

## ***From Sparcells tunnel to Swindon Lagoons North East Gate***

the pastoral responsibility of Holy Trinity Shaw,  
our parish neighbours being St Mary's Rodbourne Cheney



At [SU121867] south of the Sparcells tunnel under the railway, there is nothing marking the boundary here. The boundary heads south east from here. It used to follow the river Ray on the other side of the railway and was moved to the railway line in 1990. We turned left (south east) through the woods with no evident path and following within visible range of the railway's southern boundary fence. A more suitable permissive footpath heads round the bottom of the hill a little to the south and west of our chosen line, this would be an easier walk.

At the gateway next to the flare stack at Shaw Tip [SU1238650] there is nothing specifically marking the boundary. By prior arrangement, we went south east along the track next to the railway fence across the north side of the closed section of Shaw Tip. There is no public access here. The roadway is wide, and local knowledge suggests the parish boundary comes inside the tip site a few metres from the railway fence, the old line of the bottom of the railway embankment before the railway was single-tracked in 1968. There is nothing to mark the line of the boundary here.



At [SU128861] the Swindon Lagoons north east gate the parish boundary turns and heads south up stream of the River Ray, and after a few metres follows a meandering line across the Thames Water's Barnfield Waste Water Treatment Facility. Local opinion is that it follows the old line of the River Ray before it was canalised round the expanded Barnfield site in 1943. There is no public access here and there is nothing to mark the boundary. It is unlikely that there is anything to mark the boundary across the Barnfield site as it has been subject to significant development. We saw a kingfisher here.



Pastoral responsibility changes here, from Holy Trinity Shaw to Westlea  
Our parish neighbours change here, from St Mary's Rodbourne Cheney to St Augustine's Church, Even Swindon

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