

# CABINET

13 JULY 2011

## REPORT OF REGENERATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER

### **A.4 REALLOCATION OF DEFRA COASTAL CHANGE PATHFINDER GRANT**

(Report prepared by Karl Randall)

#### **PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION**

##### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- To review and reallocate DEFRA Coastal Change Pathfinder grant monies.
- To approve the principle and terms of acquisition of four plots in the Brooklands area.

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Council successfully bid for Coastal Change Pathfinder funding in September 2009 and was awarded a grant of £1 million under that initiative. Cabinet agreed at its meeting on 20 January 2010 (minute 121) to allocate this funding to various projects. Whilst the majority of the grant has been defrayed there is an uncommitted balance arising from changes to the projects envisaged in the original bid.

##### **Authority to allocate remaining uncommitted balance of grant**

£333,598 was allocated to Essex County Council for the acquisition of properties in the Brooklands and Grasslands area of Jaywick; however, this programme has been reviewed and stopped, leaving an uncommitted balance of £158,056. In addition, £100,000 of grant, originally allocated for a study to identify opportunities for tourism on the Tendring coast, remains unallocated.

It is proposed that the Acting Regeneration Manager, in consultation with the Regeneration Portfolio Holder and the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, is authorized to allocate this grant money (£258,056) and £50,000 of Council funding for Jaywick in the capital programme, to fund projects in Brooklands and Grasslands, an imperative as Brooklands and Grasslands is now ranked the most deprived area in England (IMD 2010).

##### **Acquisition of plots in Brooklands**

Essex County Council purchased and demolished four dwellings in the Brooklands area under the acquisition programme and has offered to transfer the resultant four cleared plots to the Council for nil consideration for the benefit of the local community, subject to contract and formal decision.

##### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**That Cabinet:**

**(a) Authorizes the Acting Regeneration Manager, in consultation with the**

Regeneration Portfolio Holder and the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, to allocate the remaining uncommitted balance of DEFRA Coastal Change Pathfinder Initiative grant, £258,056, and £50,000 of Council funding to projects in the Brooklands and Grasslands area of Jaywick.

- (b) Considers in principle whether it wishes to accept the transfer of four plots in Brooklands from Essex County Council
- (c) Subject to (b) above, considers approving terms for such transfer of the sites at nil consideration and not subject to any imposed requirements or restrictions.
- (d) Subject to (c) above, authorises the Head of Legal Services, in consultation with the Regeneration Portfolio Holder, to complete the transfer of the sites to the Council as above and on such other terms as she considers appropriate, provided that she is satisfied that the checks and research set out in the Council's Property Dealing Procedure have been satisfactorily completed.

## PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

### DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The proposed actions will deliver on a number of the Council's priorities in the Corporate Plan 2010 – 2016, most notably to regenerate the District and improve deprived areas.

### FINANCE, OTHER RESOURCES AND RISK

#### Finance and other resources

The Council is in receipt of £1 million Coastal Change Pathfinder Initiative grant funding from DEFRA. The table below shows the projects that Cabinet 20 January 2010 allocated the grant to, the outturn/commitment to date and the resulting uncommitted balance.

Project	£ Funding allocation	£ Outturn	£ Uncommitted balance
Crag Walk	520,000	520,000	0
Brooklands property purchase (ECC)	333,598	175,542	158,056
Coastal tourism study	100,000	0	100,000
Community Development	46,402	46,402	0
Total	1,000,000	741,944	258,056

The grant is not ringfenced and can therefore be re-allocated.

The Council's capital programme currently has an additional £50,000 of Council funding allocated to a Jaywick project that is yet to be determined.

#### Risk

The proposed use of the uncommitted balance is in accordance with the terms and conditions associated with the DEFRA grant, there is no risk that the proposed reallocation will result in the grant being reclaimed by DEFRA.

Each of the four plots of land in Brooklands will be subject to potential ongoing management costs. There is potential for these sites to remain unused or at best merely

let to nearby residents for parking or gardens. However, the plots being in the Council's ownership will be beneficial to delivering any future rejuvenation of the area.

#### **LEGAL**

The proposed action is within the Council's legal powers.

#### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

**Consideration has been given to the implications of the proposed decision in respect of the following and any significant issues are set out below.**  
**Crime and Disorder / Equality and Diversity / Health Inequalities / Area or Ward affected / Consultation/Public Engagement.**

### **PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The table above shows an uncommitted balance of £258,056 of DEFRA Coastal Change Pathfinder grant. It is proposed that, with an additional £50,000 of TDC capital funding, it is allocated to projects in Brooklands and Grasslands. All such projects to be agreed by the Regeneration Portfolio Holder in consultation with the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder and the Acting Regeneration Manager.

On 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011 the Government published the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010, updating the previous version of 2007. The IMD provides a relative measure of deprivation in 32,482 small areas across the Country, it is the official measure of deprivation in England. Based on a group of 10 indices with a total of 38 separate indicators which reflect different aspects of deprivation the IMD consists of more than just poverty. Poverty is not having enough money to get by on whereas deprivation refers to a general lack of resources and opportunities.

The Brooklands and Grasslands area, and part of the Village, of Jaywick is now ranked as the most deprived area in England, having been the third most deprived in 2007. The area has not received the major capital investment other areas that featured highly in the IMD2007 enjoyed under initiatives such as the New Deal for Communities or Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder.

Projects could include a rolling fund to enable derelict properties to be demolished and continuation funding for the neighbourhood team as existing funding ceases 31 March 2012.

Under the acquisition programme Essex County Council purchased four properties in Brooklands:

- 20 and 22 Humber Avenue
- 32 Hillman Avenue
- 22 Sunbeam Avenue

The Plan at Appendix A shows the location of these sites hatched blue, a recent acquisition hatched yellow and the existing Tendring District Council owned properties hatched red.

The buildings on the County Council's land have now been demolished leaving four cleared plots. The County Council has offered to transfer them to the Council for nil consideration for the benefit of the local community, subject to contract and formal

decision.

The Council's procedure for property acquisition is set out in Part 5 of the Council's Constitution, Rules of Procedure, page 5.62, Property Dealing Policy, refers. The procedure outlines a process including two formal member decisions. However in the light of the offer from the County Council the Regeneration Portfolio Holder has agreed that the whole matter can be efficiently dealt with in one stage by Cabinet.

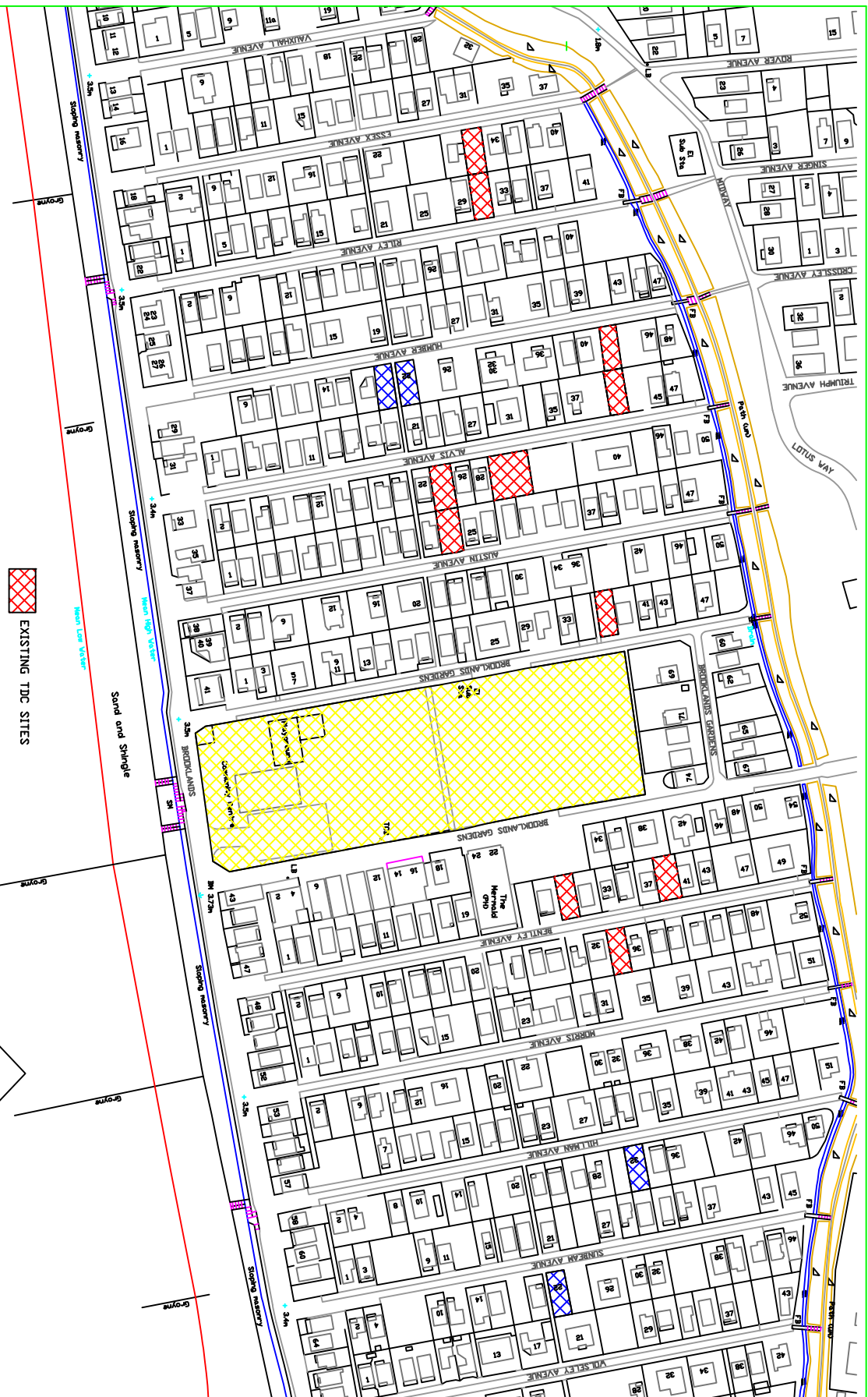
Accordingly it is proposed that Cabinet considers the principle of acquisition as well as the terms and authorises the Head of Legal services to complete contracts when she is satisfied that the processes set out in the Policy are satisfied and any resulting issues resolved.

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION</b>
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None
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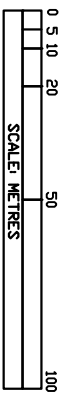
<b>APPENDICES</b>
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<b>Appendix A - Location Plan</b>
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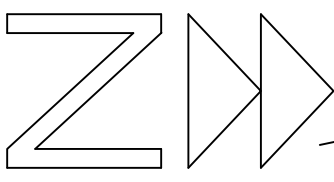


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TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL LICENCE No 10018684 2005



-  EXISTING TDC SITES
-  POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF FOUR SITES
-  SITE RECENTLY ACQUIRED



Rev A 23 June 2011. ARW. Key changed for property recently acquired

**TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
 A KENDALL  
 ACTING  
 HEAD OF CORPORATE PERFORMANCE

title: POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF FOUR PLOTS AT JAYWICK  
 drawing: LOCATION PLAN

scale: 1:2000  
 drawn by: A.WHITE  
 date: 29 MAR 2011  
 drwg.No. revision  
 1 A