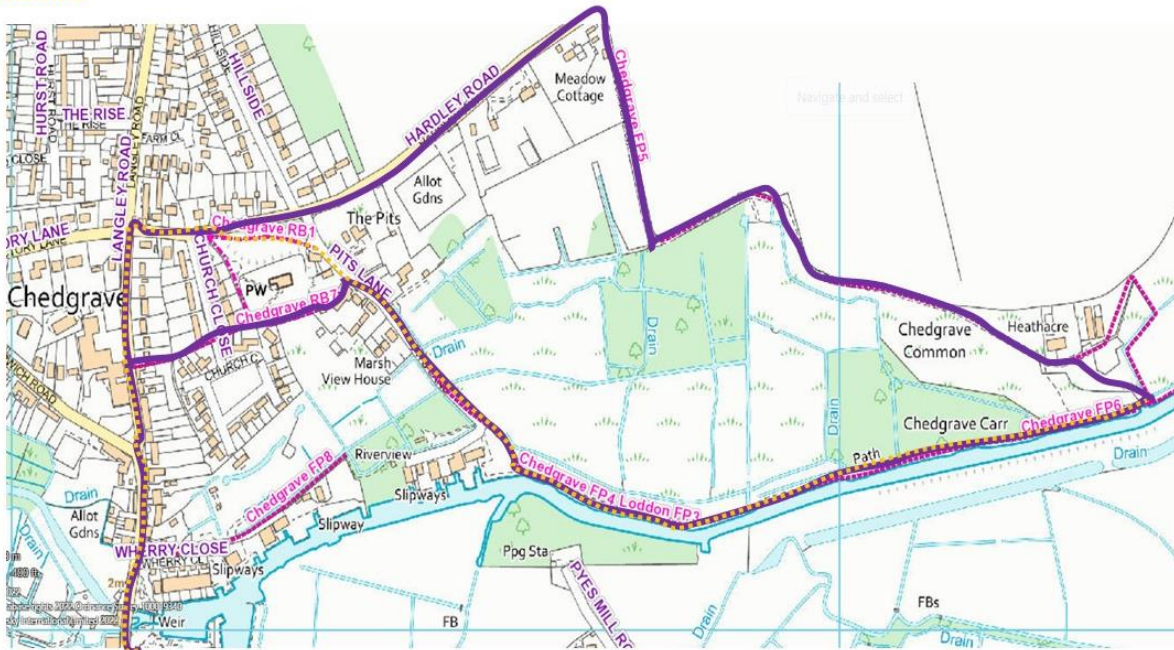
1. **The Elizabeth Way** - Heacham to King's Lynn
2. **The West Acre Way** - Gayton to Castle Acre (including new permissive paths across Westacre Estate)
3. **The Wendling Way** - Dereham to Gressenhall
4. **The Chet River Circular** - Loddon/Chedgrave circular
5. **The Eastern Maritime Way** - Great Yarmouth to Lowestoft (cycling route)

The Chet River Circular

The Chet River Circular picks up much of a suggested 'Access tested' Norfolk Trails walk and links in with The Wherryman's Way. A number of trails in the area were audited for suitability but due to the position of the busy A146, a shorter, more accessible route through Loddon and Chedgrave was opted for. This trail is the only circular Jubilee route and uses existing public highways and rights of way.

The main route starts at the stunning Loddon Staithe, with its weeping willows and beautiful views out along the River Chet. The route incorporates an accessible 'out and back' stretch from the Staithe to Chedgrave, along Pits Lane and then the river path, taking in the beautiful views.

— Main Jubilee Trail
 Accessible stretch



Map of the route from Loddon, around Chedgrave and back to the start

Outputs

An information board will be installed at Loddon Staithe and waymarking discs added to existing finger posts. Where needed, finger posts and waymarkers will be replaced. Route information will also be hosted online at <https://www.platinumjubileenorfolk.org/jubilee-trails/>

Timescales

The team will be aiming to install signage and information boards across all five routes in April. The routes and supporting information should be ready for the public to enjoy by the end of April and will be officially launched after the local elections in May. Detailed information about the routes will be added to the Jubilee Trails website (<https://www.platinumjubileenorfolk.org/jubilee-trails/>) once signage and information boards have been installed.

Funding

The waymarking in Loddon has been funded by South Norfolk Council as their contribution to the Jubilee Trails project. Infrastructure upgrades and waymarking across the wider trails has been funded by Norfolk County Council. Information boards and their installation has been funded by the Platinum Jubilee Committee and their sponsors.

Further information

For further details about the trail, or if you have any questions, please contact: info@platinumjubileenorfolk.org (Platinum Jubilee Norfolk Committee) or norfolkgreenways@norfolk.gov.uk (Norfolk County Council Greenways Team)