

The Flitch Way follows the former Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree branch line and stretches from Start Hill through to Braintree. It passes through Takeley, Great Dunmow, Felsted and Rayne.

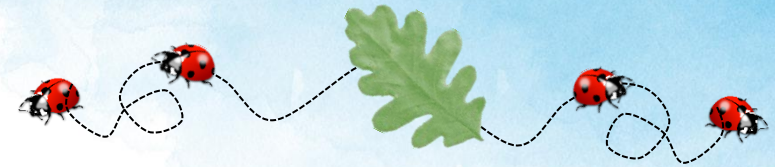
Much of the attraction lies in the history of the single track railway line opened around 1869 by the Great Eastern Railway Company. It amalgamated with the London & North Eastern Railway in 1923 until 1<sup>st</sup> January 1948 with the nationalisation of the railways to become British Railways, Eastern Region. The passenger service closed in 1952 and the freight service in 1969.

Although parts of the railway line were sold off, the remaining track provided 15 miles of mainly hard surfaced traffic free path and is a safe route for walkers and cyclists of all ages, forming part of the National Cycle Network route 16. Much of the route can be used by horse riders. The name "Flitch Way" originated from the Flitch Ceremony in Little Dunmow whereby "couples who could prove that they had not argued in marriage after a year and a day" would be awarded a flitch or side of bacon.

This wildlife trail was created by Essex County Council Rangers and The Friends of the Flitch Way.

For more information about country parks or volunteering on the Flitch Way please visit

[www.visitparks.co.uk](http://www.visitparks.co.uk) or [www.friends-of-the-flitch-way.org.uk](http://www.friends-of-the-flitch-way.org.uk).



## The Flitch Way Wildlife Trail

The Flitch Way provides a green corridor with a host of natural wildlife. Some verges are managed for wild flowers and trees are cut to allow light to reach the ground. Other areas are wooded and shady. There are benches, and lots of sights, sounds and smells to experience. Throughout the year, there is plenty of wildlife to look out for along the Flitch Way, including butterflies, dragonflies, and lots of flowers. You will hear and see many birds including woodpeckers, robins, blue tits and if you are lucky you may see a kestrel or buzzard.

The wildlife trail starts at Rayne Station and goes towards Felsted, and is approximately 4 kilometres starting and finishing at Rayne Station.

You are looking for ten different marker posts, each with a photo of either a bird, tree, flower or insect. These species can be found along the Flitch Way. Look inside and try to answer each question before you reach each marker post. Write your answer in the space provided. The number corresponds to the number on the marker.



The Flitch Way

01376 347 134

[www.visitparks.co.uk](http://www.visitparks.co.uk)



Essex County Council

1 I am a woodland flower  
I am blue  
My flower is the shape of a bell  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

2 I have feathers  
I am often seen hovering beside roadside verges  
My name begins with a K  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

3 I have two pairs of wings  
I am born in a pond  
Part of my name is the same name of a mythical creature  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

4 I am deciduous tree  
I can live for around eight hundred years.  
I produce acorns  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

5 I am deciduous tree  
My seed is sometimes called a 'helicopter' or 'spinning jenny'  
My leaf features on the Canadian flag  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

6 I used to be a caterpillar  
I am found mainly in woodlands  
I have speckles on my wings  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

7 I have six legs  
I am yellow, black and white  
I have a 'bumbling' flight  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

8 I appear in Autumn  
I am a berry  
Picking my fruit is often called 'brambling'  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

9 I like to cling to the sides of trees  
I peck holes in wood  
I am black, white and red  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---

10 I can fly  
I am brightly coloured  
Part of my name is also the name of a bird  
What am I? \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

---