## Route Risk Assessment for 2026 Essex Walker Challenge Event

- **Long Route**.

**Event Date:** 25th October 2026

**Start and Finish:** Blackmore Village Hall, Nine Ashes Road, Blackmore, Chelmsford CM4 0QW

**Distance:** 26.2 miles

**Overview**

**Type of Event**

The intention is to run Essex Walker on 25/10/26 and this assessment covers the route only. The Entry Form and information on sientries will make clear the type of event offered. Participants will follow the route using a route description and both paper and gpx versions will be available. They will be advised to wear suitable clothing, bring a torch as they may finish after dark, carry sufficient food and drink, mobile phone, and first aid kit. Each entrant participates at their own risk, and must obey the event rules and the country code.

**Risk Assessment of Route**

The route is figure of eight. There has been a risk assessment made of the route. This has been thoroughly checked and a further final check will be carried out prior to the event. The route description will enable the walker to navigate round the route. The major part is on footpaths and bridleways which are joined up by some unavoidable road sections. At roads where crossing is required the route description gives warnings to take extra care.

**Risk to Landowners**

The main concern is accidental trespass as the route is cross country and follows rights of way. These are mostly marked and well equipped with infrastructure such as stiles, bridges and waymarkers that help keep walkers on track. The walkers will have the written route description, which has been checked for accuracy (GPX also available).

Refer to route description and map.

| Paragraph No | Grid Ref | Potential Hazards | Risk Level | Safety Measures in place | Risk Level |
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| Through - out the route | | Rough & uneven ground. Footbridges may be slippery when wet. | Low | Caution to be taken through-out. | Low |

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| Through - out the route | | Exposure to the elements during adverse weather. De-hydration/hypothermia | Low | Entrants to be reminded to wear appropriate clothing and footwear, and carry sufficient food and drink. | Low |
| Through – out the route | | Getting lost or becoming disorientated. Sustaining an injury or illness. | Low | Entrants advised to take a charged mobile phone, torch, and a first aid kit. gpx file available. Emergency number printed on each page of route description. | Low |
| 1 | TL 60546 01820 | Blackmore road | low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 1 | TL 63859 01184 | Fryerning Lane Short stretch of Road Walking | low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 2 | TL 64641 02403 | Fryerning Lane Short stretch of Road Walking | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 2 | TL 66242 04060 | Nathans Lane 800m stretch of Road Walking | Low | Caution and face oncoming traffic | Low |
| 2 | TL 64281 04133 | Crossing Highwood Rd Short stretch of Road Walking | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 2 | TL 63939 03938 | Crossing Highwood Rd | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 3 | TL 63509 02925 | Crossing Ingatestone Rd Short stretch of Road Walking | Low | Cross road with care. Noted In RD | Low |
| 5 | TL 62681 02857 | Crossing Blackmore Rd | Low | Cross road with care. Noted In RD | Low |
| 5 | TL 61182 02768 | Spring Lane Short stretch of Road Walking. | Low | Cross road with care. Noted In RD | Low |
| 5 | TL 60576 02712 | Short stretch of Road Walking Fingrith Hall Lane | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 6 | TL 59992 01676 | Crossing Blackmore Rd | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |

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| 6 | TL 60482 01120 | Short stretch of road walking | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 6 | TL 60319 00005 | Short stretch of road walking Hay Green Lane | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 7 | TQ 60034 99143 | Whatt's Green 400m of busy Rd. | Med | Use grass verge and face oncoming traffic. | Med |
| 7 | TQ 60411 98827 | Emblems Rd 200m of road walking | Low | Cross road with care and face oncoming traffic. Noted in RD. | Low |
| 7 | TQ 62234 97416 | Short stretch of busy road | Med | Cross road with care and face oncoming traffic. Noted in RD | Med |
| 8 | TQ 62992 97920 | Road Crossing | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 8 | TQ 63625 98854 | Road Crossing | Low | Cross road with care. Noted in RD | Low |
| 9 | TQ 63815 99910 | Short stretch of walking on rural road | Low | Caution and face oncoming traffic. Noted in RD | Low |
| 9 | TL 63185 00109 | 250m of road walking | Low | Caution and face oncoming traffic. RD noted | Low |
| 9 | TL 63104 01096 | 1km of road walking | Low | Caution and face oncoming traffic | Low |
| 10 | TL 61849 00965 | 1k stretch of walking on rural road | Low | Caution, and face oncoming traffic. Maybe in dark at end. | Med |
| 10 | TL 60561 01821 | Road Crossing | Low | Cross road with care. RD noted | Low |
| 10 and 11 | TL 60477 01808 | Passing through Blackmore urban area. | Low | Use pavements where possi-ble, avoid crowding and show courtesy towards other people | Low |

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The above risk assessment has been fully discussed with and agreed by the following signatories

Organiser Mike Wheatley

Assessor