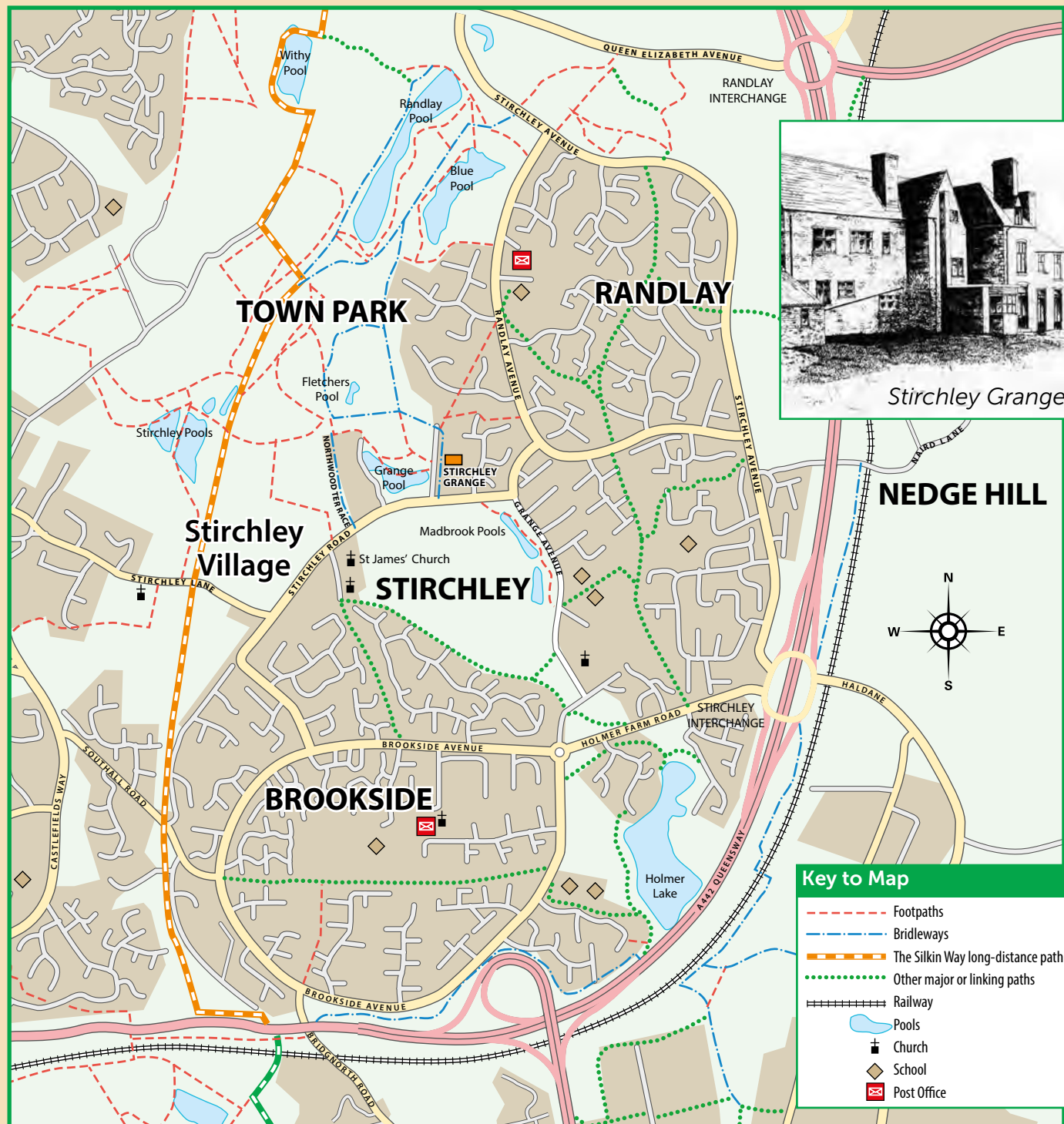


Grange Farm (now Stirchley Grange) and Holmer Farm (demolished in the 1970s), were both held by Buildwas Abbey from the 13th century until Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536. No remains of the medieval Grange buildings survive.

Stirchley Grange farmhouse contains a 17th century brick wing, with vestiges of stone mullioned windows, to which a cross wing of bricks with sandstone quoins was added in the 18th century. The Grange was used as a countryside centre by Telford & Wrekin Council until 2002. It is now private property.

Stirchley Hall farm was also associated with Buildwas Abbey before the Dissolution. The centre of the Hall's south front represents the stone house which was built or remodelled in the 17th century. It incorporates an earlier building, from which the hall ceiling and chimney-stack survive. Later, in the 18th and 19th centuries, additions were made to the north and east end.

The church of St James in old Stirchley village had been built by the 12th century. The ornate chancel arch has a zig-zag Norman decoration. In 1979, during a general restoration, the plaster was removed from the east wall of the nave to reveal small areas of late medieval wall paintings.



On the creation of Central Telford Parish in 1975, St James church became redundant. For access to the interior of the church please contact the phone number given below.

Stirchley remained an agricultural community until the beginning of the 19th century, when coal and ironstone mining, iron founding and brick making were started in the north-west of the parish. Along with the "Great Walls" (the original use for which is unknown), some well hidden furnace ruins and the chimney are all that remain of the industrial buildings. The landmark chimney was built in 1873 by the Wellington Iron and Coal Company, but the furnaces were "blown out" in 1884. In 1886 the Wrekin Chemical Company took over the site to produce industrial chemicals until 1932.

The terraced cottages of Northwood Terrace were built for the clerks of the Old Hall Company in 1813. These reminders of Stirchley's industrial past are now surrounded by the Town Park of Telford, part of which has been declared a Local Nature Reserve.

Stirchley and Brooskide Parish now contains much of the wilder southern end of the Town Park, encompassing much regenerating woodland and several ponds, all rich in wildlife.

## South Telford Rights of Way Partnership

Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council [PC] is a partner in STROWP, a project set up to define and improve access to Public Rights of Way in certain parishes in South Telford. The other partners are Madeley Town Council and Telford & Wrekin Council.

Wherever relevant, waymark disks are used to signify direction - a yellow arrow for footpaths and a blue arrow for bridleways.



Serving  
Cuckoo Oak,  
Madeley & Woodside



For any further information please contact:

Alec Connah, STROWP Project Officer  
c/o The Sambrook Centre,  
Grange Avenue, Stirchley,  
Telford, TF3 1FL  
Tel: 01952 567149

# ROUTES AROUND

# Stirchley & Brookside



*Holmer Lake*