

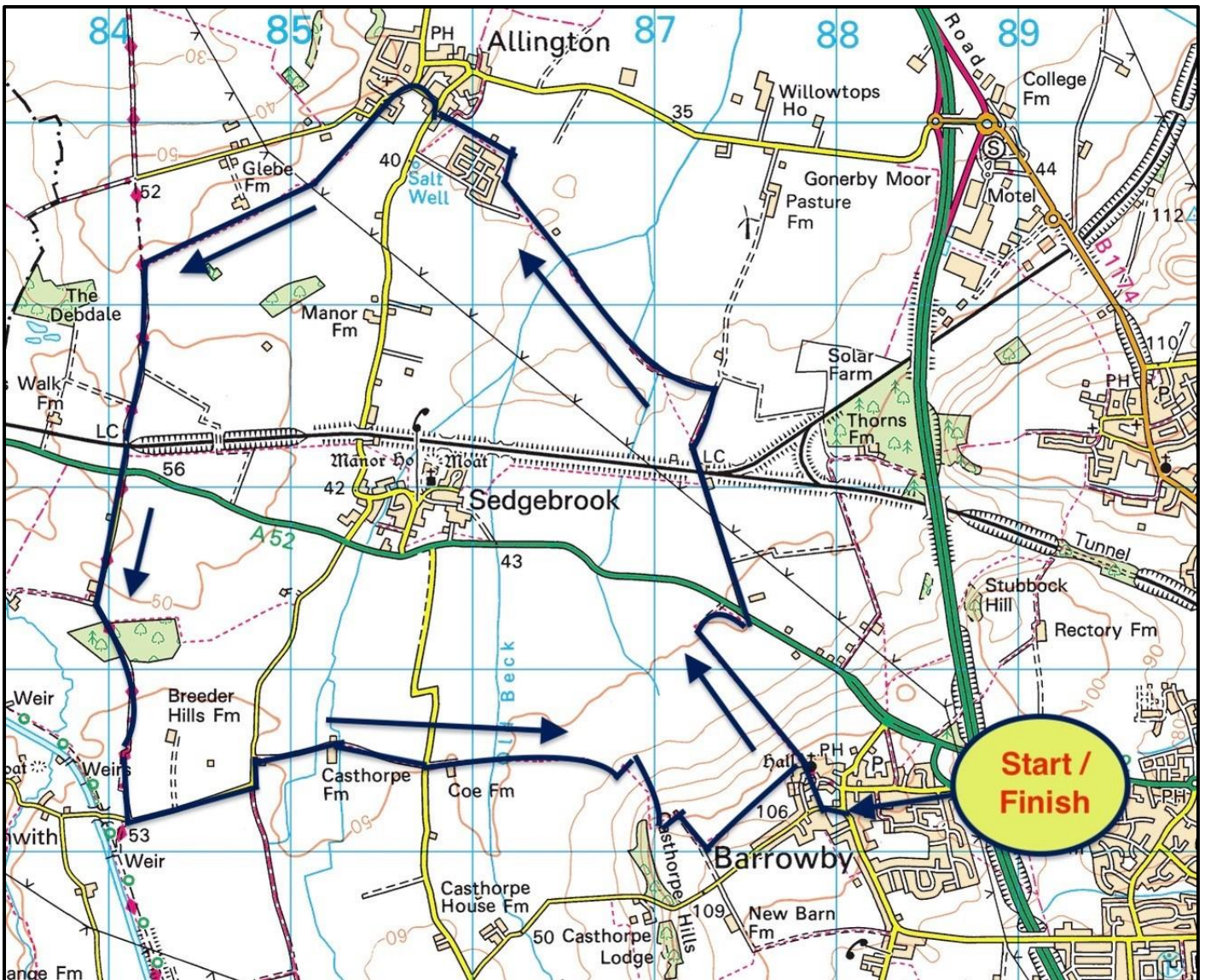
BARROWBY HILL, ALLINGTON AND THE VALE

Suitable for more experienced walkers. Stout footwear required.

Can be very muddy on Sewstern Lane due to quad bikes.

To be avoided after heavy rain.

Distance: 9.7 miles Walk is circular and starts at the Village Green (Stevens Gutter) facing the Butchers.



Start from Steven's Gutter, walk along Casthorpe Road for 100m and turn right along the Posts to the church. Turn left at the church and follow the track round, pausing to look at the view over the Vale of Trent towards Loveden Hill to the north-east – a former Saxon cemetery – and, in good weather, to Lincoln Cathedral beyond. Go over the stile and turn right down the grassed field, close to the hedge on your right-hand side. There is a hidden stile in the corner by the hedge. Go over this and continue down the hill to a stile and dyke via a sleeper bridge. Turn left through a gap in the hedge then immediately right and follow the right-hand field side. Pass through a copse and continue down to the next waymarker and turn right towards the A52.

Immediately before the A52, follow the footpath right at the field edge for 200 yards, then cross the A52 carefully and take the minor lane to the railway. Cross the railway and continue for about 500m until the track deteriorates. Turn left, following the footpath, before the gate to Vale Farm. Note that the waymarker for this path is on the right-hand side. The track crosses a dyke after 400m and a footbridge over the Foston Beck half-a-mile later. Follow the waymarkers straight ahead, passing through a gate in the corner of the next field, over a stream and right along the hedge. Follow the waymarkers around the

static/mobile home park, across a stile through a field and then a stile and gate by a farm. Turn left, then right and you reach the Sedgebrook road. Turn right to Allington.

Continue into Allington round the bend and turn left into Bottesford Lane. There are two seats on Allington Green by the old market cross. Go past the old manor house on your left and church on your right until you reach the village playing field. Go left through the railings and go to a stile at the far left-hand corner of the field. Follow the waymarkers over the fields until you reach the Viking Way (Sewstern Lane). Turn left onto the Viking Way. Note: the lane has been destroyed by motorbikes and quad bike use. Take extreme care, particularly when it is very muddy.

Re-cross the railway line and continue straight onto the A52. Cross the A52 with care and continue along the Viking Way passing through Shipman's Plantation until you come to the Grantham Canal at Stenwith. If you would like to take a rest by the canal turn right. If not, then turn left following the road, as it swings left where the stony Longmoor Lane comes in. Ignore this and 200m further on, just past the restored New Cottages, turn right along the waymarked path through Casthorpe Farm to the Denton/Sedgebrook road.

Cross this road to take the track opposite, through Coe's Farm (see walk 7) and over the Old Beck towards Barrowby church, whose spire you can see in the distance on the ridge. Follow the waymarks – in the second field follow the track left and at the hedge turn right up the hill, keeping the hedge on your right. Go left at the top of the field for 175m (with widening views of the Vale) and at the track turn right to go up the hill. At the top of the hill after 375m, take the path to your left which follows the ridge line. Keep the hedge on your right, over three fields to the stile at the bottom of the track near the church. Turn right on the track, follow it past the church and swing right into Church Street then straight ahead to re-find the Posts jitty back to Steven's Gutter.

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