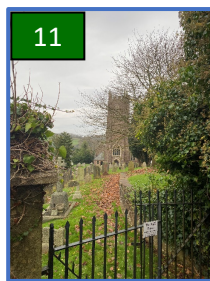


15. Turn left down Westbeare Lane by the allotments and follow the track across a small bridge before winding up toward the cricket ground, with views across the Culm Valley.
16. At the top of the lane you come out onto Kensham Avenue.
17. Walk back along Kensham Avenue and Millway. You will pass the old college building on your right opposite the junction with Millway Gardens. This thatched L shaped house was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> C as a college for local children and is now a private home.
18. You pass the tall garden wall of 'Southview', built around 1840, on your left. Next is the Baptist church on the right, built in 1832 - which makes it three years older than the Guildhall which is where you will now return to.



This walk is one of a series produced in collaboration by Bradninch Together and the Bradninch Town Council. Further details can be found on the 'Bradninch Walks' section of the Bradninch Together website, and on the Town Council's website under 'Walks and Public Footpaths'. The routes and guides were walked and written up by Sue Jackson and David Kennedy. We welcome any comments and suggestions: please send these to the Bradninch Together website via the 'Contact Us' link.

Always keep to and respect The Countryside Code:  
[www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/countryside-code](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/countryside-code)

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Design and additional text by Ms L.Honeybee, 2021.



## Bradninch Circular Walks

### Guildhall / Millway / Paceycombe/ Allotments / Kensham

Distance – 2 miles

Start/Finish Point – Guildhall

Difficulty – 2/5

1. This is a good route to start off your walking adventures as you are never too far from the start point and there is lots of scope to gradually add more to the route.
2. Start at the Guildhall, turn left by the bus shelter and head along Millway, past the Baptist Church.
3. Turn left onto Culver Close. At the end of the road take the footpath that continues down to Parsonage Street.
4. Turn left onto Parsonage Street and up to the junction with Fore Street.
5. Turn left onto Fore Street and cross the road into Hen Street. According to Charles Croslegh's 'A Short Historical Sketch', 1911, 'Hen' refers to an Anglo Saxon word for 'old': the original settlement of Bradninch was off Hen Street.
6. Walking up Hen Street you will see the small water course. This feature is a listed structure and is circa 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century but it is believed earlier structures are beneath this one.

7. You will now be at Paceycombe Farm with the road continuing ahead up to Weeks Cross or right up the hill towards Ash Cross and Trinity. Today, however, we are going to take the gentler slope up the steps on the left, following the footpath sign into the fields above Hen Street.
8. Go through the gate and walk straight up and across the field between two posts with footpath markers on. The fence either side of these posts has been removed so you are left with the strange sight of two posts on their own in the field.
9. You will reach a kissing gate, go through this and there are two tracks to choose. One, to the left, goes back down to Hen Street; on the right our track heads straight on down towards the church. These fields form part of 'Castle Hill' where it was believed a Norman castle was built after 1066. The area was surveyed by AC Archaeology from Exeter in 2017; sadly, there was no trace of any remains.
10. At the bottom of the hill you reach the lower wall surrounding St Disen's church. St Disen's was built in the late 15<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. The tower dates to 1437; much of the church was restored in 1806 and again in 1841, 1881 and 1889. There is evidence of an earlier structure with 13<sup>th</sup> century masonry in the Chancel and the two screens date to the 15<sup>th</sup> century.
11. Keep following the path around the church wall and up a slope to a metal gate at New Haven. At the end of this lane you reach Beacon Road. Turn left and walk back down to Fore Street and the Guildhall where you started.
12. If you feel like some more exercise, walk back down Millway, past the turning for Millway Gardens and you will see a footpath sign off to the right to the cemetery. Follow this lane past down to a gate.
13. Follow the path round the edge of the field down to the gate down to the Charwell Wetlands. There is an information board just inside the gate if you want to stop for a look and a short boardwalk to the middle.
14. Once you have finished with the wetland head up the track to Hele Road. You can turn right and head back to the Guildhall or turn left and follow Hele Road to the bus stop at the bottom of Westfield by the allotments. This was painted by three local artists in 2020 during the lockdown.

