

## Swannington Heritage Trust - Site Access Statements

Everyone is welcome at all of our sites whenever they wish to visit. These access statements will hopefully help you plan your visit. Young children in buggies, elderly people with walking frames and disabled people are especially welcome, but need to be aware that a rugged industrial heritage site and a 200 year old windmill will impose some limitations that we cannot eliminate.

### 1 Hough Mill / Gorse Field / Califat Spinney – Mill Open

#### 1.1 Hough Mill

- 1.1.1 Visitors can drive along the track from St. George's Hill to Hough Mill and can usually park within 30-50 metres of the mill. Vehicles should not exceed 10mph along the access track and be aware that children may be hidden by trees and shrubs.
- 1.1.2 Visitors with minibuses and other high vehicles need to notify the Trust in advance, so that the height restriction bar at the St. George's Hill entrance can be removed.
- 1.1.3 Hough Mill is more than 200 years old and the upper floors are accessed by steep stairs. Visitors who are unable to leave their wheelchair will thus be restricted to the ground floor plus the Neaverson Centre and Jerry Leakins which are single story buildings.
- 1.1.4 There is a disabled toilet in the Jerry Leakins for the convenience of all visitors. The site does not have a mains water supply, so rainwater harvesting is used to supply water for washing hands and flushing the toilet. This water is not suitable for drinking.
- 1.1.5 The cabinet in the toilet is a suitable size to be used when changing a baby.
- 1.1.6 There are two picnic tables in the mill compound.
- 1.1.7 Buggies and wheelchairs may be left outside any of the buildings or in the Neaverson Centre in inclement weather. This is at the owner's risk.
- 1.1.8 Parents are responsible for supervising their children, especially on the stairs and near machines.
- 1.1.9 The Mill Guide has a card which lists a range of activities specifically for children such as the long armed scales and a grain measuring chest.

#### 1.2 Gorse Field and Califat Spinney

- 1.2.1 These sites are also accessible from the access track when the mill is open.

### 2 Hough Mill / Gorse Field / Califat Spinney – Mill Closed

#### 2.1 All sites

- 2.1.1 The following public footpaths and bridleways provide access to Hough Mill, the Gorse Field and the Califat Spinney at all times from the:
  - East - footpath from the middle of the row of houses on St George's Hill - via 2 stiles.
  - South East - footpath from Limby Hall Lane - all stiles have been replaced by gates.
  - South West - bridleway from Limby Hall Lane - gates
  - North West – footpath from Moor Lane - via 2 stiles.
  - North East – bridle way from Loughborough Road (A512) along Mill Lane - gates
- 2.1.2 Horses are restricted to the bridleway and should not use any other areas.
- 2.1.3 All internal boundaries between the three sites are via gates. The gate between the mill compound and Gorse Field can be opened with a radar key to facilitate wheelchair and mobility scooter access.
- 2.1.4 The Trust sites include several grass paths and open spaces with permitted use from 6am to midnight. These are not public rights of way.
- 2.1.5 There is limited car parking on St. George's Hill and Limby Hall Lane for motorists who consider others.

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### 2.2 Hough Mill

2.2.1 Visitors may access the mill compound outside of opening times. The toilet will not be accessible.

2.2.2 The picnic tables may be used for sitting at any time.

### 2.3 Gorse Field and Califat Spinney

2.3.1 Buggies and wheelchairs should be able to navigate the main paths during most weather conditions, but soft ground following heavy rain may be the exception.

2.3.2 There are ponds near the mill and the Califat, in addition there are several hollows which fill up after heavy rain.

## 3 Swannington Incline and Snibston No 3 Mine Site

### 3.1 Swannington Incline

3.1.1 The length of the Incline in Trust ownership is a permitted path, which with the open space around the former winding engine house, provides permitted use from 6am to midnight. These are not public rights of way.

3.1.2 Visitors should stop at the fence at the bottom of the Incline as the land beyond that is in private ownership.

3.1.3 The Incline comprises more than 750 metres of a 1:17 slope, which may be great going down, but can be a challenge to some people going up.

3.1.4 Horses, motorcycles and bicycles are prohibited.

3.1.5 Access is via a kissing gate at Spring Lane and gates near Church Lane bridge where a public footpath crosses the Incline.

3.1.6 The former winding engine house and workers cottages have been excavated, filled in and topped with bricks to give an idea of the layout of the buildings. Children are most welcome to walk along these as they explore. Especial care should be taken in a couple of areas where the drop is greater than the rest of the complex.

3.1.7 Children are also invited to walk along the old railway track, unless it has been raining as this makes it very slippery.

3.1.8 This site does not have toilet facilities.

3.1.9 The car parking near the site is very limited. The Snibston No 3 parking area is opened for groups on request.

### 3.2 Snibston No 3 Mine Site

3.2.1 There is a public footpath through this site. In addition there is permissive use of the open space which is not a right of way. Permissive use is from 6am to midnight.

3.2.2 Horses, motorcycles and bicycles are prohibited.

3.2.3 Access is via a stile from Spring Lane and a squeeze from the former mining land.

3.2.4 Children are invited to walk along the old railway track, unless it has been raining as this makes it very slippery.

3.2.5 This site does not have toilet facilities.

3.2.6 The car parking near the site is very limited. The on-site parking area is opened for groups on request.

**The Trust is always willing to discuss the specific requirements of any group that has members with disabilities or learning difficulties to help tailor arrangements for their visit.**