

### **Circular Walk to Bluecoates – Cuddy House (c. 4.5km) & Bluecoates-Flaxton (c. 6.5km)**

From the village hall in Thornton-le-Clay walk towards Foston. Take the first right along a metalled road signposted Bluecoates. Just before reaching the farmyard follow the footpath sign to the right taking the diagonal well-defined grass track across the field, heading for a gap in the hedge. Turn right, keeping the hedge on the right of you until you reach the corner of the hedge. Here the footpath is marked both left & right. Take the lefthand path until you reach the railway line. Taking care, cross the railway line, through the gate into the field & immediately turn right keeping the railway line on your right. After 200m you will see a footpath sign pointing left. Take this well-defined path across the field until you reach the end of a stone track. Turn right onto the track & walk along it until you reach a metal field gate. Keep dogs close to you as there are nesting birds in this area. You can either go right heading back to the start (A) or carry on straight ahead into Flaxton & back to the start(B).

- (A) Do not go through the metal gate, but turn right, keeping the hedge on your left, along a track. Go past the first separation of fields on your right & at the second turn right along a grassy raised area between the fields. This is not a track & is uneven to walk on. At the end, in the hedge opposite you there is a stile. Cross this & take a diagonal left across the field – sometimes a defined track can be seen. Head for the stile in the fence, leading onto the railway line. Cross the railway line taking care & climb the steps at the other side. At the top of the steps is a metal fence & gate. This gate opens in a ‘v’ shape, wider at the top than the bottom & is pulled apart using the handles. Go through this, taking care to close it, through the paddock, to another similar gate in the fence. Again, take care to close this. Once through this second gate, head for the lefthand hedge. Take care underfoot as the corner is used for a muck heap & can be very soft. Walk along the track keeping the hedge on your left. On reaching a track, turn left out onto the road. Turn right along the road, back to Thornton-le-Clay.
- (B) Go through the metal gate onto a tarmac road & walk straight ahead. After about one mile you will reach the main road in Flaxton. Turn right, over the railway line & first right back to Thornton-le-Clay.