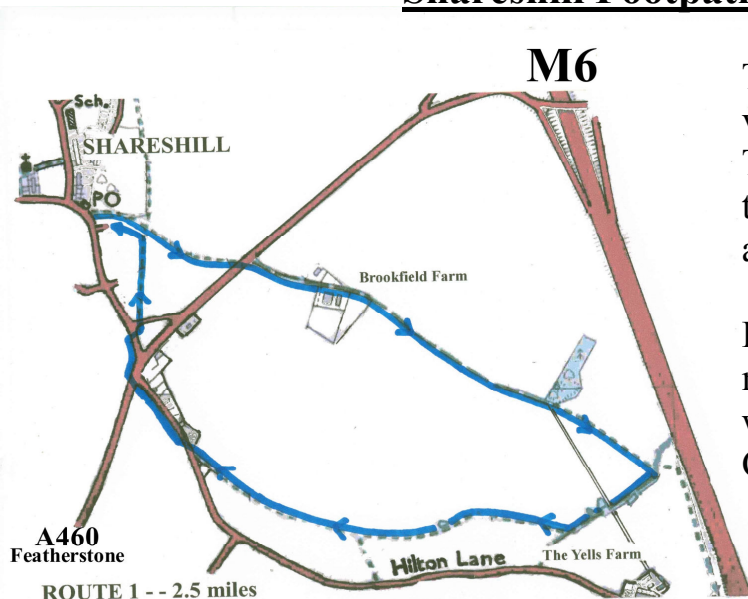


Shareshill Footpaths Route 1



There are many footpaths in the vicinity of Shareshill. These routes all start and finish at the village Post Office, also known as the *Community Shop*.

Route 1 is the shortest walk, 2½ miles, but offers extensive views which extend from the Wrekin to Cannock Chase.

From Post Office to Cannock Road (see map on right)

Climb over stile in fence by Post Office and walk down the field with large wall on right. At the end of the wall continue in same direction ignoring first stile on right, and turn right over second stile in fence.

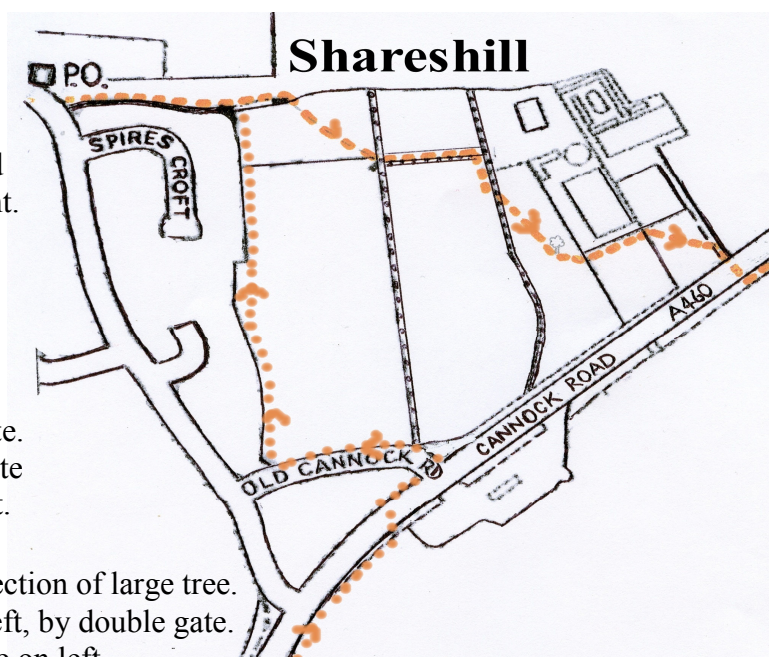
Immediately turn 45° to left and head for double gate. Go through gate and continue ahead along fenced path towards double gate. Just before reaching the gate, go through gate on right and continue with log fence on left.

In about 20 yards, go over stile in log fence and head 45° right across small field in direction of large tree.

Go past the tree, look for stile in fence on left, by double gate.

Go over stile and continue ahead with hedge on left.

Go through double gate, turn right and head across open ground to security gate which leads onto Cannock Rd. (A460) Note instructions by gate to press button to open it.



From Cannock Road to Post Office, via Brookfield Farm (See map on next page)

Cross the busy Cannock Road (A460) with extreme caution, and head up the drive opposite which is the entrance to Brookfield Farm. Pass the large fishing pool on left and continue to the end of the drive. Ahead is a large double gate, which is the official route through the farmyard. **If this route is barred by farm materials and equipment, go through the small wooden gate to the right which leads through the stable yard.**

At the end of the stables go left of the building ahead up to a small wooden gate into a field. Continue up the field with large indoor arena building on the right, to second gate.



Go through gate and continue ahead with hedge on left. In a few yards the hedge goes left, but the path continues ahead, slightly right up the hill. Aim for top of large tree on the brow of the hill until the path joins a wide farm track.

This area may be cropped. If this is the case, turn right immediately after going through gate and follow cropped field perimeter down to wide farm track. Turn left on track and continue up to the brow of the hill.

Enjoy the panoramic views from this vantage point. The views extend from Cannock Chase tower to the Wrekin, and across pretty meadows to Hilton Lane. Continue down the hill on the farm track towards a copse on left. After passing green containers on left, leave the farm track which forks 45% right, and continue in same direction across a field. Aim for stile in fence ahead.

If the path is obscured by crops, continue along wide farm track to the tree line ahead. At the crossroads of paths turn right into tree-lined lane and go to Continue below.

On reaching stile, continue in same direction to a second stile about 100 yards ahead on tree line. Go over stile and immediately turn right and continue along overgrown tree lined lane.

This is Holly Bush Lane, a well used lane in the early 1900's from Holly Bush Farm to Hilton Lane. It was made redundant by the motorway built across it.

Continue along this derelict lane, crossing the farm track from the green containers. Pass two small pools and two double gates on right. Where the lane is fenced off, turn right through double gate and continue along the hedge which is now on left. On reaching old redundant stile on left, turn right and walk down field. Ahead is an electric fence. Head for the middle of fence, marked by three white poles. At this point it is possible to lift the top wire with an insulated handle and step over the lower wire.

Replace the insulated handle to complete the electric circuit.

Continue slightly left down the field to stile in hedge, situated to right of large tree .Go over stile and cross small bridge over stream. The path continues to the left of small copse of trees about 100yards ahead.

At this point tree lined Hilton Lane is approx. 100yards to left. Continue ahead, walking parallel to Hilton Lane for about 400yards until you reach a wide farm track.

At this stage you should be able to see the white buildings 200 yards ahead, possibly a few coaches, and the red containers situated in the coach yard. This is the point where the path reaches Hilton Lane.

Walk directly across the field to the coach yard fence. Go over stile in fence, down a few steps, turn right along a narrow passage at rear of Coach Co. offices, to a wooden gate. Open gate towards you and continue down the private resident's drive to Hilton Lane. Please close gate.

Walk down Hilton Lane to the Cannock Road, turn right and walk down to barrier crossing. Cross road and turn up Old Cannock Road to stile on right. Go over stile and follow path ahead with fence on left. After approx 200 yards go over stile (if overgrown walk down field and return over stile used at beginning of walk), turn left and return to Post Office.