

AGENDA

CABINET

MONDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2023

2.00 PM

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, FENLAND HALL,
COUNTY ROAD, MARCH**

Committee Officer: Linda Albon
Tel: 01354 622229
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1 To receive apologies for absence

2 Previous Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held 11 September 2023.

3 To receive members' declaration of any interests under the Local Code of Conduct or any interest under the Code of Conduct on Planning Matters in respect of any item to be discussed at the meeting

4 To report additional items for consideration which the Chairman deems urgent by virtue of the special circumstances to be now specified

5 Statement of Community Involvement (Pages 13 - 38)

Every 5 years the Council is required to update the Statement of Community Involvement for the planning service.

6 Review and Refresh of Public Space Protection Orders (dog fouling and dog controls) (Pages 39 - 150)

To seek approval for renewal of an existing Public Space Protection Order which provides intervention and enforcement powers for the control of nuisance dogs and

dog fouling.

7 Leisure Centres (Pages 151 - 160)

This report highlights steps that the Council can take to ensure that FDC plans for the future of the 3 elderly leisure centres that will require significant investment in the near term. Chatteris Leisure has not been considered as it is a modern building with expected ongoing maintenance costs for the next decade to be limited.

8 UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) (Pages 161 - 166)

The purpose of this report is to determine the proposals in relation to the allocation of the funding for the SPF Investment in Business project for 2024-25.

9 Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) (Pages 167 - 178)

The purpose of this report is to determine the split of the 2024-25 Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) between Business Growth and Community/Place and the associated projects, processes, decision making structures and grant funding agreements.

10 Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults of Risk of Harm Policy (Pages 179 - 210)

To consider the adoption of a new Safeguarding Policy for Fenland District Council.

11 Wisbech Pavilion Lease Agreement (Pages 211 - 218)

To advise Cabinet of the proposed management arrangements for the new Wisbech Park Pavilion and seek authorisation to lease the facility at below market value.

12 Wisbech High Street Update (Pages 219 - 220)

To provide Cabinet with a monthly update regarding ongoing work related to 24 High Street, Wisbech.

13 Draft 6 Month Cabinet Forward Plan (Pages 221 - 222)

For information purposes.

14 Items which the Chairman has under item 3 deemed urgent

CONFIDENTIAL - ITEMS COMPRISING EXEMPT INFORMATION

To exclude the public (including the press) from a meeting of a committee it is necessary for the following proposition to be moved and adopted: "that the public be excluded from the meeting for Items which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) as indicated."

15 Potential Property Acquisition Opportunity (confidential item) (Pages 223 - 502)

To update Cabinet on the due diligence requested at its meetings on 5th September 2022 and 30th January 2023 and seek a decision on what if any further action should be taken in relation to a proposed property acquisition opportunity.

Friday, 10 November 2023

Members: Councillor C Boden (Chairman), Councillor Mrs J French (Vice-Chairman), Councillor I Benney, Councillor Miss S Hoy, Councillor Mrs D Laws, Councillor A Miscandlon, Councillor P Murphy, Councillor C Seaton, Councillor S Tierney and Councillor S Wallwork

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CABINET

MONDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2023 - 4.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor C Boden (Chairman), Councillor Mrs J French (Vice-Chairman), Councillor I Benney, Councillor Mrs D Laws, Councillor A Miscandlon, Councillor P Murphy, Councillor C Seaton, Councillor S Tierney and Councillor S Wallwork.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Miss S Hoy.

CAB18/23 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 July 2023 were approved and signed.

CAB19/23 THE FOUNTAIN, HIGH STREET, MARCH

Members considered the options for relocation for the fountain following the petition presented to Full Council presented by Councillor Seaton.

Councillor Seaton stated concentration would be on the alternative site options that have been investigated as an alternative to the approved and present location. He recognised and acknowledged the letter received by all Cabinet members from Lindsey Betts and Gary Richmond.

Councillor Seaton stated that it was organised for Cabinet members to be given a guided tour around the alternative site locations within the past week, which was to enable an informed decision to be reached by looking at the sites and not based solely on the written report. He stated that it was investigated moving the fountain position slightly closer to the road but this was rejected due to safety reasons and referred to each of the alternative sites, with their associated risks as detailed in the report.

Councillor Seaton stated that these options have been extensively investigated and based on the difficulties that each of the option sites have produced he proposes that the present location which has been approved should be progressed as planned.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Tierney stated that on lots of the options it was said that it was unlikely that they would be supported, which he presumes means by Historic England, but he would like to understand what their power is, are they advising or must the Council do as it says. Councillor Seaton responded that they are a statutory body but they are an advisory body, which means they possibly would not block a different option, however, it could challenge to the Secretary of State if it did not approve where the fountain was going to be moved to.
- Councillor Tierney expressed the view that these issues are very personal to towns and as a Wisbech councillor he is always uncomfortable on making a judgement on something that is so personal to a different town but members are in the situation they are in and have to try and make the best decision. He feels it is good that so many options have been investigated and it is unfortunate that the view is taken that Historic England would say no to so many but he would like going forward to speak to them and ask what leeway there is in these matters as this is not going to be the last time this happens and he would like to understand what their appetite is for other suggestions rather than assuming they are going to say no to everything.
- Councillor Murphy stated that he walked around all the sites and considered all the

information provided and, in his opinion, the land outside Iceland is too far out of the centre of March and is already a busy area with existing businesses too close and would be vulnerable to vandalism; outside the Library again this is too far outside the centre, would be hidden and vulnerable to vandalism; West End Park exactly the same reasons as the Library; adjacent to the Market Place is again out of the centre but it tends to be forgotten that the fountain looks smaller in a wide open space and when situated on a smaller space it will look out of character. He referred to the last two positions in Broad Street, where he feels the fountain should be, the riverside area would create, in his view, too many problems with possible subsidence from works on the riverbank, with new designs, new contracts and different planning consents and considerable higher extra costs. Councillor Murphy expressed the opinion after weighing up all the possibilities that the fountain should be moved to the original position that was already agreed and passed with an approved planning application.

- Councillor Mrs Laws stated that she has read the report and looked at the alternative locations and questioned exactly what clout the statutory body consultee actually has, she has seen many applications over the year and they have not taken action but she recognises because the fountain is in the town centre they look more in-depth at this. She feels it is unsettling as Cabinet members, being very precious about their own towns, having to make decisions on other Fenland towns.
- Councillor Wallwork agreed with the comments of other councillors and it is really difficult when it is not your home town but she did attend the site visit and looked at all the options. She agrees with the location being where the fountain is proposed to be placed but would like to convey to residents that she does hope when it is finished that they can see that the Council made the right decision because it is a beautiful development and the project itself is going to look stunning when it is finished. Councillor Wallwork made the point that this has not been an easy or a flippant decision but members have taken all the facts, especially the costs, into account.
- Councillor Miscandlon thanked the officers for arranging the visit to the sites, some of them he dismissed out of hand as they were unsuitable, one or two were mildly interesting and could have worked had more investment been placed in them but he agrees that the current approved location is the proper place for the fountain. He hopes the residents of March appreciate the new location for the fountain when it is in place and hopes it will enhance the town, which he is sure it will.
- Councillor Boden stated that his attitude towards this issue has changed considerably having seen the report, he did say at Council that Cabinet would look at this and examine it thoroughly and carefully but did not imagine it would produce such a lengthy report. He stated that what he thought he was going to do was a cost benefit analysis to look at the costs of the various alternatives and the benefits from those costs but when he did go through the report and also from some further information what he found was that the Council already has the best solution in front of them and, therefore, the cost involved for the alternatives was irrelevant. Councillor Boden stated that he shares the concern about being over the bridge being too far away and the fountain loses the prominence that it has, which would be the same in West End Park and near the Library and would be seen by far fewer people than is the case currently and he always thought having it near the Market Place would be problematic as it would not fit in there very well and seem out of place, with the Market Place already being a tight area in terms of what it does and the fountain would detract rather than add to the Market Place. He made the point that this left only the alternative of the Riverside location and when this was initially suggested to him he did not think this was a bad idea, still very prominent and the one most likely to appeal subject to the cost, but what he had not considered was that locating the fountain at that site would detract from the War Memorial, which is there for a very particular purpose and if you set a major item such as the fountain that close to it, it clearly changes the nature of the area

around the War Memorial. Councillor Boden stated that he hoped it would be possible to look at a small amendment to the proposed location and he did not think it would be unreasonable to look at moving it metres if not centimetres from its current location and somewhat closer to the road and its previous location and he asked for that enquiry to be made, which Councillor Seaton did, and it turns out the original proposal did locate the fountain as close as was possible to the original site, it could not be moved one centimetre closer to the original site because of site line and potential road safety issues. He stated that it was for those reasons that he came to the conclusion that, regardless of what the costs were which were not relevant and regardless of what Historic England might have to say as they are a consultee and have no rights to stop the Council doing whatever it wants to do but do have the opportunity of going to the Secretary of State to stop it, the proposed location is the best location available for the fountain.

- Councillor Seaton stated that there are two specific reasons for the siting of the fountain and that was to have the least impact on its historic relevance as is possible in the context of its relationship with the roundabout and secondly to incorporate the structure into the new public realm to be enjoyed by members of the public. He feels that a lot of the comments that have been made are very apt especially about Historic England and whilst they are an advisory body there could be objections to it moving elsewhere and were they to go through the Secretary of State it would be at least one may be two years if not more on the timing.

Proposed by Councillor Seaton, seconded by Councillor Miscandlon and AGREED to:

- **note the positive progress of the project as detailed in the report; and**
- **instruct officers to progress the project as planned with the current, approved location of the fountain.**

(Councillor Benney declared an interest, by virtue of being a member of Planning Committee, and retired from the meeting for the duration of the discussion and voting thereon)

(Councillor Mrs French declared an interest, by virtue of being Chairman of MATS, and retired from the meeting for the duration of the discussion and voting thereon)

The Chairman and members agreed to this item being brought forward on the agenda.

This item comprised EXEMPT INFORMATION within Appendix 11 which is not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended) but it was not necessary to go into confidential session.

CAB20/23 INVESTMENT BOARD UPDATE AND REVIEW OF THE COMMERCIAL AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Members considered the update on the work of the Investment Board from March 2023 to August 2023 presented by Councillor Boden.

Councillor Boden stated that he had been slightly disappointed by the speed of progress, which has not been as quick as he would like but it has taken time to go through the various processes which have been necessary. He stated that it is still at a stage where the overall likely success or otherwise cannot be judged of the two ongoing projects.

Councillor Boden referred to the objectives, the first one being to realise more by going through this process on these two sites rather than selling them on the open market with no development and secondly to covert as much as possible of the gain on these two sites from capital to revenue. He stated that both of these objectives have progressed and the Council disposed of the sites to Fenland Future Ltd and what Fenland Future Ltd do with the sites will now be what results in the return that the Council gets, with their being financial difficulties over the past couple of years that

had not been anticipated not least the effect of the war in Ukraine and it is being seen nationally a definite slow down if not reversal on the private housing market.

Councillor Boden made the point that there was a significant amount of resilience built into the plans and not all the site in Wisbech is for private housing and he believes there is still a very good business case in both sites but it is not known what the position will be economically in six months' time. He stated that there is no reason to change the plans that the Council has for these two sites.

Councillor Boden referred to the second objective, this has been occurring and it is too early to say how successful this has been but the Council has already, even though a single house has not been built, undertaken the ground work so when the gains come in a significant proportion will be turned from capital to revenue. He feels it paints a picture of something going in the right direction and it makes sense to keep going in that direction.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Mrs Laws made the point not to put scarers on the market as whilst she acknowledged the property market had slowed down she does not think it is in a position where it is failing.
- Councillor Miscandlon stated that the only people who seem to be slowing down on their investment are the very large companies that pay massive bonuses to their staff and the smaller and more resilient local companies seem to be doing well and long may they do so.
- Councillor Boden expressed the view that the potential reduction in return or the risk he particularly had in mind was the level of new house prices and that has been subject to some weakening over the course of the last few months and there may be more to come in the future but the important point he made was the plans that the Council had in place for both sites had a significant amount of leeway and resilience to unexpected events and whilst the Council may not receive as great a return as might have been the case both sites should still perform very well.

Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Mrs Laws and AGREED to note:

- **the report from the Investment Board; and**
- **the ongoing review of the current Commercial and Investment Strategy as determined by the Constitution and delegated to the Section 151 Officer for tabling at a future meeting.**

(Councillors Benney, Boden and Tierney declared that they are members of the Investment Board)

CAB21/23 RENEWAL OF PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS FOR WISBECH FOR A 3-YEAR PERIOD

Members considered the extension of the Wisbech Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) on the consumption of alcohol by a further 3 years presented by Councillor Wallwork.

Councillor Wallwork stated that in 2017 the Council introduced the PSPO to cover areas of Wisbech Town Centre to deal with issues of street drinking and anti-social behaviour. She advised that the PSPO can be made for a maximum of three years and must be reviewed before being renewed, it was previously extended in 2020 and expires in October 2023.

Councillor Wallwork stated that as part of the renewal the Community Safety Team have carried out a consultation with the public and key stakeholders as well as reviewing data to determine whether the PSPO should be extended for a further three years. She made the point that the report outlines the issues, the consultation process outcomes and the role the PSPO plays in Police enforcement.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Tierney stated that he championed introducing the PSPO when it was first introduced but he did say at the time that he did not think it was going to work as a new policy was being introduced with no means of enforcing it. He expressed the view that these new powers become available, the public demand something is done and the Council responds correctly but if there is no structure in place to enforce any of it, it all becomes useless and it is useless, it does not work as nobody will enforce it and the only people who have the power to enforce it are the Police and they will not do it as they are too busy, have to put their resources elsewhere and the areas where PSPOs are put in place people are still drinking in them and creating anti-social behaviour. He believes that no one has been enforced or charged since the introduction of the PSPO but he is still going to support renewing it as if you do not renew it people will say why would you not back this clear policy to counter it and he finds it is a difficult situation where members have to support policies where there is no enforcement undertaken and the Government should be challenged to say with these powers in place who is going to enforce it in future and how are the Police going to be encouraged to keep the law and how are they going to be resourced to do this. He stated that he did want to point this out as if it keeps get nodded through without pointing out the weaknesses then he does not think members are doing their job.
- Councillor Mrs Laws added that a lot of time, effort and work goes into these policies, which is not good if they are not enforced but it has to be reviewed on the understanding that nobody is enforcing it.
- Councillor Miscandlon agreed with the comments of the other councillors but stated that the Home Secretary made the announcement a week ago that all crimes will be investigated and he thinks representation needs to be made to the Chief Constable and the Borough Commander that these are crimes and they need to be investigated and dealt with. He expressed the view that it is no good the Police advocating their responsibility as they have not got the resources, it is for them to get the resources and implement the restrictions that are in place to not allow people to break the law.
- Councillor Mrs French agreed with the previous speakers and asked if the Council could write to the PCC and express their deep concern regarding this, starting at this point before it is taken further. She made the point that the policy cannot be withdrawn but what is the point of having the policy if it is not going to be enforced.
- Councillor Wallwork stated that there is always more that everyone can do and a large proportion of the issues in Wisbech do not seem to get a great deal of support simply because they are low level. However, she stated that there are things that are being done and it is used especially with the Luscombe Operation but it is a Police force that does not have the resources to may be undertake the things that hit residents more and street drinking is a thing that residents see and makes them feel unsafe. Councillor Wallwork expressed the opinion that the policy is being used but it is not being used to the full extent and she will push this further forward.

Proposed by Councillor Wallwork, seconded by Councillor Seaton and AGREED to approve the extension of the PSPO for a 3 year period.

CAB22/23 RENEWAL OF AGENCY CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS

Members considered the renewal of the contract arrangements for temporary agency workers presented by Councillor Boden.

Councillor Boden stated that the Council does already utilise a neutral managed service provider via Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) and the current contract arrangements needs to be renewed or changed as the contract only runs until December. He made the point that there are other organisations other than ESPO but under the research he has undertaken there is nothing wrong with what ESPO provides to the Council and he sees no advantage whatsoever of moving away from ESPO and looking for alternative arrangements.

Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Mrs French and AGREED that the Council recontract agreement with a vendor neutral managed service provider via the ESPO framework arrangements to enable it to continue with the current effective arrangements.

CAB23/23 WISBECH HIGH STREET UPDATE

Members considered the Wisbech High Street update presented by Councillor Seaton.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Tierney appreciated the work starting as it has been a long time coming and it is great to see it commencing. He feels that the people of Wisbech understand it takes time to work on projects such as this and appreciate that it is being undertaken without having to close the High Street, which is vital to businesses, but the change to move the scaffolding back is a great idea, it will really help as there are lots of people struggling to get up that path who have mobility issues and he welcomes this change.
- Councillor Mrs Laws questioned the £25,000 cost of scaffolding and asked if various quotations were sought and does it include insurance? Councillor Seaton responded that there is a lot of scaffolding here, it is virtually the whole of 11-12 that has been scaffolded as some of the walls are unsafe so it is a large job and officers have obtained the best price from the scaffolding firm that are already there, with the scaffolding being an ongoing cost that the Council has.

Proposed by Councillor Seaton, seconded by Councillor Tierney and AGREED to note the current position in relation to the 24 High Street construction project in Wisbech and information regarding the property at 11-12 High Street.

CAB24/23 DRAFT 6 MONTH CABINET FORWARD PLAN

Councillor Boden presented the draft 6 month Cabinet Forward Plan for information.

Members made the following comments:

- Councillor Boden made the point that currently at the November and December meetings of the Cabinet there is a further update on the Wisbech High Street but noted that Councillor Seaton said there may not be any substantial change until January but he would like this to remain on the agenda as it was stated that there would be monthly reports and there could be developments. Councillor Seaton agreed with this course of action.
- Councillor Mrs French stated that the Forward Plan does not include anything about Civil Parking Enforcement, she attended a presentation last week at County Council and it is likely to be going to the Highway and Transport Committee meeting on 3 October and she hopes there may be some information that can be reported. She added that she did ask the specific question of whether the Council has to use the County's contractors to do the lining and the signs and the answer was no. Councillor Boden suggested that this be added to the 13 November Cabinet agenda, even if it is a for information item.
- Councillor Mrs French stated that the other question she asked was if it was possible that the Council could look to bring in Civil Parking Enforcement in Fenland in 2024 and not 2025. Councillor Boden stated that he is aware that Councillor Mrs French asked this question but there are a lot of hurdles to overcome before this point is reached. Councillor Mrs Laws asked what the response was to this question? Councillor Mrs French responded possible.

CAB25/23 FREEDOM ENERGY COSTS UPDATE

Members considered providing financial support to Freedom Leisure to cover the increase in excess energy costs to run Fenland's four leisure centres presented by Councillor Miscandlon.

Councillor Miscandlon stated that from meetings with Freedom Leisure they are quite surprised that they are doing better than they anticipated, which is to the Council's advantage because the cost analysis that they require from the Council diminishes and the managers are very upbeat about going forward and are grateful for the support from the Council. He acknowledged that there is work to be carried out on the centres, some of this is being investigated currently, which will enhance the centres for the public.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Tierney stated that he is glad that Freedom Leisure appreciate the support the Council has given them as it was comprehensive and he wants to make it clear that the Council did this as it was supporting the people of Fenland as those services are valued and did not want to see Covid and other things put an end to this so it was investment for the people of Fenland and not for the company although it had a knock on effect.
- Councillor Boden referred to Councillor Miscandlon saying that Freedom Leisure were surprised that they were doing as well as they are and he is also surprised but it is to the benefit of everyone. He agreed with the comments of Councillor Tierney, with there being councils around the country where the leisure provision that is available, particularly swimming pools, have been reduced and in some cases eliminated entirely and this Council has taken a deliberate decision to protect those facilities for residents in Fenland to the extent that it has. Councillor Boden made the point that there are 4 leisure centres across the area which is a lot more than most councils of Fenland's size would have due to the very unusual set up of having 4 towns within its area, with many authorities the size of Fenland having one centre, and as a result this Council faces a much larger challenge to provide services at locations where people will find them as convenient as possible and the decision has been taken, where the Council can, to continue to support that operation and it intends to do so in the future subject to external factors, which cannot be predicted. He stated he is pleased with the information in the report but the Council needs to continue to be rigorous in the financial implications of it and he knows a great deal of hard work goes on behind the scenes between officers and Freedom Leisure and he is grateful for this.
- Councillor Miscandlon agreed with the comments of Councillor Tierney that this support is not for the benefit of Freedom Leisure but is for the benefit of the residents of Fenland and this needs to be kept within the forefront of people's minds as Freedom Leisure are a bi-product from the commitment of this Council to the residents of Fenland and he would fully support anything that enhances this.

Proposed by Councillor Miscandlon, seconded by Councillor Boden and AGREED to:

- **note the impact that the energy crisis continues to have on the leisure sector;**
- **note the continued good operational performance of the Fenland group of leisure centres managed by Freedom and note the Sport England and Government funded energy assessment report regarding the facilities in Fenland;**
- **recognise the £4 return on investment that every £1 invested in sport and physical activity generates in England and as part of that return recognise the essential role that the Council's leisure facilities play in helping to maintain the physical and mental health of our community as highlighted in the attached Appendix I;**
- **recognise the significant financial challenges that the Council itself is facing;**
- **consider and delegate to the Section 151 Officer, working in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Finance and Leisure, to offer direct financial support to Freedom Leisure in the form of a repayable loan, on an open book basis, up to a maximum of £100,000 for the period 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024. This represents 85% of the expected maximum excess energy cost, with the sum anticipated to be reduced by the continuing implementation of the mitigating measures put in place to reduce operating costs and energy consumption. Any repayable loan shall become payable through an annual deduction of any profit generated in excess of the levels predicted in the Leisure Operators Base Trading Account. This is a change from the current**


50/50 profit share and will be subject to the performance of the business over the remaining contract period. The past three years have been particularly difficult for businesses across the country. Whilst the operational business has recovered well, there remains no certainty that excess profits will be made in the future;

- **note the swimming pool support fund (revenue) bid information; and**
- **note the anticipated bid to the swimming pool support fund (capital) for energy mitigating measures.**

This item comprised EXEMPT INFORMATION within Appendix C which is not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended) but it was not necessary to go into confidential session.

5.08 pm

Chairman

Agenda Item No:	5	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	Draft Consultation Statement of Community Involvement – Consultation Response	

KEY/13OCT23/01

11 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 Every 5 years the Council is required to update the Statement of Community Involvement for the planning service. An updated document has been prepared and Cabinet at its meeting on 17 July 2023 approved a document for public consultation. This report:
- a) presents the consultation responses.
 - b) recommends revisions to the document.
 - c) recommends adoption of the updated document

12 Key Issues

- 2.1 The document approved by Cabinet for consultation was subject to consultation specifically with the Town & Parish Councils and also the Developer Forum. The document was published on the ‘consultation’ pages of the Council’s web site and was the subject of a press release. 2 responses were received, and these have been summarised in this report together with associated recommendations. A revised draft of the report is given in Appendix 1.

13 Recommendations

- 3.1 That Cabinet approve the Statement of Community Involvement.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	KEY/13OCT23/01
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Dee Laws (Portfolio Holder for Planning)
Report Originator(s)	Nick Harding – Head of Planning
Contact Officer(s)	Nick Harding – Head of Planning
Background Papers	Current Adopted Statement of Community Involvement

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 The Council is obligated to update its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) every 5 years. The Statement provides information about how the Council will consult on planning and related matters such as: planning applications, the emerging local plan and neighbourhood plans. The existing SCI was adopted in July 2018 and so a review is now due. The draft, if approved by Cabinet, will be subject to public consultation. The results of the consultation will be brought back to Cabinet with a report which may identify revisions to the SCI and recommend its adoption.

12 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Planning is all about creating successful places that enable people to live healthier, more prosperous, and better-connected lives. It's also about supporting local businesses and making sure that the things that make our places special are protected. Planning decisions can be small in scale like an extension to your home or nationally significant like the expansion of a port and everything in-between. Planning genuinely affects everyone who lives, works, and visits in a place. So, it is important that local communities and stakeholders are aware of and can participate in the planning process and be involved in planning decisions.
- 2.2 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the Council will engage and consult with the local community and other stakeholders on planning matters. It explains the key stages and provides information on how and when the local community and other stakeholders can get involved in the preparation of planning documents and in planning application decisions.
- 2.3 The existing SCI is some 5 years old, and it has been reviewed to see if there are any elements that have become out of date as a consequence of legislative changes.

13 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 There was a 6-week consultation period (as required by the legislation) and will be publicised not least through:
- a) Notification to all Town & Parish Councils
 - b) Notification to developers & agents that attend the developer / agent Forum.
 - c) The consultation page of the Council web site
 - d) Press release
- 3.2 Only two representations were received during the consultation period. One was from District Cllr Summers. Set out below is the representation and an officer response.

- 3.3 COMMENT - Developer pre-application consultation section does not adequately explain in plain English the circumstances where consultation would be required under S122.

RESPONSE - S122 of the Localism Act 2011 requires consultation by applicants for certain applications under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure and s62A applications) (England) Amendment Order 2013 This applies to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. A Statement of Community Involvement is required for all strategic major applications of:

- 200 dwellings or more, or for more than 4 hectares of residential development
- 10,000 sq. m of commercial or industrial floorspace,
- more than 2 hectares of commercial land
- Wind farms of at least two turbines
- Turbines in excess of 15 metres in height

- 3.4 COMMENT - FDC encourages consultation, but could it not be FDC policy that all developments in excess of say 10 dwellings? I realise it is a requirement of the current local plan (10% of existing stock) for restricted growth villages, but this has been removed from the emerging local plan and in my view is essential as FDC has as much a duty to the existing communities as it does to the housing need. The extent of the consultation should of course be proportionate to the scale of the development. Common boundary neighbours should always be consulted pre-planning and measures laid out to mitigate and concerns they may have in the design e.g., funding to install higher fences or green belts to provide audio visual separation and help to absorb surface water.

RESPONSE – The Council cannot require more consultation by developers than is required by the legislation.

- 3.5 COMMENT - Consultation commitments. This requires a more modern approach than a newspaper notice. FDC should commit to post these on social media and in the case of very major developments, say 50 dwellings or more, should use paid for social media advertising to ensure that as many of the relevant community are reached as possible. The council should also maintain a mailing list to which people can subscribe for these notifications if they wish.

RESPONSE – The public access system on the Council web site (where planning applications can be viewed and commented upon) has the facility where people can subscribe and be alerted to new planning applications in their area (or any area that they are interested in). Whilst social media could be used as another tool to raise awareness of planning applications, the issue would be that we would be unable to appropriately manage and process any comments made via that media. Representations need to have a name, address and preferably also an email address in order for them to be accepted.

3.6 COMMENT - Who will we consult. This should be more specific about who “relevant government agencies” are. In my view it is vitally important that the following bodies be consulted:

- East of England Ambulance Service
- GP surgeries within the district
- Cambridgeshire Police
- Drainage boards
- UK Power Networks
- Anglian Water
- The Environment Agency
- National Highways

RESPONSE – In respect of the list the organisations themselves / the legislation defines in what circumstances they wish to be consulted and so it is not appropriate for the SCI to list them. However, for interest, the triggers are as follows:

- a) Health Authority (which hospitals, GPs & ambulance) – major development (over 10 dwellings)
- b) Police – major development (over 10 dwellings, over 1Hectare / 1000 sq. m)
- c) IDBs = major development (over 10 dwellings, over 1Hectare / 1000 sq. m)
- d) Anglian Water - major development (over 10 dwellings, over 1Hectare / 1000 sq. m)
- e) National Highways – where a proposal impacts on a trunk road.

The environment agency consultation ‘rules’ are too complex to include in this report.

3.7 COMMENT - How we will consult. This section needs to make it clear how FDC will ensure that the wider community are included in the consultation and lay out how it will advertise the consultation. The minimum level should include free posting on social media platforms, paid advertising on social media platforms and a notice placed on each parish noticeboard by the parish councils.

RESPONSE – It is considered that the SCI clearly sets out how the different categories of planning applications will be publicised. As previously stated, it is not considered that it is appropriate that social media should be used because the representations received could not be accepted. With regard to parish noticeboards, the District Council is unable to place requirements on Parish and Town Councils.

3.8 The second representation received was from Manea Parish Council. The concern expressed was about the Parish and Town Council not automatically receiving a proportion of the S106 monies the District Council receives. This

is not a matter that the SCI can deal with. A response to the issue has nevertheless previously been provided.

- 3.9 Following the consultation, no changes to the draft SCI are proposed.

14 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 To identify changes to the SCI.

15 IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

- 5.1 The current system of plan making is contained in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and supported by the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance. The Authority has a statutory duty pursuant to Section 18 of the PCPA 2004 to prepare a statement of community involvement which is a local development document that sets out the authority's policies on giving advice and guidance for neighbourhood planning and on how it will involve those persons with an interest in matters relating to development in their area on the preparation of specified planning documents.
- 5.2 An up-to-date SCI is required to minimise the risk of legal challenge when preparing the Local Plan. The Local Plan has an impact on the delivery of all the Council's corporate objectives. A current SCI will also reduce the risk of a successful Ombudsman case against the Council.

Financial Implications

- 5.3 There are no direct financial implications associated with the content of this report other than staff time being taken to produce the document and manage the publicity process.

Equality Implications

- 5.4 The Council has a statutory duty under the Equality Act 2010 to promote equality of opportunity in the provision of services and employment opportunities between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The Statement of Community Involvement will be subject to public consultation the community will have the opportunity to be involved in helping to shape the future planning and development of the district both through plan-making and the consideration of development proposals.

7 SCHEDULES

Adopted Statement of Community Involvement - [Statement of Community Involvement - Fenland District Council](#)

Appendix 1 - Proposed Statement of Community Involvement for adoption

APPENDIX 1

ADOPTION DRAFT Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

A guide as to how we will:

- *consult you on Planning Applications;*
- *consult you on emerging Planning Policy; and*
- *assist you with Neighbourhood Planning*

NOVEMBER 2023



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Part 1: Introduction

Introduction

This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how Fenland District Council ('the Council') will involve and consult with the public and wider stakeholders when planning for the future of the district. Whilst government sets out minimum requirements for public consultation on planning matters, this SCI sets out the Council's additional local commitments to consultation.

This SCI covers:

- Consultation arrangement in respect of Planning Applications;
- Consultation arrangements in respect of planning policy matters (such as a new Local Plan); and
- Arrangements for community involvement in, and the requirements of, the Neighbourhood Planning process, including how the Council will assist in the preparation of neighbourhood planning matters.

The commitments set out in this document are binding on the Council, unless national legislation states otherwise.

The SCI compliments the Council's Consultation Strategy, which is committed to involving local people in shaping their area and the services they receive.

What is planning?

Most new buildings, certain changes to existing buildings (including their use) or significant changes to the local environment need consent – known as planning permission.

Fenland District Council, as your local planning authority, is responsible for deciding whether a development - anything from an extension on a house to a new shopping centre – should go ahead. In determining planning applications, regard must be had to the planning policies which have been adopted for the area (for example, a Local Plan, a Neighbourhood Plan or a Supplementary Planning Document).

How to get involved

There are a number of ways that you can get involved in the planning decisions affecting you and your community. The main ways that you can get involved are:

- Having your say during public consultation periods for planning policy documents (such as a Local Plan);
- Having your say on planning applications affecting your community;
- Reporting planning control breaches (such as a neighbour building a large extension to their home without planning consent);
- Commenting on appeals relating to applications that have been refused by the Council; and
- Preparing your own plans and policies for your local area under the Neighbourhood Planning rules.

Please note that this SCI was written based on the Council's understanding of national legislation that existed as at June 2023. Should national legislation change, there may be elements in this SCI which no longer apply. The Council will endeavour to update this SCI as soon as possible after significant national legislation change.

Part 2: Consultation Commitments on Planning Applications

Step 1: The Pre-Application Stage

What needs planning permission?

Most kinds of development require planning permission; however, there are a number of circumstances where certain types of development are automatically permitted. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended) contains a number of 'blanket permissions' for a variety of different works.

If your proposed development falls within what is termed 'permitted development' you will not need to apply for formal planning permission to carry out the works. Permitted development rights are often subject to compliance with standard conditions. It is the owner/developer's responsibility to check and comply with these conditions.

Some developments are subject to a system of 'prior approval' of details. Prior approval means that the proposed development is 'in principle' permitted development. The Council can consider whether prior approval of certain details is required in advance of a formal decision being issued. Following an application, if no information is requested by the Council within fixed timescales, the application is approved. For certain types of prior approval, the Council will notify occupiers of neighbouring properties and allow them to submit comments.

The Council's pre-application advice service

Pre-application is the phase before a developer formally submits a planning application. Discussions with the Council at this stage are recommended as they can ensure that future development enhances the built and natural environment whilst potentially speeding up the formal planning application process. Further information relating to the pre-application stage is available on the Council's website: <http://www.fenland.gov.uk/planningpreapplication>. The Council does not consult the community on the pre-application applications it receives.

Developer pre-application consultation with the community

Section 122 of the Localism Act 2011¹ introduced a duty for developers to consult local communities before submitting planning applications for certain developments. This duty is in force for only certain applications.

However, even if not compulsory, the Council would encourage applicants to engage in pre application consultation with the local community so they may raise issues with and make suggestions to the developer. This might reduce local opposition, increase the chances of a timely and positive decision from the planning authority and improve the resulting quality of development.

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/section/122/enacted>

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/2931/made>

Step 2: Planning Application Process

Community consultation on planning applications

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that at any time before a decision is made on a planning application, stakeholders and the local community should have the opportunity to comment on any aspect of the proposal. The level and extent of consultation will vary depending on the size, scale, location and nature of the proposed development.

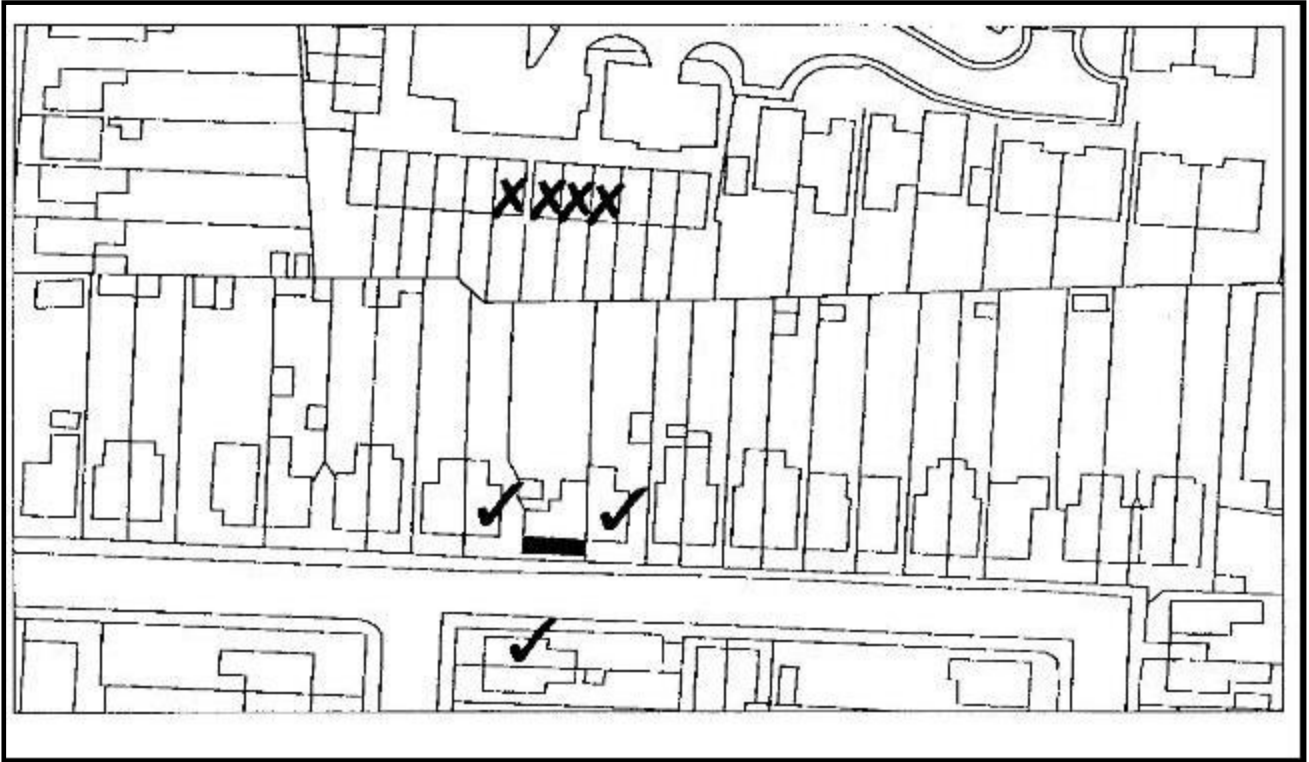
Consultation on planning applications will take place with both statutory and non-statutory consultees. Who is consulted on each individual application will depend on the nature of the proposal and its location. All consultees have 21 days from the issue of the consultation notice to make comments on the application (extended as appropriate where the period extends over public or bank holidays). However, some bodies such as Natural England will be allowed a longer period of time to comment where this is prescribed by legislation. The minimum statutory requirements are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

How the Council consults on planning applications is set out below:

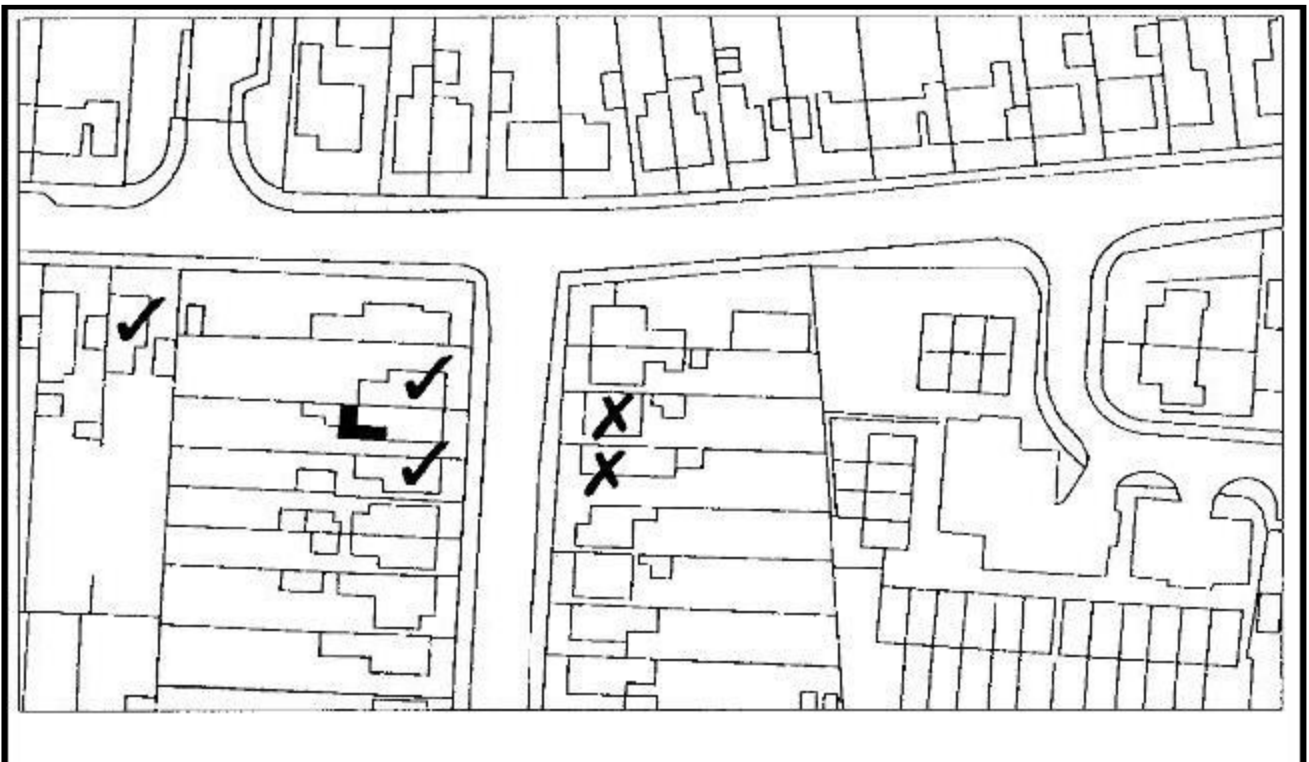
Development type/size	Fenland District Council consultation commitments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major developments (residential sites of either 10 dwellings or more, or 0.5 hectares or more, or commercial developments of 1000 sq. meters or more in floor space or one hectare or more); • Applications subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA); • Work affecting listed buildings or conservation areas; • Applications affecting public rights of way, bridleways or byways. 	<p>Newspaper notice, site notice and neighbour letters</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All other developments 	<p>Neighbour letters and sometimes site notice where neighbours cannot all be identified</p>

To help illustrate how we will fulfil the ‘neighbour consultation’, please see the two illustrations overleaf. Where a site has a road frontage, occupants of properties immediately opposite will only be consulted and notified when the development entails new building operations which would be visible from the property opposite, changes to the external appearance of buildings visible from the property opposite, changes of use, or the formation of a new vehicular access on to the road between the application site and the property opposite (see diagram ‘Road Frontage Consultation’). Where a site has a common boundary with properties whose occupants would not be able to view the proposals, occupants of those properties will only be notified when the development entails a change of use (see diagram ‘Common Boundary Consultation’).

Road Frontage Consultation



Common Boundary Consultation



Please note that the above does not apply to certain applications the Council receives (these are not actually classed as planning applications, including, but not exclusively householder prior notification applications, certificate applications and EIA screen and scoping applications).

Planning applications can be viewed online using the Council’s Public Access system, available on our website [Simple Search \(fenland.gov.uk\)](https://fenland.gov.uk). Using the system, it is possible to search for, view and comment on planning applications. It is also possible to track the progress of an application using the system. Customers may also use it to receive automatic notifications of applications in the area that is of interest to them.

Once a valid application has been received, we aim to provide a decision within 13 weeks if it is a major planning application or within 8 weeks if it is an application for minor or other development. Applications for development subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment have a longer time within which we aim to provide a decision at 16 weeks. We will determine planning applications as soon as is possible after the 21 day consultation period has ended.

All comments on planning applications must be submitted in writing (letters, faxes and emails) to the Council within the specified 21 day consultation period. All such communications received are placed on the planning file which is available for public inspection. They cannot be treated as confidential.

Consultation on amended planning applications

Sometimes the applicant will make a change to the development proposal to overcome particular issues. We will consult on these changes as set out below:

Level of change	Re-consultation
Where the change is insignificant and would not impact on neighbours	No re-consultation will be undertaken
Where the change significantly alters the appearance or layout of the proposal and would be of interest to neighbours/ community groups	Notification letter sent giving a minimum 14 days for comment. A revised site notice and press article will be displayed for significant alterations, or for major/ EIA/ conservation area/ listed building/ right of way applications.

Occasionally developers may wish to make amendments to a development that has already been granted planning permission. Where the proposed change is minor and classed as a ‘non-material amendment’, no consultation will be undertaken. Where the amendments are more significant and are classed as a ‘material amendment’, re-consultation will take place, as set out under consultation commitments above. Applications to delete or vary a condition attached to the permission will also be re-consulted on as set out under the consultation commitments.

Who makes the decision on planning applications?

The Council receives approximately 1,200 planning and related applications a year. The decision on the majority of these applications is delegated to Officers in accordance with the details set out in the district council’s Scheme of Delegation and its Standing Orders. Generally speaking, the more minor a proposal, the more likely it is delegated to Officers to decide the application.

The Planning Committee is, at the time of adopting this SCI, made up of 7 councillors. The councillors have the task of deciding planning applications in accordance with planning policy unless material considerations dictate otherwise. Generally speaking the Committee considers only the larger applications, those that are contrary to policy or subject to significant local interest. There are

opportunities for objectors, applicants and others to speak at the Committee meeting before a decision is made.

The planning officer's report, setting out all the planning issues and representations made, is made available a week before the Committee meeting and will make a recommendation to Planning Committee stating whether or not an application should be approved, having been considered against the Local Plan and any material considerations.

Reporting on decisions

The results of consultation on planning applications will be taken into account during the decision making process. Progress of planning applications, and the decisions made, can be tracked on the 'Public Access' system on the planning pages on the Council's website.

Planning appeals

If the person who applied for planning permission does not like the decision that the Council has made on their application (e.g. planning permission refused, or onerous condition applied to a planning permission), they may lodge an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate. No one else has the right to appeal the decision (for example, you cannot appeal a decision if your neighbour gets approval for an extension you objected to) other than by way of a judicial review to the High Court.

When a decision has been appealed against, the Council informs all parties who objected during the application stage that an appeal has been lodged. All copies of letters and comments received during the original application stage are forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate.

If an application is then approved by the Planning Inspectorate, the only recourse available to third parties would be to apply for judicial review of the decision to the High Court. This is an extremely rare event.

You can view / search appeals via the Public Access system on our web site [Simple Search \(fenland.gov.uk\)](https://fenland.gov.uk). Please use the Advance tab and select Appeals. You can then view the original refused planning application by viewing the Related Cases tab.

Step 4: Enforcement

Community involvement in planning enforcement

Planning Enforcement (also known as Planning Compliance) describes the processes involved in ensuring that people comply with planning law and the requirements of a planning permission. The process involves no formal public consultation, as most investigations are confidential. The majority of cases come about from referral by members of the public, councillors or planning officers. Whilst there is no public consultation on a compliance case, the Council will ensure that the complainant is informed of the outcome of our investigations.

A complaint can be made in respect of a development or advertisement that is occurring without planning permission; without complying with conditions that have been attached to a permission; or that is not in accordance with an approved plan. There is an electronic form on the district council's website for reporting what you think is a planning breach, alternatively please email planningenforcement@fenland.gov.

If, following investigation, it is necessary to serve a formal notice (e.g. Stop Notice, Enforcement Notice or Breach of Condition Notice) it will be placed on the public enforcement register of notices.

This register can be viewed via Public Access on our web site [Simple Search \(fenland.gov.uk\)](https://fenland.gov.uk)
(please use the Advanced tab).

Part 3: Consultation Commitments on Planning Policy

Introduction to Planning Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) explains that the Local Plan (sometimes referred to as a 'Development Plan Document' or, in the future, it may be referred to as a 'Strategic Plan') is a plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the local community.

The primary purpose of a Local Plan is to:

- set the vision for how the local area will grow and change;
- set policies for use by developers when preparing their proposals; and
- be the key reference tool by decision makers (Officers, Councillors or Planning Inspectors) when determining applications for planning permission.

The Local Plan deals with planning issues across the whole Council area, and makes the big decisions on the location of housing, employment and roads, for example.

At the time of writing, Fenland's latest adopted Local Plan is dated May 2014.

Should any joint plan be undertaken which covers the Fenland District Council area, then the provisions of this Statement of Community Involvement will equally apply to a joint plan as to the district wide Local Plan.

There are other planning policy related documents which the Council produces (or local communities, in the case of Neighbourhood Plans), with the main ones as explained below:

- The **Local Development Scheme (LDS)**, will, when a new Local Plan is to be produced, set out the timetable for its production.
- **Policies Map**: This is a map on an Ordnance Survey base for the whole of a local planning authority's area which shows where policies in the Local Plan and any Neighbourhood Plans apply. The Policies Map includes inset maps for particular areas to show information at a larger scale. The Policies Map is updated each time that a Local Plan (including a Minerals and Waste Plan produced by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council) or Neighbourhood Plan is adopted.
- **Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)**: These can cover a wide range of issues on which the planning authority wishes to provide guidance to supplement the policies and proposals in its Local Plan. They do not form part of the statutory development plan and are not subject to independent examination. The district council can decide to produce an SPD on any appropriate subject whenever the need arises, or it might be produced by another body e.g. the County Council.
- **Neighbourhood Plans**: Parish and Town Councils can now prepare Neighbourhood Plans (NPs), putting in place policies to guide the future development of the area. Any NP must be in general conformity with 'strategic policies' in the Local Plan and with national policy. It is up to local Parish and Town Councils to decide if it wants to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. Any NP, if 'made' (i.e. adopted by the District Council) has the same status as a Local Plan for decision making.
- **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)**, i.e. this document.
- **Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR)**: This is a report which must be produced by the local planning authority (on an annual basis) to explain how the LDS is being implemented and the extent to which policies in the Local Plan are being achieved.

Who will we consult on an emerging Local Plan?

When producing a Local Plan there are a number of groups that the Council must consult with. These are identified as ‘specific consultation bodies’ and include:

- Parish Councils;
- Neighbouring authorities; and
- Relevant government agencies.

In addition, there are also a number of ‘general consultation bodies’ who the Council may consult with if it is considered relevant to the document that is being prepared. These include:

- Voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the district council’s area;
- Voluntary bodies which represent the interests of :
 - Different racial, ethnic or national groups in the district council’s area
 - Different religious groups in the district council’s area
 - Disabled people in the district council’s area
 - People carrying on business in the district council’s area

There are also people and organisations that the Council considers it important to consult with, for example, residents, land owners, businesses, planning consultants, solicitors etc. Where requests have been made we will also consult directly with these people and organisations.

Although those identified above will be specifically contacted during the preparation of Local Plan documents, any individual, business, organisation or group is welcome to submit comments during consultation periods.

When we will consult

There are a number of stages in the plan preparation process where it is possible for the public, businesses and the consultation bodies identified above to become involved and make comments. The main stages of preparation and consultation are set out below.

<p>Public participation (Regulation 18)</p>	<p>During the first stage of public involvement the Council will, as a minimum, contact the ‘specific’ and ‘general’ consultation bodies as appropriate to inform them of the commencement of the plan preparation process, and invite representations on the scope and content of the plan. This may include a call for sites exercise for landowners wishing to promote sites and applications from any person or body for Local Green Space designation. There will be a minimum period of 6 weeks for comments to be made. Following this first stage of consultation, the Council may undertake one or more further 6 week consultations on either more detailed options for the content of the plan or on a revised draft of the Plan. This will inform later stages of the plan preparation.</p>
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Pre-submission publication (Regulation 19)	Following the consideration of all comments received at the above stage, a draft plan will be produced, known as the pre-submission or proposed-submission document. On publication of this document, all of the specific and general consultation bodies and any members of the public, businesses, land owners etc who made comments at the previous stage of consultation will (unless we are advised otherwise, and subject to any legal requirements arising from the General Data Protection Regulations) be notified that the pre-submission documents are available for inspection. A statement of representation procedure will be available alongside the notification of pre-submission documents. In addition, any individual, business or organisation can submit comments during the consultation period, even if they did not make comments at the earlier stage. All comments must be received within the stated consultation period, which will be a minimum of 6 weeks.
Submission (Regulation 22)	The Council submits the Local Plan to the Secretary of State together with the representations received at the Regulation 19 stage. This is not a stage for further public comments to be made.
Independent Examination Hearing	The submitted document, and the representations received, will be considered by a Planning Inspector at an independent examination. Those individuals and organisations who have made representations may be invited by the inspector to submit a written statement during the examination. Individuals and organisations who made an objection to the document and have requested to speak at the examination will be contacted by the Inspector to be informed of the procedure for being heard.
Inspector's Report	The Council will notify all those who have requested to be notified, as soon as reasonably practicable following the receipt of the Inspector's Report. The report will also be made available on the Council's website.
Adoption of the DPD (Local Plan)	<p>Assuming that the Inspector concludes that the document is sound, either with or without modifications, the Council will consider whether to adopt the Local Plan. On adoption, the Council will prepare a statement setting out the date of adoption, the modifications (if any) and where and when the adopted documents can be inspected. The opportunity to apply for judicial review will also be explained.</p> <p>The adoption documents will be made available on the Council's website, and also at the locations where the submission documents were made available. The adoption statement will also be sent to any person who has requested to be notified, and (unless we are advised otherwise, and subject to any legal requirements arising from the General Data Protection Regulations) to all those who made representations on the Regulation 19 document.</p>

How we will consult

At the commencement of consultation periods, the identified specific and general consultation bodies that we have to consult with, as well as any individuals, organisations or bodies who have requested to be notified or whom we think might be interested (subject to any legal requirements arising from the General Data Protection Regulations), will be contacted directly either in writing or via email.

All consultation and submission documents will be made available on our website (www.fenland.gov.uk) and paper or electronic copies will be available to view at local libraries. If appropriate, additional paper copies of some of the documents may be made available to view at other locations. In addition to this, we may, if appropriate and cost effective, use other methods of consultation such as press releases, community events and meetings.

During all consultations it will be possible to make comments in writing, or electronically via email or, if available, an online consultation portal. Verbal comments will not be recorded.

Consultation Arrangement for Supplementary Planning Documents

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) can be produced to supplement and add further detail to policies within the Local Plan. They may provide further guidance for development on specific sites or issues such as design.

When preparing an SPD, any individual, business or organisation can take part in the public consultation stage(s). If the Council believes that there are specific individuals, businesses or organisations that will have a particular interest in an SPD, they will be invited to make comments (subject to any legal requirements arising from the General Data Protection Regulations).

We will invite comments on the draft version of any SPD that is produced. The consultation period will be a minimum of 4 weeks.

At the commencement of the consultation period, the draft SPD will be made available on the Council's website and at local libraries. If appropriate, additional paper copies of documents may be made available to view at other locations.

During all consultations it will be possible to make comments in writing, or electronically via email. Following its adoption, the SPD will be made available on our website and at local libraries.

Part 4: Neighbourhood Planning

Introduction

Neighbourhood Planning was introduced through the Localism Act in 2011. It enables parish councils and (for those locations where a parish council does not exist) communities to develop a planning strategy for their local area to be used in making decisions on relevant planning applications.

By virtue of Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, subsection 2(B), this SCI must set out the Council's policies for giving advice or assistance on Neighbourhood Planning. For the purpose of this SCI, reference is made to a 'neighbourhood plan', though if a parish or town council is interested in preparing a considerably rarer 'neighbourhood development order' then the provisions set out in this SCI for neighbourhood plans equally apply.

A neighbourhood plan can include policies on the development and use of land, however they cannot be used to propose a lower level of growth than that proposed within local authority planning policies.

Importantly neighbourhood plans are required to meet a number of 'basic conditions', which are that the plan must:

- Have appropriate regard to national policy and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- Be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area; and
- Not breach, and be otherwise compatible with, EU and Human Rights obligations.

This Part 4 of the SCI has been produced to set out the key stages in undertaking a neighbourhood plan and to clarify what can be expected from the Council at each stage. More detailed independent advice on neighbourhood planning is available via the internet, such as <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/>.

Formal stages of neighbourhood planning

When preparing a neighbourhood plan there are a number of formal stages that are required by legislation to be undertaken. These stages are set out below and indicate what you should do and what you can expect from the Council at each stage.

Stage 1: Neighbourhood Area Designation

In order to produce a neighbourhood plan, the applicable area must be formally designated as a 'Neighbourhood Area'. A Neighbourhood Area is the geographic area that your plan will cover.

A Neighbourhood Area normally matches the boundary of the applicable parish area. However, it could be just part of a parish area or it could cover more than one parish area, but, if it does so, it should be supported by all parish councils. If more than one parish council is proposing a joint plan we would suggest making a joint application with one parish taking the lead as the 'qualifying body'.

An application for designation as a Neighbourhood Area will need to confirm that the organisation making the application is the parish or town council, stating why the proposed area is appropriate, and must be accompanied by a map clearly showing the area being applied for (FDC can provide a PDF map if needed). An application form is available on the website <http://www.fenland.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning>.

When submitted, the Council will validate the application by checking that all of the necessary information is provided. If the application is not valid you will be contacted by a planning officer to discuss the reasons and offer advice on the next steps.

Once validated, if the application is made by a Town or Parish Council for the whole of their area, no consultation is required and the Council must designate the area.

If the application is not for the whole of a Town or Parish Council's area, or is for more than one parish area, the Council will publicise notice of the application, and consult on the application for a period of 6 weeks.

Representations will be considered by the Council and a decision will be made on whether to approve the Neighbourhood Area.

With all applications, the Council will also decide whether to also designate the area as a Business Area: this will only be the case where the area is wholly or predominantly business in nature.

What you can expect from the District Council in Stage 1

We will aim to validate your application or notify you of any problems within 10 working days.

Where an application is by a Town or Parish Council for the whole of their area the Council must designate the area. The Council will aim to do this within 5 working days of the application being validated.

If consultation is required, we will publish your application on the District Council's website and advertise as necessary in at least one of the following (provided one of these exist): local library; community centre; parish/town council building and/or local notice board, for the consultation period with details of how long the consultation will run and how to make representations.

We will make a decision on whether the area should be designated:-

- Where an area falls within the areas of two or more local planning authorities – 20 weeks from first being publicised;
- For all other areas – 13 weeks from first being publicised.

If these timescales are missed, the default decision is that the area applied for is designated.

We will publicise the decision on whether or not to designate the neighbourhood area on our website.

Stage 2: Produce your neighbourhood plan

There is no 'one size fits all' approach to producing a neighbourhood plan. Each plan will be produced according to the intended content and the nature of the area. It is important to be realistic about the amount of resources and time you can put into the plan.

Effective consultation and engagement is particularly important as it is the community who will ultimately vote on whether the plan should be adopted by Fenland District Council (see Stage 6).

The Council sets out below how it will assist at this stage, as a minimum.

This list is not exhaustive, however assistance will be limited to resources available at a given time, and so it is recommended that you should develop a clear project plan to plan for when you

anticipate needing assistance from the Council. It is important to note that the District Council's duty to support does not extend to financial assistance i.e the Council does not have any funds available to pass to the Parish Council in order for the Parish Council to do any of the work.

When you are reasonably certain about the policies your plan will contain, the District Council will screen your plan for any environmental impacts. If your plan changes significantly between the screening and the formal submission, it may need to be screened again.

What you can expect from the District Council in Stage 2

Advice on matters relating to the neighbourhood plan will be given upon request, but may be capped at four officer working days in total for this stage (unless we agree to extend the number of days). Such advice may include:

- an initial meeting (requests for meetings may be limited to one)
- Advising on potential topics for your plan
- Making data available or advising where to find useful data to provide evidence for your plan;
- Providing advice on the legal requirements for your plan;
- Assisting with preparing any necessary reports;
- Advising on organisations that may be able to help with the production of your plan;
- Advising on ways to engage your community;
- Reviewing a draft of your plan and feeding back comments; and
- Providing up to 5 copies of Ordnance Survey base maps of the neighbourhood area, and printing of up to 20 copies of a draft Neighbourhood Plan

Timescales for a response to any request will vary depending on the nature of the request, but every effort will be made to respond at the earliest opportunity.

We will aim to provide an informal view of whether the plan is likely to meet the basic conditions within 20 working days of receiving a request. This will require a mature draft of the plan being provided prior to the pre-submission consultation.

Stage 3: Pre-submission Consultation

Regulations require that your proposed plan undergoes a 6 week consultation prior to submitting it (see Stage 4) to the District Council. This requirement, which is the Parish or Town Council's responsibility to undertake, includes:

- Publicising the plan so that it is brought to the attention of people who live, work, or own a business in the neighbourhood area;
- Notifying a number of bodies such as the Highways Agency, Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency;
- Notifying service providers that operate in the area such as utility providers, a Primary Care Trust, and Network Rail;
- Notifying local organisations that represent racial, religious, national, business, and disability groups;
- Notifying voluntary bodies that operate in your neighbourhood area;
- Notifying parish councils within the neighbourhood area; and
- Sending your plan to the District Council.

Prior to publicising your plan, it is recommended that you contact the Council who will advise on who (subject to any legal requirements arising from the General Data Protection Regulations) you should be notifying and can advise on how to publicise your plan in your neighbourhood area.

You will need to plan the consultation and make sure that your plan can be viewed by the community and other organisations, both in electronic format and in hard copy. You will also need to consider how you will bring the proposed plan to the attention of the community using means such as mail drops, posters, press adverts, etc.

Once the 6 week consultation period is complete you will need to review the comments and collate them into a consultation statement, including a response to the key issues being raised. This will demonstrate what changes, if any, will be made to the plan. You will then need to amend the plan to be ready to submit to the Council. If significant changes are made, it is recommended that you repeat this Stage 3 six week consultation.

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What you can expect from the District Council in Stage 3

Assist with identifying the organisations that should be contacted as part of the pre-submission consultation and advise on how to publicise the proposed plan to the community. We will aim to provide this within 10 working days of a request in the run up to the consultation.

If asked by you to do so, publish a notice of your plan on the District Council's website and place copies of the proposed plan at the Council office and other relevant locations such as libraries for the public to view for the consultation period.

Provide a response to the proposed neighbourhood plan, including a view on whether it is considered to meet the basic conditions.

Stage 4: Submission and publication of the plan

First you will need to take account of the comments made to the pre-submission consultation (and make any amendments to your plan as you think necessary). Next, you will need to formally submit your plan to the Council. At this point you cannot make any further changes to the plan and you hand over control of the plan to the Council.

Your plan must be accompanied by a number of other documents, specifically:

- A map or statement clearly identifying the area to which the plan relates;
- A consultation statement which clearly documents the pre-submission consultation, including who was consulted on the plan and how they were consulted, a summary of the main issues raised, and information on how the representations have informed the content of the plan. The consultation statement may also demonstrate what previous consultation has been undertaken throughout the production of the plan.
- A basic conditions statement to demonstrate how the plan meets the basic conditions and how the plan has been produced in line with legislative requirements.
- An environmental report prepared in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004; or where it is considered that the plan proposal will not have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not require an environmental assessment), a statement of reasons for determination.

When your plan is submitted, the Strategic Planning Team will check your submission to ensure that it contains all of the necessary information to be published and will notify you of whether or not it is valid.

If the submission is valid, your plan and the accompanying documents will be published as soon as possible for 6 weeks (i.e this is a second 6 week consultation, in addition to the 6 week consultation at Stage 3) on the Council's website and in hard copy at an appropriate Council location. The Council will also publicise the consultation as necessary, including information about where to view the plan, how to make comments on it and when comments must be received by.

Following the consultation, the Council will gather the representations made on the plan and send them, along with the neighbourhood plan and accompanying documents, for examination.

What you can expect from the District Council in Stage 4

We will help you, capped at four officer working days in total (unless we agree to extend the number of days), to consider any representations received at Stage 3, and help you determine what appropriate action should be undertaken with them (eg amend policy wording) prior to you submitting the plan.

Once submitted, we will aim to confirm whether your submitted plan is valid within 10 working days of submission.

If valid, we will arrange for publication of the plan on the District Council's website, have hard copies placed at an appropriate District and Parish Council location, publicise the consultation as necessary and notify the consultation bodies as required, including those who submitted comments at pre-submission stage (subject to any legal requirements arising from the General Data Protection Regulations).

We will provide a formal response to the submitted plan, including a view on whether it is considered to meet the basic conditions.

We will cover all costs associated with meeting minimum requirements for the publication of the plan. We will consider helping with any additional minor costs, such as printing posters or leaflets, if the parish or town council asks us to.

Stage 5: Independent examination

During the publication stage the Council will commence appointment of a suitably qualified individual to undertake the independent examination. This appointment will be made in conjunction with the Parish Council submitting the plan.

After the publication, the neighbourhood plan, accompanying documents and representations made on the published plan will be sent to the examiner. Examinations are normally conducted by written representations, but the examiner may decide to hold a public hearing to discuss any points as needed. The examiner will only consider whether the plan meets the basic conditions.

Following the examination, the examiner will provide a report that sets out a recommendation on the plan. The possible recommendations are:

- The plan meets the basic conditions and should proceed to referendum;
- Modifications are needed for the plan to meet the basic conditions before the plan should proceed to referendum; or
- The plan does not meet the basic conditions and no modifications can be made so that it will – as such it should not proceed.

The examiner can also make recommendations as to any changes to the referendum area, though this will be an unusual recommendation.

The Council will make a decision on whether the plan should proceed to referendum based on the examiner's report and publish the Council's decision statement and the examiner's report.

What you can expect from the District Council in Stage 5

We will appoint the examiner in consultation with the Parish Council.

We will manage and fund the process of the examination and act as key contact for the examiner.

We will publish the examiner's report and the Council's decision on whether the plan will proceed to referendum.

We will print and pay for up to 20 copies of the final Plan, in colour, including maps.

Stage 6: Referendum and Adoption

Upon receiving the examiner's report approving the plan to proceed to referendum and the Council's formal decision to proceed (only in exceptional circumstances would the Council not agree to proceed), the Council will arrange for a referendum to take place in the neighbourhood area.

The referendum will allow for the residents of the neighbourhood area to decide on whether or not the plan should be used in making planning decisions in the neighbourhood area, with a simple 'yes' or 'no' vote. The Council will arrange and pay for the referendum to be held.

If the plan gains more than 50% of votes for 'yes' then the Council will adopt the plan at the earliest possible opportunity, making the neighbourhood plan part of the development plan for the area. It will then be used in conjunction with the Local Plan (and any other material considerations) in making decisions on planning applications.

What you can expect from the District Council in Stage 6

We will arrange and pay for the referendum.

We will publish the results of the referendum.

We will adopt the plan at the next suitable Full Council meeting

We will use the plan in making decisions on relevant planning applications in the neighbourhood area.

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Agenda Item No:	6
Committee:	Cabinet
Date:	20 November 2023
Report Title:	Renewal of Public Space Protection Order - Dog Control



1 Purpose / Summary

To seek approval for renewal of an existing Public Space Protection Order which provides intervention and enforcement powers for the control of nuisance dogs and dog fouling.

2 Key Issues

- Cabinet approved the existing Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control in 2020. A PSPO, once declared, lasts for 3 years. If these powers are to remain in place, renewal is required.
- A PSPO only applies to land in the open air and to which the council has control and the public have access.
- Our existing Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) sets out the following controls to protect the environment, our open spaces and the public's health:
 - A requirement to clean up after dogs, removing dog faeces immediately in all streets and open spaces across the district.
 - A requirement to keep dogs on a lead in specified areas, such as open spaces with children's play areas and closed cemeteries.
 - A requirement to put dogs on a lead when directed to by an authorised officer.
 - A requirement not to take dogs into specified exclusion areas, such as children's gated play areas and open cemeteries.
 - Breaching a PSPO is an offence for which a fixed penalty notice may be served or a referral for prosecution made. This fine level is set at its maximum, £100.
 - Consultation was undertaken during June 2023 with the public and key stakeholders and support was shown for these powers to remain in place.

3 Recommendations

- Note the consultation responses in paragraph 4 and Appendix 1;
- Approve the renewal to the Public Spaces Protection Order (attached at Appendix 3 and accompanying maps at Appendix 4) for a further period of 3 years.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Peter Murphy Portfolio Holder for Environment
Report Originator(s)	Layna Warren Street Scene & Markets Team Leader Email: lwarren@fenland.gov.uk Annabel Tighe Head of Environmental Health and Compliance Email; atighe@fenland.gov.uk Carol Pilson Corporate Director Email; cpilson@fenland.gov.uk
Contact Officer(s)	Layna Warren Street Scene & Markets Team Leader Email: lwarren@fenland.gov.uk Annabel Tighe Head of Environmental Health and Compliance Email; atighe@fenland.gov.uk
Background Papers	Report and appendices.pdf (fenland.gov.uk)

Report:

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act) came into effect on 20th October 2014.
- 1.2 The Act enables Local Authorities to create Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) if they are satisfied that activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. Dog control and dog fouling are issues which may be controlled by the Act and by introducing a PSPO covering a certain geographical area. There are no other enforcement powers available to the council to control dog fouling and nuisance dogs.
- 1.3 In late 2020 Cabinet approved a PSPO which introduced the following controls to protect the environment, our open spaces and the public's health:
 - A requirement to clean up after dogs, removing dog faeces immediately in all streets and open spaces across the district.

- A requirement to keep dogs on a lead in specified areas, such as open spaces with children's play areas and closed cemeteries.
 - A requirement to put dogs on a lead when directed to by an authorised officer.
 - A requirement not to take dogs into specified exclusion areas, such as children's gated play areas and open cemeteries.
- 1.4 A PSPO can remain in place for 3 years after which it must be renewed, amended, or removed. Enforcement may only be used if an approved PSPO is in place.
- 1.5 Dog fouling and issues created by irresponsible dog ownership are priority issues which impact on local environmental quality. In 2022/23 there were more than 311 issues relating to dog fouling and dog behaviour reported to the Council (not including stray dogs). Many of these reported issues relate to areas with high footfall and within our parks and green spaces.
- 1.6 Extending the current order with its existing provisions will maintain the current framework for enforcement.
- 1.7 A Dog Control PSPO helps manage the way our public open spaces are used by dog owners and to ensure that they are safe, clean and enjoyable for everyone, including those with dogs. They address irresponsible behaviour from a small minority of dog owners, whose actions have a detrimental impact on peoples' ability to enjoy outdoor spaces.
- 1.8 Streetscene officers have delegated powers to take enforcement interventions and serve fixed penalty notices for breaches of the order. Since the orders were refreshed in 2017 and 2020, 13 fixed penalty notices have been served. 12 for dog fouling and 1 for a dog being in a specified area off a lead.
- 1.9 In addition to the provision of an enforcement approach, a PSPO will also increase community engagement and support those responsible dog owners who take pride in their local environment and look after their community assets.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The provision of a PSPO provides a robust framework for the implementation of the council's enforcement policy in relation to these community priorities.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 During June 2023 a public and key stakeholder consultation was undertaken. The following organisations were consulted;

- Town and Parish Councils
- Environment Agency
- Housing associations within Fenland
- Police and crime commissioner / Senior Fenland Inspector / Rural crime team
- Diocese of Ely

- Cambs County Council Highways/Rights of way
- Wildlife Trust
- National Farmers Union and Countryside Alliance

3.2 Consultation responses are included in Appendix 1.

3.3 226 replies were received, and the results summarised below.

1. Do you agree that we should continue to make failing to pick up your dog faeces an offence?

Yes 98%

2. Do you agree that it should continue to be an offence where you fail to put your dog on a lead when asked by an Authorised Officer? This would be when the officer decides it is not being sufficiently supervised or they believe the owner does not have it under control.

Yes 98%

3. Do you agree that dogs should be banned from being inside gated children's play areas?

Yes 92%

4. Do you agree that dogs should be banned from cemeteries and churchyards where people are still being laid to rest?

Yes 63%

5. Do you agree that a person who is seen to not pick up a dogs fouling should receive the maximum fixed penalty notice of £100?

Yes 97%

6. Do you agree that a person who is seen to not have their dog on a lead in a cemetery where people are no longer being buried or around open children's play areas shall receive the maximum fixed penalty notice of £100? (Ignoring signs advising dogs to be on leads)

Yes 87%

7. Do you agree that a person who refuses to put their dog on a lead by an authorised officer, who feels it is not under control, shall receive the maximum fixed penalty notice of £100?

Yes 95%

8. Do you agree that the Council should take to court for a prosecution the person who has been issued a fine that they have not paid?

Yes 94%

9. Are you able to find a suitable area within your community to walk and exercise your dog?

Yes 82%

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 There are no other provisions in law that would provide enforcement options for controlling dog fouling and nuisance dogs.
- 4.2 The period of consultation gave opportunity for alternative views to be offered. The following comments were received and have been given consideration:

The Manor Field in Whittlesey should be defined as a ‘dogs on leads’ area under the PSPO, currently dogs may be exercised off the lead in this public space, if they are not a nuisance to park users.

- 4.3 The PSPO guidance requires a balance to be struck between relevant provisions and controls for nuisance dogs and the right for responsible owners to exercise their dogs freely. Having reviewed these comments and carried out local observations and patrols in Whittlesey the proposal to extend this area as a designated ‘dogs on leads area’ is not being proposed.
- 4.4 Further community work will be undertaken to raise awareness of the impact of exercising dogs in this area and the powers within the PSPO to request nuisance loose dogs are put on the lead.

Comments were received regarding the issue of defined dangerous dogs.

- 4.5 This is a matter for the police and officers work closely with the police by referring concerns relating to dangerous or banned breeds. The Council’s stray dog contractor is also able to offer support and advice in relation to these issues.

Feedback raised the concerns relating to dogs worrying livestock when being walked on or off a lead on, or near to, agricultural land.

- 4.6 Any instances of dogs worrying or attacking livestock should be reported to Cambridgeshire Police. As is usual practice public information regarding this topic, or any other, relating to animal behaviour and crime will be shared using usual council communication and media routes.

The issue of dogs being excluded from cemeteries was raised by Chatteris town council and approximately 30% of those surveyed disagreed with dogs being excluded from these public spaces.

- 4.7 As the proposal to maintain the exclusion within the proposed order was supported overall it is not proposed to change this currently.

5 IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Council is the responsible authority for implementing these controls and taking enforcement action. There are no other powers for addressing dog fouling and nuisance dogs within our open spaces.
- 5.2 The current PSPO expires on the 1st of December 2023. Unless the PSPO is renewed, after this time the Council would not be able to act in relation to these community priorities detailed within the report.

Financial Implications

- 5.3 There is no significant cost to implementing the PSPO and it is enforced as part of daily patrols by street scene officers and following reports by residents.
- 5.4 Fines are set at the maximum level of £100.
- 5.5 Income received from fines is used to support street cleansing costs overall.

Equality Implications

- 5.6 There are provisions within the existing order which provides an exemption for those who are unable to comply with the rules set out by the order due to a recognised disability. A full equalities impact assessment is available in Appendix 2.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Consultation survey responses

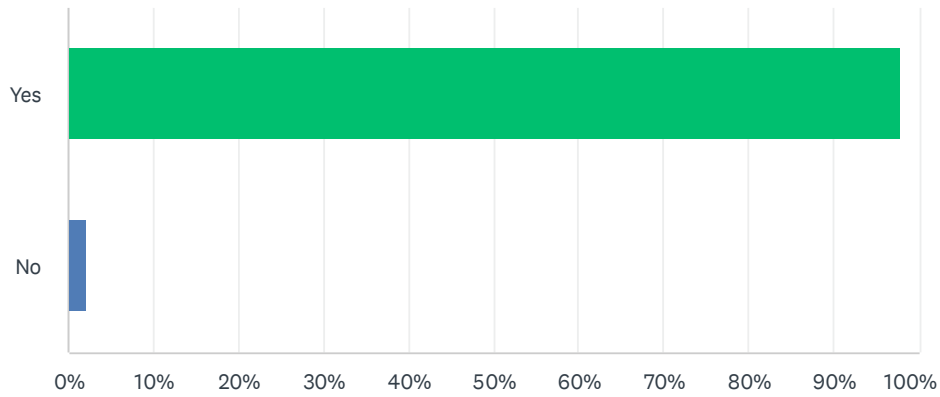
Appendix 2 – Equality impact Assessment

Appendix 3 - Public Space Protection Order – dog control

Appendix 4 – Accompanying maps

Q1 Do you agree that we should continue to make failing to pick up your dog faeces an offence?

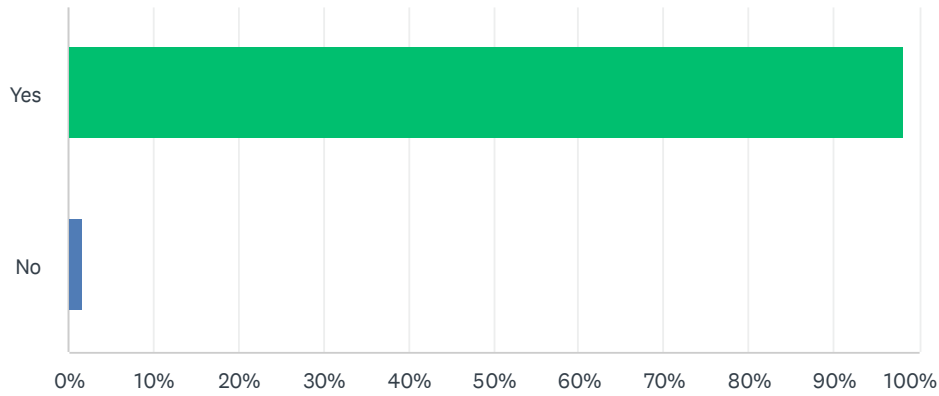
Answered: 226 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	97.79%	221
No	2.21%	5
TOTAL		226

Q2 Do you agree that it should continue to be an offence where you fail to put your dog on a lead when asked by an Authorised Officer? This would be when the officer decides it is not being sufficiently supervised or they believe the owner does not have it under control.

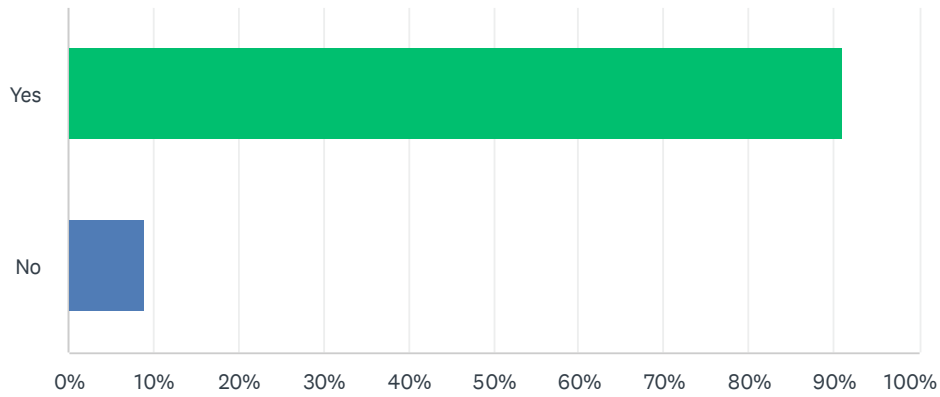
Answered: 226 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	98.23%	222
No	1.77%	4
TOTAL		226

Q3 Do you agree that dogs should be banned from being inside gated children’s play areas?

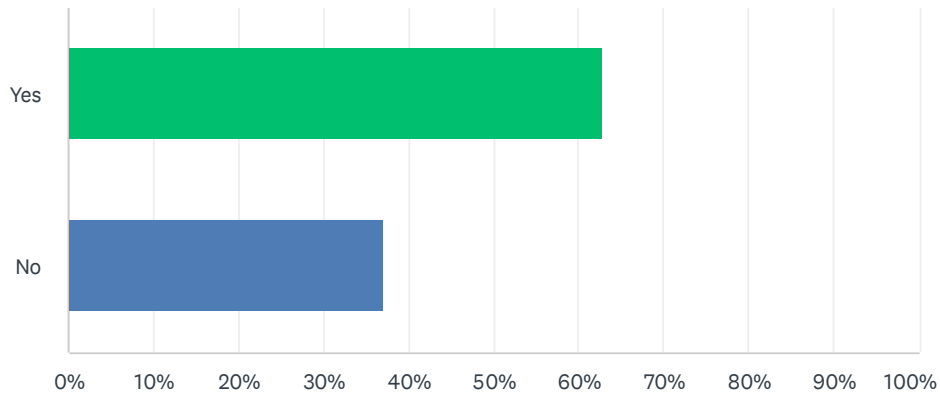
Answered: 225 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	91.11%	205
No	8.89%	20
TOTAL		225

Q4 Do you agree that dogs should be banned from cemeteries and churchyards where people are still being laid to rest?

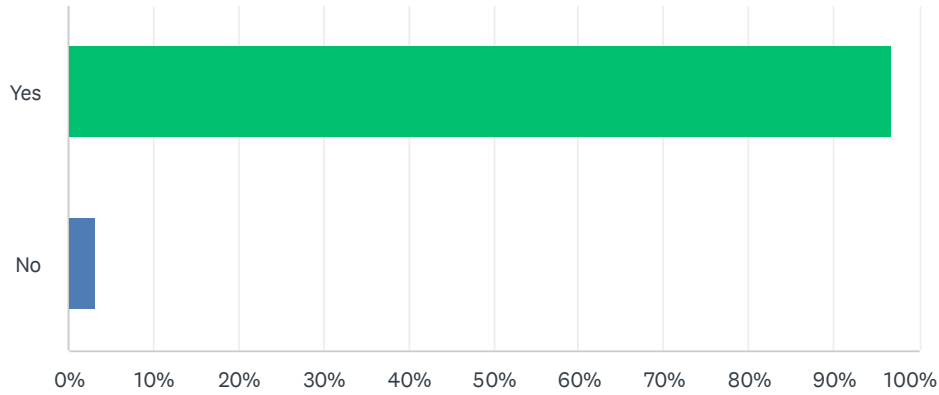
Answered: 224 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	62.95%	141
No	37.05%	83
TOTAL		224

Q5 Do you agree that a person who is seen to not pick up a dog's fouling shall receive the maximum Fixed Penalty Notice of £100?

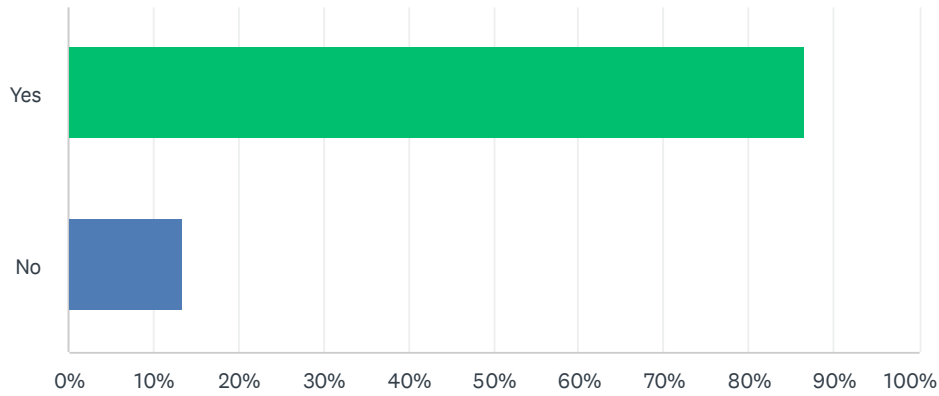
Answered: 225 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	96.89%	218
No	3.11%	7
TOTAL		225

Q6 Do you agree that a person who is seen to not have their dog on a lead in a cemetery where people are no longer being buried or around open children’s play areas shall receive the maximum Fixed Penalty Notice of £100? (Ignoring signs advising dogs to be on a lead)

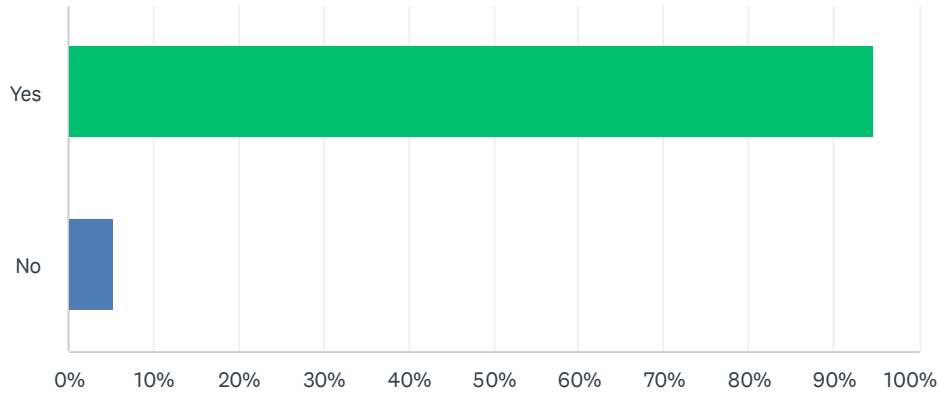
Answered: 225 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	86.67%	195
No	13.33%	30
TOTAL		225

Q7 Do you agree that a person who refuses to put their dog on a lead by an Authorised Officer, who feels it is not under control, shall receive the maximum Fixed Penalty Notice of £100?

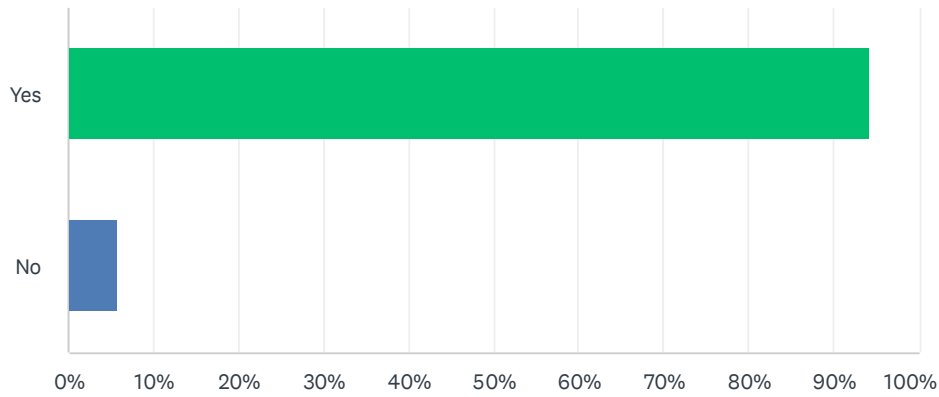
Answered: 226 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	94.69%	214
No	5.31%	12
TOTAL		226

Q8 Do you agree that the Council should take to Court for a prosecution, the person who has been issued a fine that they have not paid?

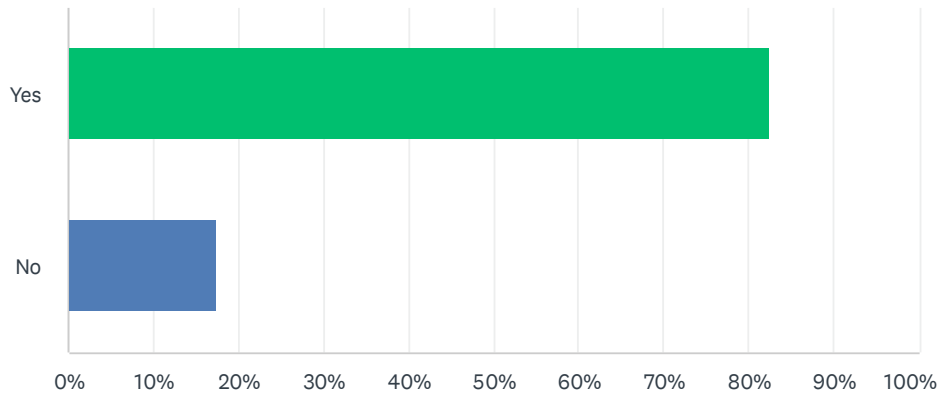
Answered: 225 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	94.22%	212
No	5.78%	13
TOTAL		225

Q9 Are you able to find a suitable area within your community to walk and exercise your dog?

Answered: 211 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	82.46%	174
No	17.54%	37
TOTAL		211

Q10 Please provide any other feedback you wish to be considered in relation to the Council seeking to extend its current Dog Public Space Protection Order

Answered: 108 Skipped: 118

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It's good to see from the start of Covid councils made it easier to have dogs accepted in eateries. Don't understand why we can't eat on the market place at Wetherspoons in Whittlesey as the outside space is public	6/28/2023 1:37 PM
2	Total bans for known dangerous/nuisance dogs and their owners. Fines for dog fouling higher	6/26/2023 11:07 PM
3	I take my husband dog to visit him on a lead as he would have wished. In terms of fines, I believe one warning should be issued first.	6/24/2023 9:08 AM
4	Dogs should be kept on leads in the Manor Field as people let them off the dog then goes to the toilet and owner hasn't noticed because they are not with their dog and that is why there is so much poop in the manor	6/23/2023 9:25 AM
5	No dogs should be allowed to run free in public Parks but all public Parks should have a gated and fenced dog exercise area.	6/20/2023 4:48 PM
6	there is currently a good balance and I think the current order should stay the same. No point introducing rules for the sake of it or for a personal view point.	6/19/2023 3:04 PM
7	All the above should be executed but where are the people to do so as I have never seen anyone around, as there is dog droppings everywhere, and dogs off the lead in St. Mary's Church Grave grass area.	6/19/2023 2:34 PM
8	On Q6 Members of Chatteris Town Council do not believe that dogs should have to be on a lead in a closed cemetery but they do believe they should be on a lead in an open children's play area.	6/19/2023 11:23 AM
9	Ive had dogs all my life. Generally, dogs enjoy the company of other dogs & respond better to be allowed to socialise than being separated - as such, being able to throw a ball for a dog to retrieve is good for dogs. If dogs are required to be always on a lead & under control, it is no longer possible to exercise a dog. As such, a public park should have sufficient space for dogs to be allowed to run freely, allowing dog owners who refuse to allow their animals to socialise to use other areas where dogs are all kept on a leash. Removing the right of an animal to run freely is to the detriment of the animal.	6/18/2023 1:02 PM
10	Dogs should be on leads on all playing fields regardless of whether it is a gated playpark area for children or not. People running or playing football etc are continually challenged by dogs on recreation fields. The dogs jump up, scratching people's legs and knocking over small children. A lot of owners seem to shy away from any responsibility.	6/18/2023 12:35 PM
11	Responsible dog owners are NOT criminals and you are treating us like we are. You already have UK laws to hand to tackle any issue relating to dogs out of control etc. This survey and the PSPO information states nothing positive about dogs - you are obviously an anti dog council and that will affect ALL my future votes come any election	6/18/2023 7:35 AM
12	I think there should be designated dog fields ,and other fields for sport ,ect	6/17/2023 7:35 PM
13	The fine should be greater than £100	6/17/2023 4:39 PM
14	The banning of all dogs in some cemeteries is utterly heartless - a person who has lost a family member may need the companionship of their dog, which can be their only companion, when visiting a graveside. A properly controlled dog on a lead is doing absolutely nothing wrong just offering some comfort to the owner at a time when it is most needed.	6/17/2023 11:52 AM
15	I would love to take my little dog for company when visiting my parents' grave - I no longer feel comfortable without her so don't attend. They should be permitted if on a lead. Also the Manor Field should be included in the list. Dogs should be allowed in the play areas if they are with the child and parents or grandparents. Not running loose.	6/17/2023 10:23 AM

16	The vast majority of dog owners follow these rules so there should be no objection. Unfortunately following the covid 19 pandemic there seems to be a rise of less responsible dog owners who need to understand that we should not be picking up their dog waste. Unfortunately the lack of police presence in my local town (Whittlesey) render any enforceable law quite useless. We are not able to prevent parents parking on zig zag marking outside a schools during pick up and drop off times, seriously risking the safety of children's. So I'm quite sure we will be unable to slow or stop dog owners not cleaning up dog mess on the manor field.	6/17/2023 9:14 AM
17	Im a responsible dog owner but there are always dogs off lead in the church yard. If these orders are going to be put in force,then more patrols are needed. I have never seen anyone patrol these areas	6/17/2023 8:08 AM
18	Dogs need exercise off lead so wouldn't want them to be made to go on one in places like the manor or the green wheel . Dog fouling is normally only done by a few ,we need an easy way of reporting repeat offenders without any comeback	6/16/2023 10:18 PM
19	Dogs should be kept on leads on public footpaths/walkways too as many owners cannot control their dogs.	6/16/2023 10:02 PM
20	Having been a dog owner for 50 years I have never seen a dog warden in my area So how can this order be policed If it's a case of no budget to have an effective force to enforce this policy then it should be scrapped As for safe suitable areas to exercise my dog these are all disappearing due to land being built on for housing As for dog fouling maybe more bins with bag dispensers would help we can all run out of bags on a walk	6/16/2023 8:39 PM
21	Please keep everything the same as it is	6/16/2023 8:31 PM
22	Whittlesey needs to extend this to cover the Manor field. Lots if people let dogs off and do jot pick up dog poo. Also it is used regularly for children, football etc. Not all people like dogs and it would be far safer to extend.	6/16/2023 8:21 PM
23	Open fields that are for the use of the community such as the Manor field should be dogs on leads only. Too many people exercise their dogs off the lead in what is a field for all- not dog walking specifically?	6/16/2023 8:11 PM
24	Manor leisure centre needs to be patrolled for dog fouling and dogs of leads especially around children's play areas	6/16/2023 7:40 PM
25	I do not like dogs bounding up to me and jumping up at the Manor Park Whittlesey	6/16/2023 7:23 PM
26	Dog Park area would be good.	6/16/2023 7:18 PM
27	I think all dog owners no matter the breed should have to have a dog licence and that the fines for not picking up after your pets in public spaces should be higher. There is no excuse for not picking up after your dog. If disabled people can do it so can everyone.	6/16/2023 12:55 PM
28	Just to add however, while we have green spaces to walk our dogs, because they are not being cut as regularly, 1 of my dogs is literally covered by the length of the grass in one of the areas which keep getting forgotten which in itself brings various issues, and the other places are done less regularly than usual which means the nettles/thistles/spiky things are still in long pieces when cut and are getting more attached than usual to the dogs. I've had to spend £184 at the vet for one dog whose paws were very affected by the spiky things left in the grass (which is in close proximity to the childrens play area also so they will also be getting stung if they fall over or crawl in it - not gated area). So if we maintain these areas better that would help - for info it's extra difficult to pick up no.2's in these longer grasses as well - don't give people an extra excuse.	6/16/2023 9:04 AM
29	As to Q9, 1st I tried google and found no help in finding areas where I could exercise a dog. so, I looked on the FDC website, but only got where dogs have to be on a lead or excluded. Not very helpful for visitors or new residents.	6/14/2023 4:24 PM
30	Put dog poo bag dispensers at the site of dog poo bins, to encourage people to pick up after their dog. More anti dog fouling signs.	6/14/2023 1:01 PM
31	I am writing on behalf of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council and as much as the Council continue to support the Dog Control PSPO, they consider the enforcement in rural areas to be the problem, there needs to be the availability of CCTV or Officers in built up villages suffering significant issues with Dog Fouling.	6/13/2023 12:45 PM
32	Most dog owners/walkers probably are responsible but for any owners not keeping pets on a lead, picking up faeces, walking their dogs within a children's open space/play area, open/closed cemeteries and any outside sports grounds .. I completely support a minimum of £100.00 fine	6/11/2023 11:09 PM

33	Well this covers absolutely nothing! What a waste of time!	6/11/2023 7:46 PM
34	Fine should be £1000 as £100 is too low and do you actually ever fine anyone ? As never seen a authorised officer . Deerfield Road gets quite fouled as on route to park one man rides his cycle and dog runs behind fouling as he walks man never looks never cleans up after dog it's disgusting.	6/11/2023 5:08 PM
35	Completed on behalf of Benwick Parish Council. Dog fouling is an ongoing problem in Benwick and members of the public have persevered in raising the issue at Parish Council meetings time after time. The PC has paid for several dog bins which FDC service and empty but the problem persists. The Parish Council support the order but would like to know what resources FDC have allocate for will allocate to enforcing the order?	6/11/2023 2:34 PM
36	All dogs should be on leads at all times when in public places.	6/11/2023 12:26 PM
37	Yes to Q10 currently, but if dogs are banned from the local park and houses are built on the local meadow, there will be no large, open green spaces left for dogs/people, and most need to enjoy controlled, off lead activities.	6/11/2023 6:57 AM
38	Pspo are detrimental to dogs health and training	6/11/2023 6:40 AM
39	Such orders should also be applicable to dog fouling on walkways and public paths in the fields and floodplains. Nothing more distressing than walking in the fields looking around and enjoying nature then suddenly stepping onto dog foul. Perhaps public announcements and well positioned signs could be displayed.	6/10/2023 4:26 PM
40	There are already UK laws in place to deal with dog related antisocial behaviour. PSPO's are essentially the council micro managing with unevidenced and disproportionate PSPO's. Dog fouling needs to be addressed by Enforcement Officers patrolling areas effectively and efficiently. Education about keeping dogs out of areas is important but is a PSPO regarding this evidenced and proportionate? As the majority of dog owners are responsible a targeted approach to the existing dog law is the way to deal with irresponsible owners would be much more proportionate rather than councils enforcing blanket bans.	6/10/2023 3:13 PM
41	I am a dog owner but still feel that £100 is not a high enough maximum fine and doesn't act as enough of a deterrent. I think dogs should be allowed in cemeteries, but only on a lead and following strict guidance around sticking to paths and no fouling.	6/10/2023 2:24 PM
42	Dogs are great company and prevent loneliness. Making more dog accessible places should be a priority, however your questions are just covering restrictions that are already in place. There is a lack of dog walking areas in and around Wisbech look at this please and more dog bins also.	6/10/2023 1:02 PM
43	Dangerous breeds should be always kept on a lead in public areas.	6/10/2023 8:00 AM
44	Dog should be on leads around schools.	6/10/2023 4:45 AM
45	British Law covers fouling and not having a dog under effective control. PSPOs bypass the Courts and having a fair trial by adding a layer of law that is in the hands of local Council employees. I object strongly to PSPOs on the grounds that they are not fair, evidenced or appropriate as they victimise a whole community (dog owners) the majority of whom are responsible. This is a dangerous path to tread - it's how the Nazi party was born - local officials deciding that a local law gave them powers over a certain section of society. Use British Law to prosecute offenders, not PSPOs to restrict a named group of society.	6/9/2023 8:48 AM
46	Understanding where you can & can't walk a dog would be really helpful	6/8/2023 11:00 PM
47	Wisbech park There is no-one to provide enforcement, so what's the point of rules? Dogs regularly in tennis court Fouling is extensive, and faeces spread about by mowing. Any patch of grass in town has fresh piles of faeces every day. Dogs not on leads, many not under control Even some dogs on leads, usually small ones, bark, growl and have attacked ours.	6/8/2023 10:42 PM
48	re Q6, i agree with the issue around childrens play areas, but not in closed cemeteries....these are quite different types of area and should be treated differently	6/8/2023 7:34 PM
49	No 2 Dogs on Leads, should be at all times unless on private land, people don't know their dog 100%. And also to stop Dog Attacks there's getting too much of this with dogs running loose.	6/8/2023 5:57 PM
50	In parks where there is a child play area dogs should be kept on leads in the whole park. Children don't just stick to playing in the play areas, they play in whole park. West End park in March for example can be very busy with dogs running around off leads. This mixed with young children playing and elderly people out walking is an accident waiting to happen with	6/8/2023 2:28 PM

either a dog and child incident or dogs knocking over elderly people. I've seen 1st hand some close calls. I think dogs should have there own fenced, secure area in parks where they can be let off leads in a contained, safe and secure space.

51	Offer enclosed dog fields/spaces to be used independently to safely exercise dogs	6/8/2023 9:47 AM
52	The fine should be more than £100	6/8/2023 7:12 AM
53	Dogs should be on leads where other people are. A lead is not an exstendable cord on country roads dogs on exstendable are dangerous as they will run around pedestrians and cyclists. I know I have knocked off by one.	6/7/2023 10:33 PM
54	All dogs should be on a lead at all times in public spaces.	6/7/2023 9:04 PM
55	Drugs should be allowed in public parks. For example they are not allowed in park in Soham town centre which is really one of not many places people could go with dogs.	6/7/2023 8:54 PM
56	Maximum fines should be increased, at least in line with inflation, and doubled for a second offence.	6/7/2023 7:00 PM
57	The stitch Friday bridge..dogs poo on pavement and people do not pick it up.disgusting	6/7/2023 6:53 PM
58	Better signs in local parks to make sure people keep their dogs on leads at all times. I have often visited Wisbech park and have had very large dogs running towards me. When I have shouted at them to go away, trying to get the attention of whoever owns the dog, I have been accused of causing distress to the dog!! I don't mind dogs on leads, but am very nervous of large dogs roaming free.	6/7/2023 6:16 PM
59	Dogs should be kept on Leads at all times.	6/7/2023 5:49 PM
60	i believe there should be a fine its horrible, little kids running around on fields at park and end up slipping or stepping in the dogs waste.	6/7/2023 4:37 PM
61	March is lacking in green areas for the size of its population. Areas for dog walking only are non existent. Shared use of West End park is essential for dog walking - many owners use it for exercise and their mental health (together with their canine companions). Any further restrictions for dog walking would be very unwelcome - dog owners pay their rates too and need recreation space as well.	6/7/2023 3:59 PM
62	Dog licences should be mandatory. Exception being pensioners and people on disabled benefit.	6/7/2023 3:58 PM
63	If these rules are in place they need to be monitored. We have a play area for children out the back of my house and there are often dogs in the gated area. There was a sign once saying no dogs, not sure that is still there though. No point having these rules if nothing is going to be done about them.	6/7/2023 3:01 PM
64	dont ban dogs from west end park and robingoodfellows park and the causeway park or any others these are precious spaces of socialisation and exercise	6/7/2023 1:42 PM
65	I agree to the above as they are sensible rules and I am sure others will feel the same. These schemes fall apart when officials move away from the boundaries or when common sense escapes officials and become 'jobsworth'. If everyone remains reasonable, from both sides, there shouldn't be a problem.	6/7/2023 12:51 PM
66	There are notices up already but there are still dogs running in the cemetery and walking on the public footpath. There are good walks around Benwick thanks to local farmers who keep the walkways mowed. If there is nobody patrolling people will not take any notice of the signs put up.	6/7/2023 11:46 AM
67	I don't feel it is fair that dogs are the only animal people are expected to clean up after. I think every animals in the care of a person should be expected to be cleaned up after. Including horses who make the biggest mess on roads making it unsafe for people with mobility scooters and cyclists trying to dodge the mess. I don't feel it's right to ban dogs from anywhere unless the dog is off lead and not under control. However I feel that any laws like this are pointless unless there are people on site to actually enforce these rules.	6/7/2023 11:09 AM
68	Why is this council showing zero interest in large dogs regularly escaping from their home and wandering around Christchurch? Call to your office redirected me to some rescue kennel that I could not get a reply from. This village only has two Facebook related pages it would not be hard to trace the owner. Clearly these people ignore the complaints about the dogs escaping and will only be interested when they dogs cause an accident. Council the same apparently.	6/7/2023 11:07 AM
69	dog fouling is a major issue, dogs being walked in eastwood cemetery which does not allow	6/7/2023 10:46 AM

dogs, dogs off leads in public, its not acceptable yet it still s a major issue. You need the legislation but please take more action to stop it being a problem. For example, council workers in the cemetery ignore people walking their dogs, council staff seen in town yet dogs are not on leads and they go to others and jump up or bark and yet nothing is said. It shouldnt happen in the first place, dog owners should be responsible, but sadly when these fail the council still don't seem to do anything

70	I don't believe dogs on leads should be excluded from cemeteries if their owner wants them to accompany them to visit a family member that has passed. If it was a family dog owned by the person who has passed it can provide much comfort. Dogs should be on leads in public places but we should not seek to ban dogs from most areas as this provides essential socialisation for youngsters.	6/7/2023 10:10 AM
71	See above comments, thank you...	6/7/2023 9:27 AM
72	Dogs should be kept on a short lead on all public footpaths where other people are present.	6/7/2023 9:16 AM
73	I think all the above covers everything	6/7/2023 8:54 AM
74	It's about time all this was made law	6/7/2023 7:52 AM
75	wisbech park is a lovely walk for our dogs. but i agree it is about the owners and control of dogs. no bad dogs just bad owners.	6/7/2023 7:45 AM
76	Ensure enough dog bins are in the right locations	6/7/2023 7:44 AM
77	would be great to see more enforcement , dog owners should also not be allowed to have dogs off leads or on extendable leads on cycle paths , west end road in march becomes very dangerous in the daylight hours	6/7/2023 6:57 AM
78	Horse manure should also be treated the same.	6/7/2023 6:34 AM
79	In Christchurch Cambridgeshire there is dog poo everywhere. It's disgusting!! I have 3 dogs and obey by all the rules and don't understand why they don't pick up their dog poo. People who don't walk their dog responsibly control it appropriately and pick up the poo should not be allowed to Own dogs!!	6/6/2023 6:35 PM
80	Christchurch needs a secure area/field to let dogs off their leads.	6/6/2023 6:32 PM
81	Extend the DPSPO but ensure there are visible authorised officers to make random checks and this is not always within normal working hours	6/6/2023 6:01 PM
82	People not paying attention or who are completely oblivious to what their dog is doing especially when the dog is off the lead.	6/6/2023 5:08 PM
83	It's an effect tool to reinforce the need for the community to respect their environment	6/6/2023 4:30 PM
84	The biggest issue is the large number of people failing to supervise and control their dogs when they are off their lead. With regard to faecal matters cat owners should be forced to keep cats indoors or clean up their disgusting mess their cat leaves in people's gardens. It is vile and a health hazard.	6/6/2023 4:29 PM
85	The council needs to be more stringent in enforcement if footpath fouling. I would also expect suitable discretion to be used re the walking of dogs not on leads in open parks at antisocial hours where there are no other persons presents or children playing	6/6/2023 4:04 PM
86	Arguably the fines are not a sufficient deterrent, and I've never seen an "Authorised Officer" in Wisbech Park but I've seen plenty of uncontrolled dogs. I am an owner of two dogs.	6/6/2023 3:31 PM
87	The fine should be higher	6/6/2023 3:12 PM
88	There seems to be a lot of dogs that 'get out' and roam. Should there be a deterrent to ensure your home/garden is secure? Yes I do own 2 dogs myself.	6/6/2023 2:51 PM
89	Also to include grass verges	6/6/2023 1:58 PM
90	The FPNs at £100.00 is no where near enough	6/6/2023 1:27 PM
91	I am a dog owner and I clean up after my dogs, I believe all dogs kept on lead unless private fields. Too many ignorant dog owners leave their "fur baby" lose running to harass other due to lack of training and laziness. Its not a god given right to allow dogs to socialise with on lead dogs minding their own business or people, not everyone want the hair and snot of you doodle "sir humphry barks alot " all over them, just because your dog is friendly do not mean I want to be. And its not funny when a small dog is aggressive, just because its only a tea cup chi-blinkin-poo does not make it ok to snarl and bite at my bigger dog or my child, get some manners on your aggressive animals, all dog bites hurt and scar mentally.	6/6/2023 1:17 PM

92	Don't limit the fine at £100, adjust it for inflation to £1000.	6/6/2023 1:15 PM
93	Don't think that dogs should be allowed to be off their lead in any public space such as the manor field in Whittlesey, this area has previously been used by football teams for training sessions and we had to clean up dog faeces before it could be used. Also, small children can often be frightened by dogs especially when they are running towards them. My dog is petrified of other dogs now after another dog went for her whilst off its lead.	6/6/2023 1:05 PM
94	You should ensure any signage is still clear and readable	6/6/2023 12:59 PM
95	Alright saying yes to these questions if the council have the balls to enforce them	6/6/2023 12:41 PM
96	I agree with most of the statements but there is no point in putting an order in place if it is not enforced and where we live, we will never see any enforcement. Rural areas get forgotten. There is dog mess everywhere and despite loads of bins, no one does anything about the mess. So it is highly unlikely that the cost of putting orders in place will be a waste as there will not be sufficient officers to enforce them.	6/6/2023 12:20 PM
97	It should put up signs on all grass areas about dog poo being picked up	6/6/2023 11:10 AM
98	A few years ago, there was a trial at Elm Playing Field (Begdale Road), where dogs were and are still allowed on the field. This is great, but as a Friday Bridge resident, you need to drive there (and get dog hair/drool in your car) or walk roughly 40 minutes each direction. Currently, there's a no dogs sign at the Friday Bridge Park (Maltmas Drove), but it would be great if a similar trial could be held at this location. There is a large grass area there, which is hardly ever used and it would be great to have somewhere more local, where dogs could exercise and socialise.	6/6/2023 9:54 AM
99	Dog owners should be made to sign up to Dogwatch that is run by neighbour hood Watch groups .	6/6/2023 9:52 AM
100	Slightly off topic but there should be greater controls and penalties for owners who allow their dogs to bark for long periods of time, causing noise disturbance to neighbours.	6/6/2023 8:32 AM
101	Lack of open fields where dogs can run	6/5/2023 10:58 PM
102	It would be great if the council would consider enclosed areas for dogs to be exercised and socialised off lead. These can be clearly marked but owners should adhere to picking up poo and requests for dogs to be put on a lead by an authorised officer	6/5/2023 6:15 PM
103	I think failure to maintain a property boundary so dogs are let loose onto streets and other properties should also be listed	6/5/2023 5:16 PM
104	There are too many dogs off leads in public places. How can an authorised person control this. Dogs should be on leads. I am a dog owner and get upset and annoyed by the many loose dogs running about they are definitely not under close control	6/5/2023 2:29 PM
105	the interpretation of the control order needs to be unambiguous. where it says an officer deeming the dog not to be under control there has to be strict definitions of not under control. in the event of a dispute between the officer and the dog owner/handler it cannot come down to a difference of opinion there has to be strict criteria laid down on the control order	6/5/2023 1:49 PM
106	It would be helpful if the council were to publish a list of areas where dogs can be exercised maintaining a distinction between those where dogs have to be on leads and those where they can be let off the lead to be properly exercised. A published list of dog waste bin locations might be useful too if possible.	6/5/2023 1:39 PM
107	All dogs should be on a lead in public places including parks, on pavement, market place.	6/5/2023 12:42 PM
108	Re Q9, secure areas for off-lead exercise would benefit many dogs and owners, but appreciate this may be difficult to manage	6/5/2023 12:34 PM



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Customer Impact Assessment

Name and brief description of policy being analysed

Briefly summarise the policy including any key information such as aims, context etc; note timescales and milestones for new policies; use plain language – NO JARGON; refer to other documents if required

Street Scene – Enforcement, Investigatory and Educational Work

The team may need to undertake proportional enforcement work where, promotional or investigatory work has not resolved an issue, and where it is in the public interest. Enforcement work may include issuing fixed penalty notices, cautions/formal warnings, PACE interviews, and serving of statutory notices and prosecutions.

Information used for customer analysis

Note relevant consultation; who took part and key findings; refer to, or attach other documents if needed; include dates where possible

These functions are statutory duties set out in relevant legislation, including Environmental Protection Act 1990, Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2014,

✓	Could particularly benefit	Neutral	May adversely impact	Explanations	Is action possible or required?	Details of actions or explanations if actions are not possible Please note details of any actions to be placed in your Service Plan
Race	□	✓	□	<p>Officers have access to language line to offer translation services where required.</p> <p>Promotional and educational work is preceded with a communication plan to ensure that target audiences have access to the information.</p>	Y	<p>To use customer feedback and 3c's procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.</p> <p>Service standards and performance targets are used to measure the success of promotional work.</p> <p>Publicity material is produced in a number of languages where the need is justified.</p> <p>Translation services have made</p>



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						contacting customers much easier and make sure that language is not a barrier for enforcement work.
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	Male and female officers cover all aspects of the enforcement, educational and investigatory work.	Y	To use customer feedback and 3c's procedure to monitor that no gender is treated unfairly in our processes.
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	We would not be aware of a person's gender reassignment. If made aware we can take the persons individual needs into consideration where required.	Y	To use customer feedback and 3c's procedure to monitor that there is no discrimination, and all customers are treated fairly.
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Access is considered when requesting customers to visit council offices for hearings, interviews, meetings or training sessions.</p> <p>There is access to meet at the four market towns closest the customer.</p> <p>Where known, a person's abilities or disabilities are considered when requesting a person to provide a statement or to complete log sheets. Our procedures are customer focused to adapt to a person's needs, i.e. using simplified tick sheet log sheets or templates and providing in person</p>	Y	<p>To use customer feedback and 3c's procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.</p> <p>Hearing loops available if needed. Braille and large print available on request.</p> <p>Access to disabled friendly interview room & facilities if needed.</p> <p>Implementation of which elements of our formal interviews can be carried out by letters. This will also benefit those with mobility issues/anxiety etc.</p>



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				visits to assist.		
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Enforcement work will exclude those below the criminal age of responsibility.</p> <p>Communication plans preceding any information or educations are designed to be inclusive, so all ages can access local authority. i.e., Tidy Fenland Campaign using children’s artwork from school’s competition, working with Age UK to ensure access to services.</p>	Y	To use customer feedback and 3c’s procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	We would not be aware of a person’s sexual orientation. If made aware we can take the persons individual needs into consideration where required.	Y	To use customer feedback and 3c’s procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Male and female officers are available, and consideration is undertaken of people’s race and religion.</p> <p>Training, interviews and meetings times can be tailored around religious holidays and prayer timing if required.</p>	Y	To use customer feedback and 3c’s procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.
Pregnancy & maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	We would not be aware of a person’s pregnancy or maternity. If made aware we can take the persons individual needs into consideration where required.	Y	To use customer feedback and 3c’s procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.



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<p>Marriage & civil partnership</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>✓</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>We would not be aware of a person's marital status. If made aware we can take the persons individual needs into consideration where required.</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>To use customer feedback and 3c's procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.</p>
<p>Human Rights</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The undertaking of enforcement work is to protect the wider community. Examples such as protecting the community from the environmental impact on communities from enviro-crime positively impacts on the whole communities' lives.</p> <p>Enforcement work benefits the wider community by providing safer neighbourhoods, safe places to work, and protects the community's well-being by reducing the impact of nuisances.</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>Enforcement action may result in prosecution and restriction of an individual's actives and occupations. All notices or action is accompanied with details of how a person may appeal these measures.</p> <p>If enforcement action reaches prosecution stage, human rights are assessed by the courts to ensure that Human Rights are not breached, and appeals may be made.</p> <p>Investigations have found other impeaches of human rights – such as modern day slavery and we work closely with police and other partners to improve human rights.</p>
<p>Socio Economic</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>✓</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Enforcement encourages better compliance and supports raising standards through regulation.</p> <p>Where enforcement action prevents an individual or</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>To use customer feedback and 3c's procedure to monitor that this is being used appropriately.</p>



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				<p>organisation undertaking an activity, i.e., fly tipping, dog fouling and littering. It creates better communities and enjoyment of local environments. Best Practicable Means is considered in the public interest test before taking enforcement action.</p> <p>Enforcement action may adversely impact on those of socio-economic status that are unable to access legal or specialist advice.</p>		
Multiple/ Cross Cutting	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Specific officers are delegated with specific enforcement responsibilities dependant on the relevant experience, qualification, or competencies to undertake the regulatory functions.</p> <p>Initially legislation sets out where enforcement action may or shall be undertaken.</p> <p>Each regulatory function must fall within the requirements of the Councils Enforcement Policy.</p> <p>Systems are in place to ensure that decisions to undertake enforcement are proportional to</p>	Y	<p>As regulation is reactive this will be assessed on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Periodic review of enforcement delegation matrix and changes in legislation.</p> <p>If changes to legislation is likely to positively or negatively impact of and aspect of the community, i.e., by age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religious or belief or marital status and equality impact assessments details how we will ensure equality.</p> <p>Training and Staff development</p>



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				<p>the impact caused and within the public interest. These include a prosecution matrix and a public interest test.</p> <p>Where it is not in the public interest to undertake enforcement action, alternative interventions are used to support customers, such as referrals to agencies directing to official advice and signposting to agencies that can support people resolve their own issues such as Citizen Advice Bureau, Financial Support Agencies and Gang masters Support Agencies.</p>		<p>is reviewed on a yearly basis to ensure that officers are appropriately trained to undertake regulatory functions.</p> <p>Peer review and consistency exercises are undertaken to ensure proportionate decision making.</p> <p>Customer feedback is invited in all written communications to ensure people have an opportunity to air any complaints, compliments or correspondence.</p> <p>Officers attend working groups and are members of professional bodies to ensure that learning opportunities and knowledge sharing.</p>
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Outcome(s) of customer analysis

a) Will the policy/ procedure impact on the whole population of Fenland and/ or identified groups within the population; negative neutral positive

No major change needed Adjust the policy Adverse impact but continue Stop and remove / reconsider policy

Arrangements for future monitoring:
 Twice yearly staff appraisals will assess for learning needs and training opportunities. Staff one to ones and twice yearly appraisals will review officer's core competencies and behaviours that includes equalities. Monthly review of 3c's (Complaints, compliments and correspondence) will review that procedures and systems are appropriate.



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All procedures are reviewed on a five yearly period or when changes to the organisation or legislations guides otherwise.

Details of any data/ Research used (both FDC & Partners):

None

Completed by:

Name: Layna Warren

Position: Street Scene & Markets Team Leader

Review date: 20.09.2023

Approved by (manager signature): Annabel Tighe

Date published: TBC

Details of any Committee approved by (if applicable):

Date endorsed by Members if applicable:

Fenland District Council (Dog Control)
Proposed - Public Spaces Protection Order 2020

Fenland District Council (“the Council”) in exercise of its powers pursuant to Section 59 and 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“the Act”) hereby makes the following Order (“The order”) :-

1. This Order shall come into operation following public consultation and shall have effect for a period of 3 years from the effective date.
2. This Order relates to the areas shown hatched in red on the attached Plans in Schedule’s 1, 2, 3, & 4 and as further described respectively in Schedules 1A & 4A (‘the Restricted Area’); and applies to all the land which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment). For the purposes of this paragraph, any land which is covered is to be treated as land which is “open to the air” if it is open to the air on at least one side.
3. The effect of this Order is to impose the following prohibitions and requirements on the Restricted Areas as specified individually as follows:

4.1 In the Restricted Areas shown in Schedule 1 and described in Schedule 1A:

- 4.1. 1 (A) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he does not keep the **dog on a lead** of not more than 5 meters in length, unless –
- (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) For the Purpose of this Paragraph a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

4.2 In the Restricted Areas shown in Schedule 2

4.2. (1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he does not comply with a *direction* given to him by a constable or authorised officer of the Council to put and keep the **dog on a lead** of not more than 5 meters in length. This would be when the officer decides it is not being sufficiently supervised or the owner does not have it under control, unless-

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) For the Purpose of this Paragraph -

- (a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time another person is in charge of the dog:
- (b) a constable or authorised officer of the Council may only give direction under this Order to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent nuisance or behaviour by the dog likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person on any land to which this Order applies or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird.

In this Paragraph “an authorised officer of the Council” means any person authorised in writing for the purposes of this Order by Fenland District Council (the Council).

4.3 In the Restricted Areas shown in Schedule 3:

4.3 (1) If a dog defecates at any time on any part of the land, a person who is in charge of the dog at that time who ***fails to remove faeces*** from the land forthwith, shall be guilty of an offence unless-

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) Nothing in this paragraph applies to a person who –

- (a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 in respect of a dog trained to assist the blind; or
- (b) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to carry, lift or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribe charity and upon which he relies on for assistance.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph-

- (a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at the time some other person is in charge of the dog:
- (b) placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land for which is provided for the purpose, or disposal of the waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land.
- (c) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise) or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces.
- (d) each of the following is a “prescribed charity”-
 - (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);
 - (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);
 - (iii) Canine partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680).

4.4 In the Restricted Areas shown in Schedule 4 and described in Schedule 4A:

4.4. (1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he ***takes the dog onto***, or permits the dog to enter or to remain on to any part of the ***land*** unless-

- (a) he has reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his doing so.

(2) Nothing in this paragraph applies to a person who –

- (a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 in respect of a dog trained to assist the blind; or
- (b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People 9registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or
- (c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to carry, lift or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribe charity and upon which he relies on for assistance.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph-

- (a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at the time some other person is in charge of the dog: and
- (b) each of the following is a “prescribed charity”-
 - (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);

- (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);
- (iii) Canine partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680).

5. It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse to do anything prohibited by this Order, or to fail to comply with a prohibition or requirement to which a person is subject to pursuant to this Order.

6. A constable or "an authorised officer of the Council" may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to anyone he or she has reason to believe has committed an offence under this Order.

7. "An authorised officer of the Council" means any person authorised in writing for the purpose of this order by Fenland District Council (this Council). A constable means a police constable in whatever capacity.

8. A person found to be in breach of this Order is liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1000.00); or to be made subject to a FPN.

9. The Council is satisfied that the conditions set out in Sections 59 and 72 of 'the Act' have been met: that activities carried out in a public place within the authorities area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality; and that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by this Notice. The Council believe that it is reasonable to impose the above prohibitions and requirements in order to prevent the detrimental effect from continuing, occurring or reoccurring, and to reduce that detrimental effect or to reduce the risk of its continuance, occurrence or reoccurrence.

10. Any interested person (an individual who lives or regularly visits or works) in the restricted area who desires question the validity of this Order on the grounds that the Council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with in relation to this Order, may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date upon which the Order is made.

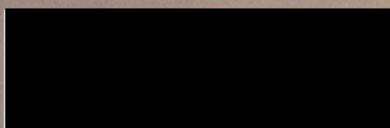
This Order shall come into force and be in place for a period of three years from the:

Date: 2nd December 2020

Sealed as Deed on behalf of Fenland District Council, the common seal being affixed in the presence of and signed by

13057

Seal no:
Authorised Signatory



SCHEDULES

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Public Spaces Protection Order (Dogs) 2020 SCHEDULE 1 – Dogs on leads

The Fenland District Council hereby makes the following Order:

- 1 This Order will come into force after full consultation.
- 2 This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule.

Offence

3(1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies he does not keep the dog on a lead of not more than 5 meters in length, unless--

- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) For the purposes of this article a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

Penalty

4 A person who is guilty of an offence under article 3 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

SCHEDULE 1A

Those areas hatched in red on the associated plans being located within the areas listed below:

Settlement Area

Benwick

St Mary's Churchyard

Chatteris

Huntingdon Road
Larham Way
Meeks Cemetery
St Peter's & St Paul's
Churchyard

Coates

North Green
South Green

Doddington

St Mary's Churchyard

Elm

All Saints Churchyard

Friday Bridge Churchyard

Manea

St Nicholas' Churchyard

March

Alberts Drive
Garden of Rest, High Street
Nightall Drive
Robingoodfellows Lane
St Wendredas' Cemetery
Station Road Cemetery
The Avenue

Newton

St James' Churchyard

Whittlesey

Garden of Rest, Station Road
St Andrew's Churchyard
St Mary's Churchyard
Tower Close

Wimblington

St Peter's Churchyard

Wisbech

Burcroft Road

General Cemetery

Heron Road

Jasmine Close

St Peter's & St Paul's Churchyard

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Public Spaces Protection Order (Dogs) 2020 SCHEDULE 2 – Dogs on leads by direction

The Fenland District Council (in this Order called "the Authority") hereby makes the following Order:

- 1 This Order comes into force on following public consultation.
- 2(1) This Order applies to all the land with the Fenland District Council local authority area which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment). The area hatched in red on the associated plans.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, any land which is covered is to be treated as land which is "open to the air" if it is open to the air on at least one side.
- 3 In this Order "an authorised officer of the Authority" means an employee of the Authority who is authorised in writing by the Authority for the purpose of giving directions under this Order.

Offence

- 4(1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time on any land to which this Order applies, he does not comply with a direction given him by an authorised officer of the Authority to put and keep the dog on a lead of not more than 5 meters in length, unless--
 - (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - (b) the owner, occupier or other person of authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.
- (2) For the purposes of this article--
 - (a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
 - (b) a constable or authorised officer of the Authority may only give a direction under this Order to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person on any land to which this Order applies or the worrying or disturbance of any animal or bird.

In this Paragraph 'an authorised officer of the Council' means any person authorised in writing for the purposes of this Order by Fenland District Council (the Council).

Penalty

- 5 A person who is guilty of an offence under article 4 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Public Spaces Protection Order (Dogs) 2020 SCHEDULE 3 – Dogs No Fouling - Means to pick up dog faeces

The Fenland District Council hereby makes the following Order:

1 This Order comes into force following public consultation.

2(1) This Order applies to all the land with the Fenland District Council local authority area which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment). The area hatched in red on the associated plans.

(2) For the purposes of this section, any land which is covered is to be treated as land which is "open to the air" if it is open to the air on at least one side.

Offence

3(1) If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this Order applies and a person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless--

(a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or

(b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.

(2) Nothing in this article applies to a person who--

(a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 in respect of a dog trained to assist the blind; or

(b) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon

which he relies for assistance.

(3) For the purposes of this article--

(a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;

(b) placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for the purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land;

(c) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces;

(d) each of the following is a "prescribed charity"--

(i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);

(ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);

(iii) Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680).

Penalty

4 A person who is guilty of an offence under article 3 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014**Public Spaces Protection Order (Dogs) 2020 SCHEDULE 4 – Dogs excluded**

The Fenland District Council hereby makes the following Order:

- 1 This Order comes into force following public consultation.
- 2 This Order applies to the land specified in the Schedule.

Offence

3(1) A person in charge of a dog shall be guilty of an offence if, at any time, he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or to remain on, any land to which this Order applies unless--

- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his doing so.

(2) Nothing in this article applies to a person who--

- (a) is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 in respect of a dog trained to assist the blind; or
- (b) is deaf, in respect of a dog trained by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People (registered charity number 293358) and upon which he relies for assistance; or
- (c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination or ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, in respect of a dog trained by a prescribed charity and upon which he relies for assistance.

(3) For the purposes of this article--

- (a) a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog; and
- (b) each of the following is a "prescribed charity"--
 - (i) Dogs for the Disabled (registered charity number 700454);
 - (ii) Support Dogs (registered charity number 1088281);
 - (iii) Canine Partners for Independence (registered charity number 803680).

Penalty

4. A person who is guilty of an offence under article 3 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

SCHEDULE 4A

Those areas hatched in red on the associated plans being located within the areas listed below:

Settlement Area

Benwick

High Street

Chatteris

Cricketers Way

Furrowfields

Hunter's Close

Huntingdon Road

Larham Way
New Road Cemetery
St Paul's Drive
Wenny Road

Doddington
Beech Avenue
Walden Close

Eastrea
Springfields
Thornham Way

Friday Bridge
West Drive

Manea
Williams Way

March
Eastwood Cemetery
Gaul Road
North Drive
West End Park

Parson Drove
Main Road

Whittlesey
Burdett Grove
Manor Leisure Centre
Pinewood Avenue
Snowley Park
Station Road
Whittlesey Cemetery

Wimblington
Honeymead Road

Wisbech
Bath Road
Conference Way
Copperfields
Heron Road
Malt Drive
Mount Pleasant Cemetery
Westmead Avenue
Wisbech Park

Wisbech St Mary
Wisbech St Mary Cemetery

SCHEDULE 1A

Those areas hatched in red on the attached plans being located within the areas listed below:

Settlement Area**Benwick**

St Mary's Churchyard

Newton

St James' Churchyard

Chatteris

Huntingdon Road
Larham Way
Meeks Cemetery
St Peter's & St Paul's
Churchyard

Whittlesey

Garden of Rest, Station Road
St Andrew's Churchyard
St Mary's Churchyard
Tower Close

Coates

North Green
South Green

Wimblington

St Peter's Churchyard

Doddington

St Mary's Churchyard

Wisbech

Burcroft Road
General Cemetery
Heron Road
Jasmine Close
St Peter's & St Paul's
Churchyard

Elm

All Saints Churchyard

Friday Bridge Church Yard

Manea

St Nicholas' Churchyard

March

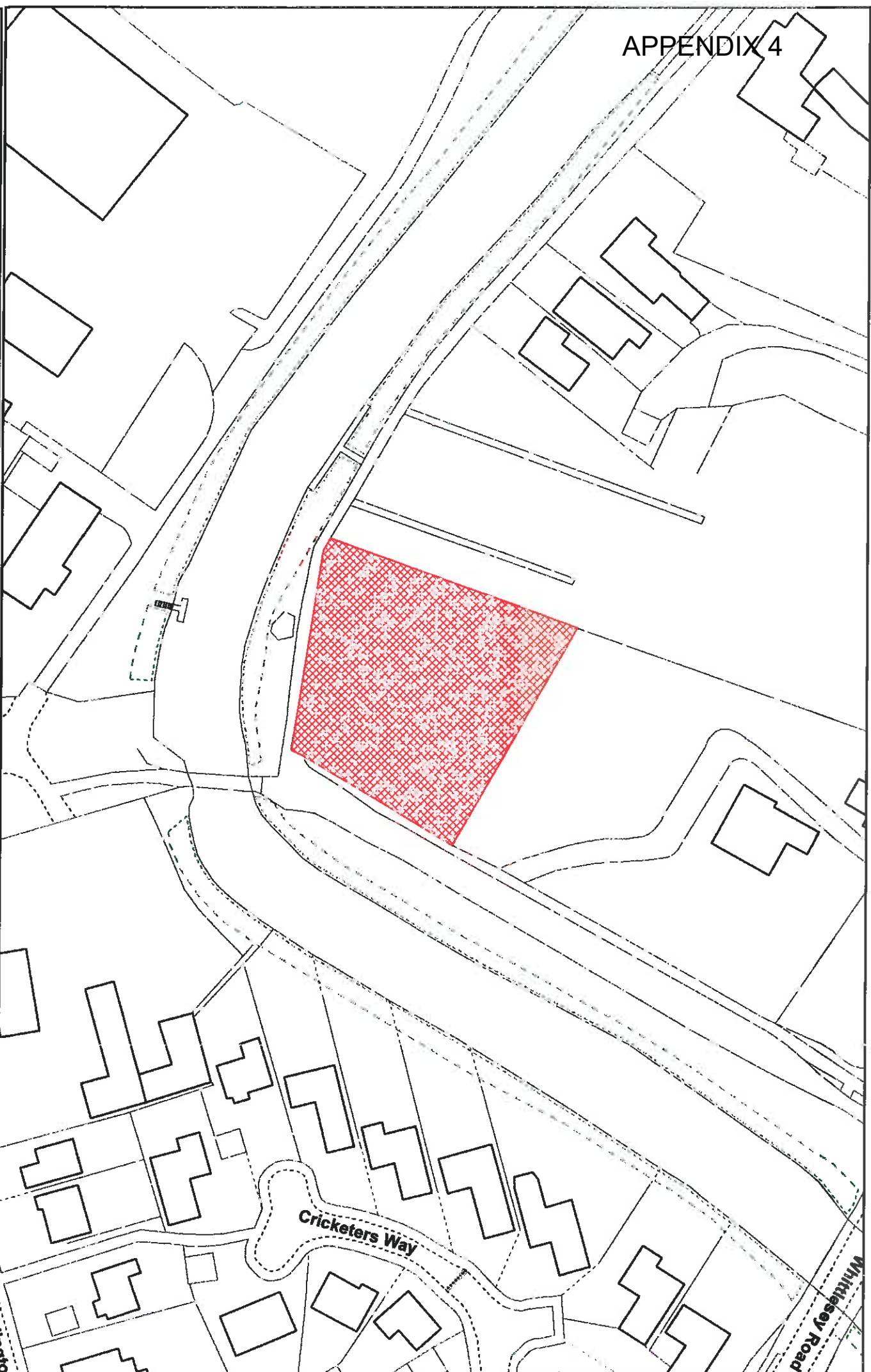
Alberts Drive
Garden of Rest, High Street
Nightall Drive
Robingoodfellows Lane
St Wendredas' Cemetery
Station Road Cemetery
The Avenue

SCHEDULE 1

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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Mary's Churchyard, Benwick

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:900



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Huntingdon Road, Chatteris

Dogs on Leads Area

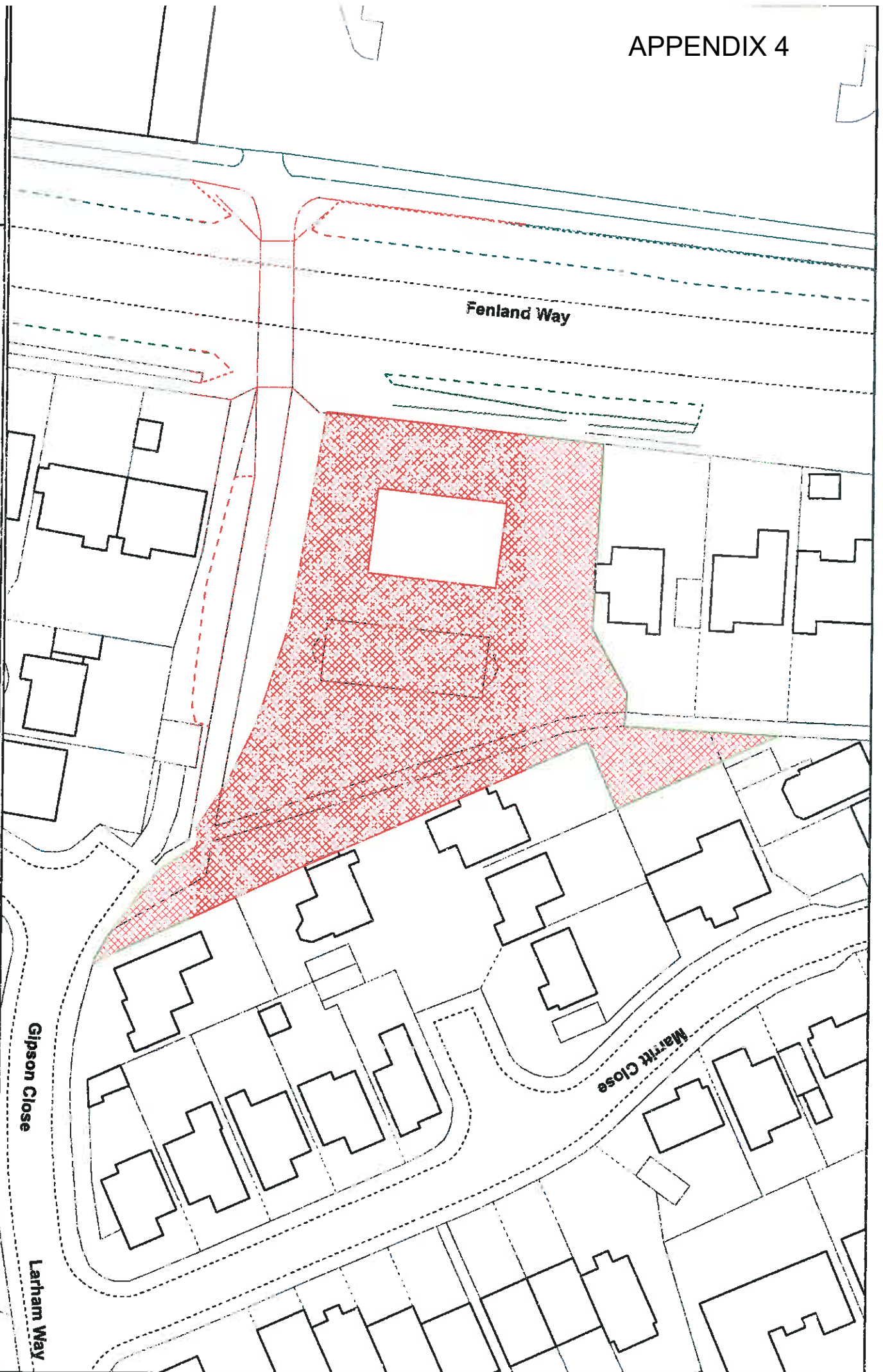


Scale = 1:1,100



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Larham Way, Chatteris

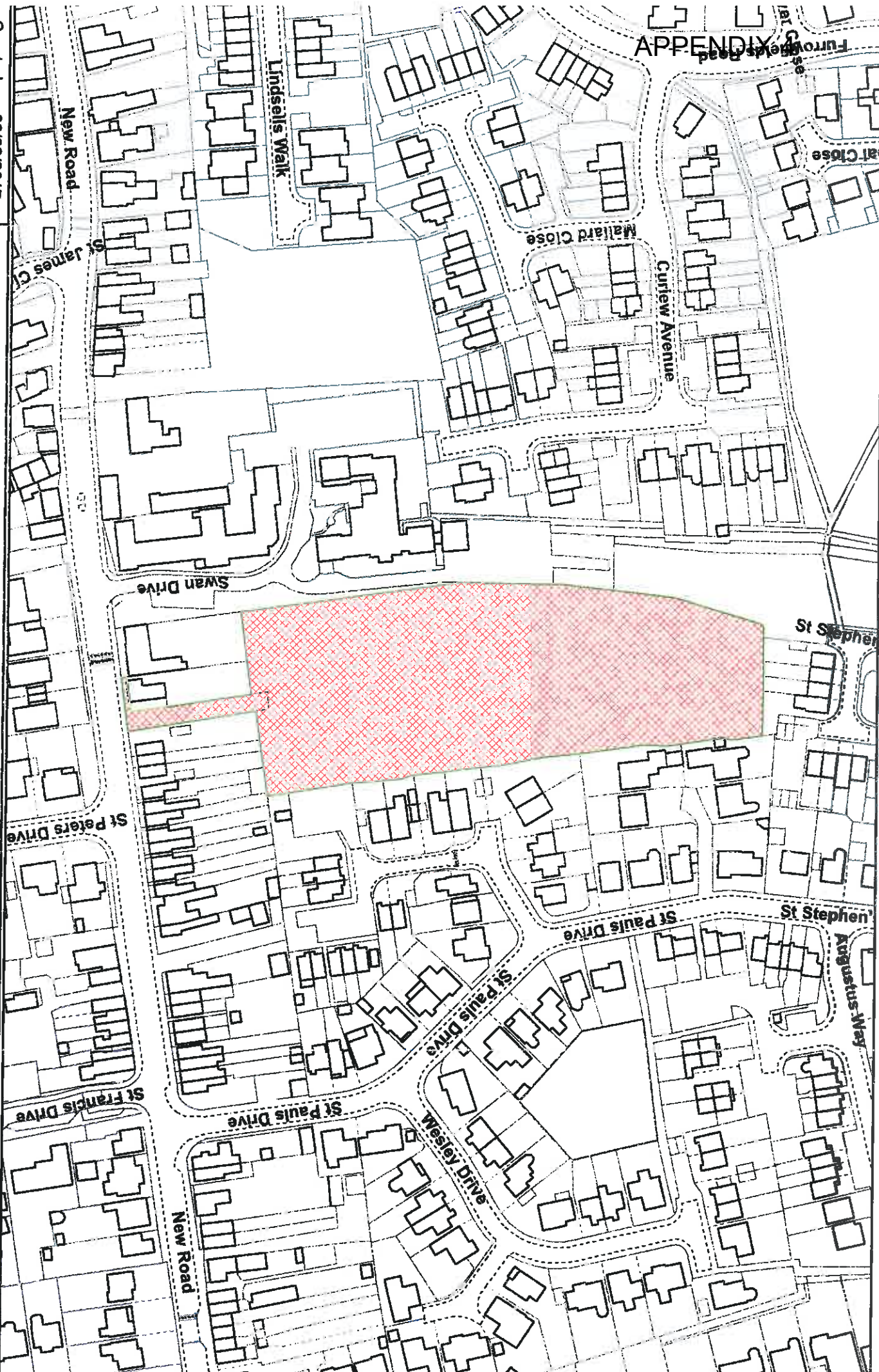


Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:600





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Weeks Cemetery, Chatteris

Dogs on Leads Area

 Scale = 1:1,600



Edward Road

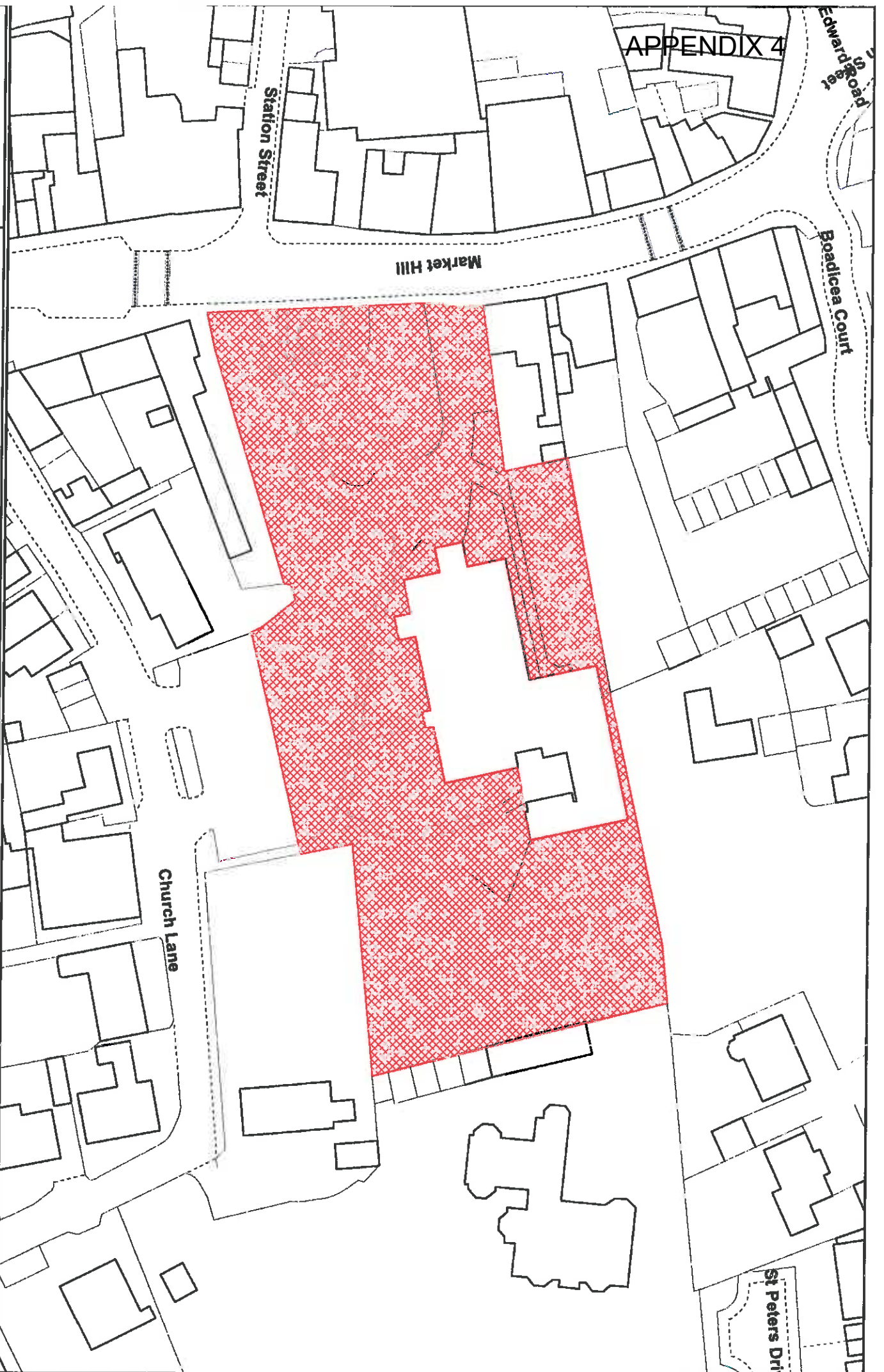
Boadicea Court

Market Hill

Station Street

Church Lane

St Peters Dr



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Peter's & St Paul's Churchyard, Chatteris

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:800



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
North Green, Coates



Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,500





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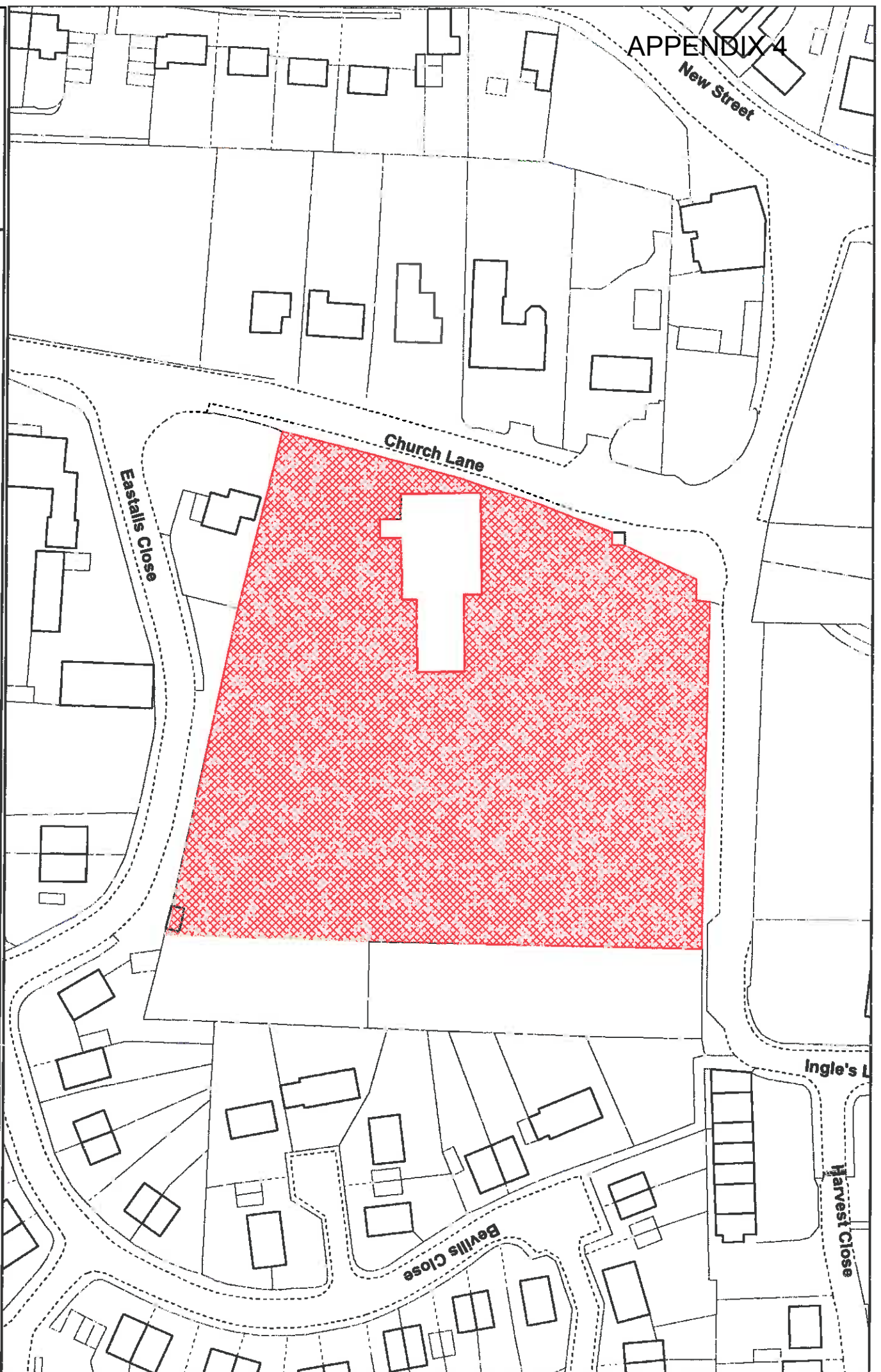
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
South Green, Coates

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:900





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Mary's Churchyard, Doddington

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,000



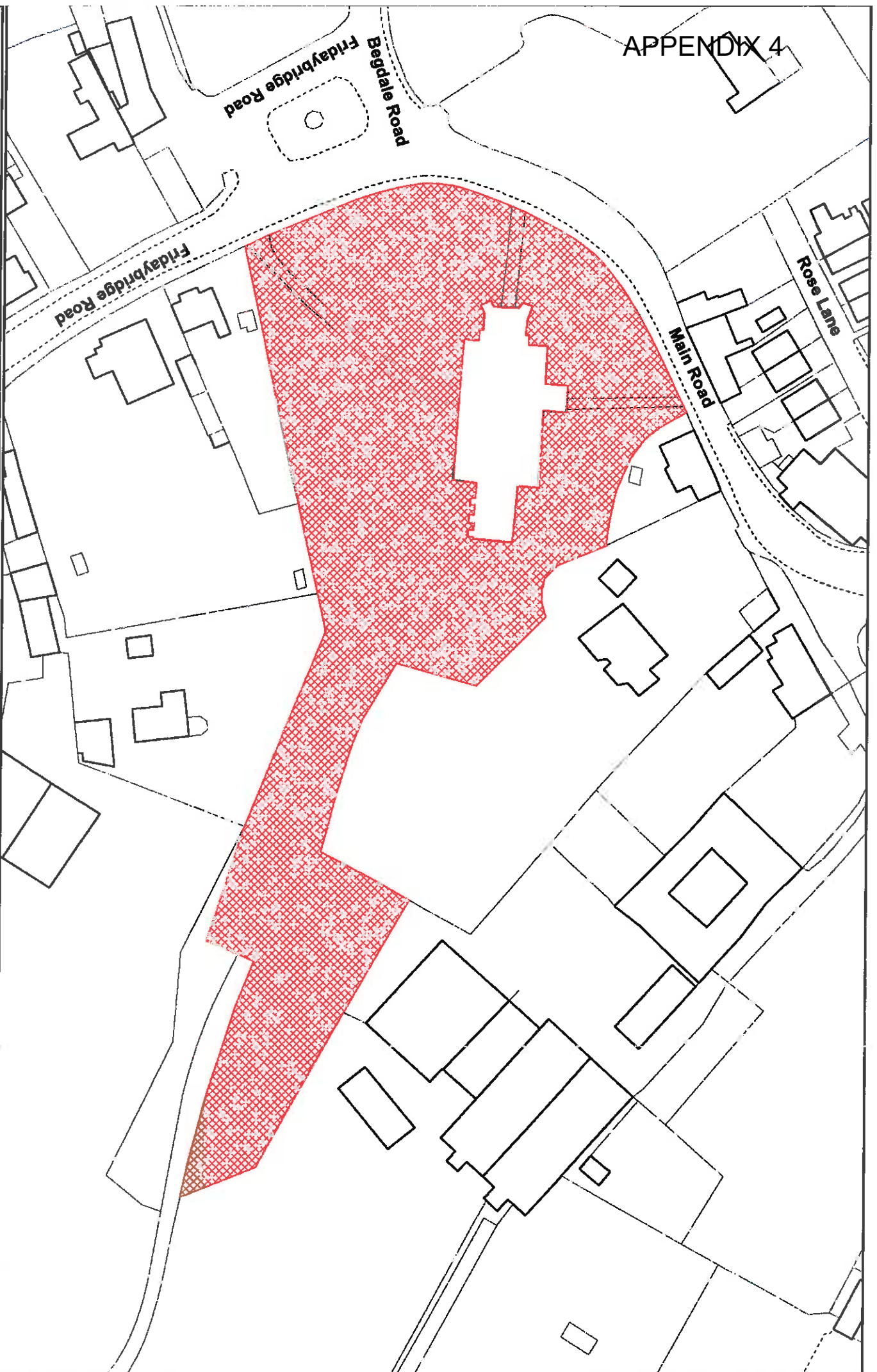
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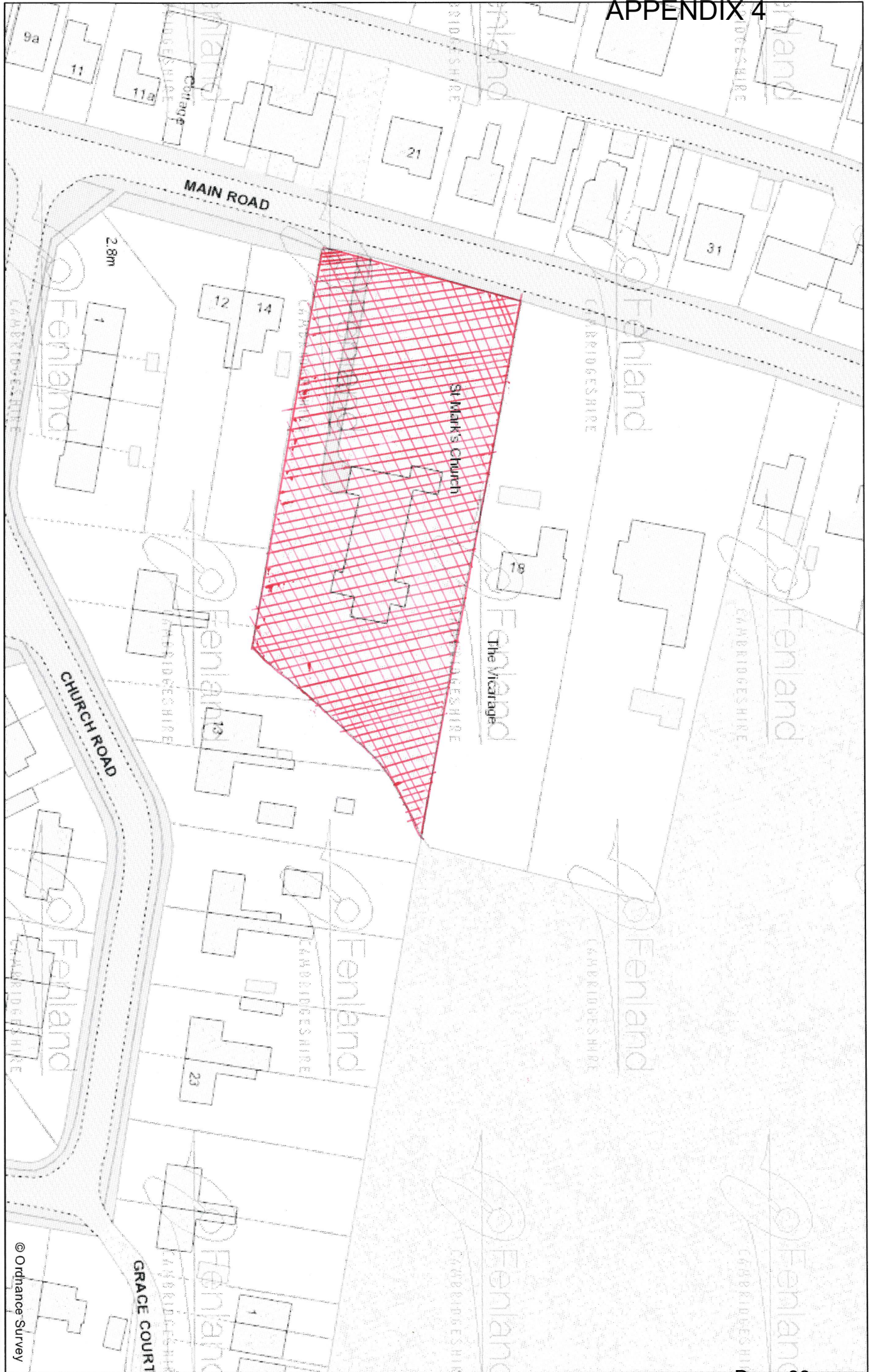
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
All Saints Churchyard, Elm

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,000





Created on: 10/07/2020

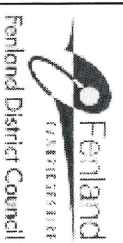
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Fenland Maps

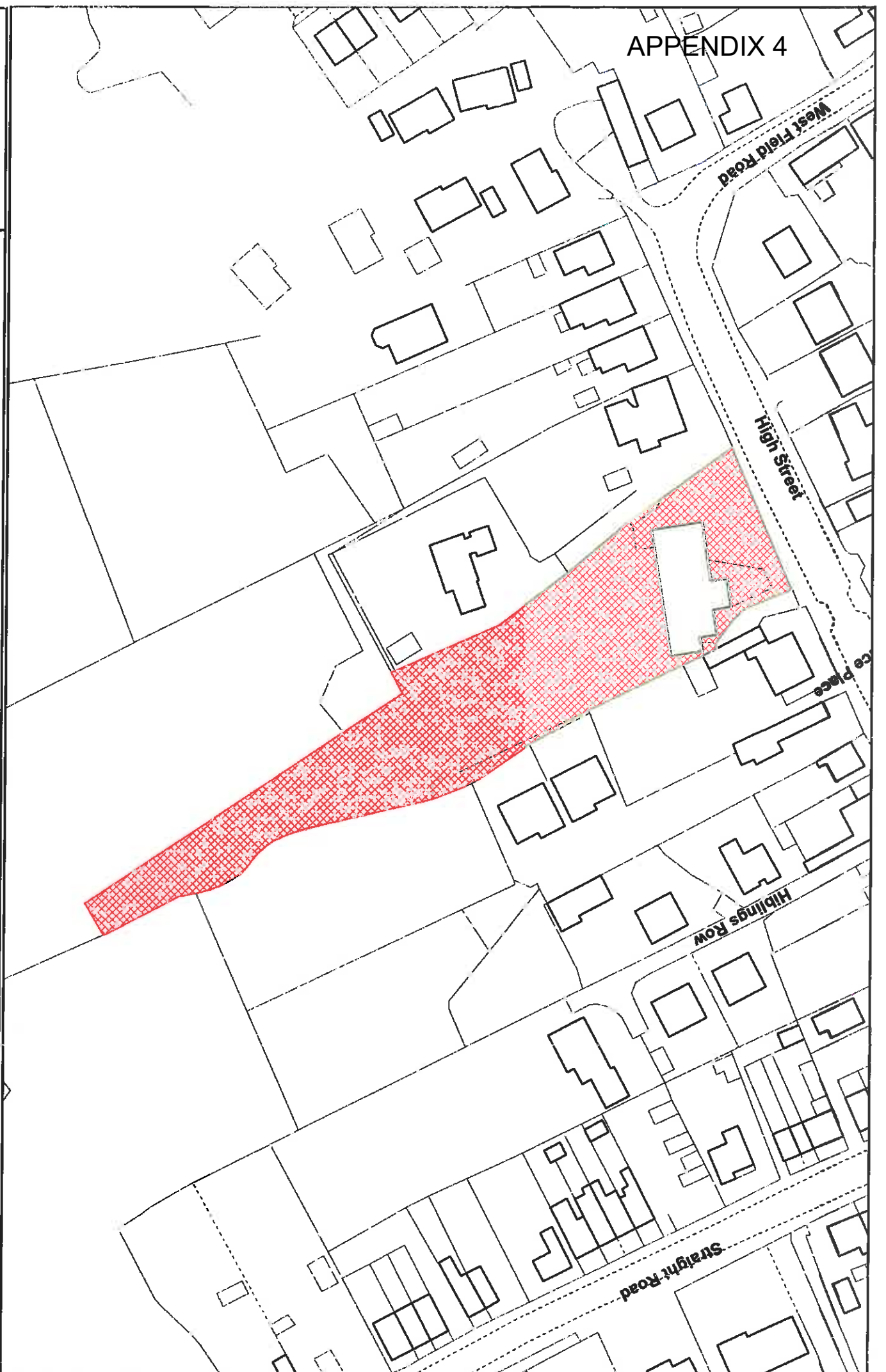
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Scale = 1:862



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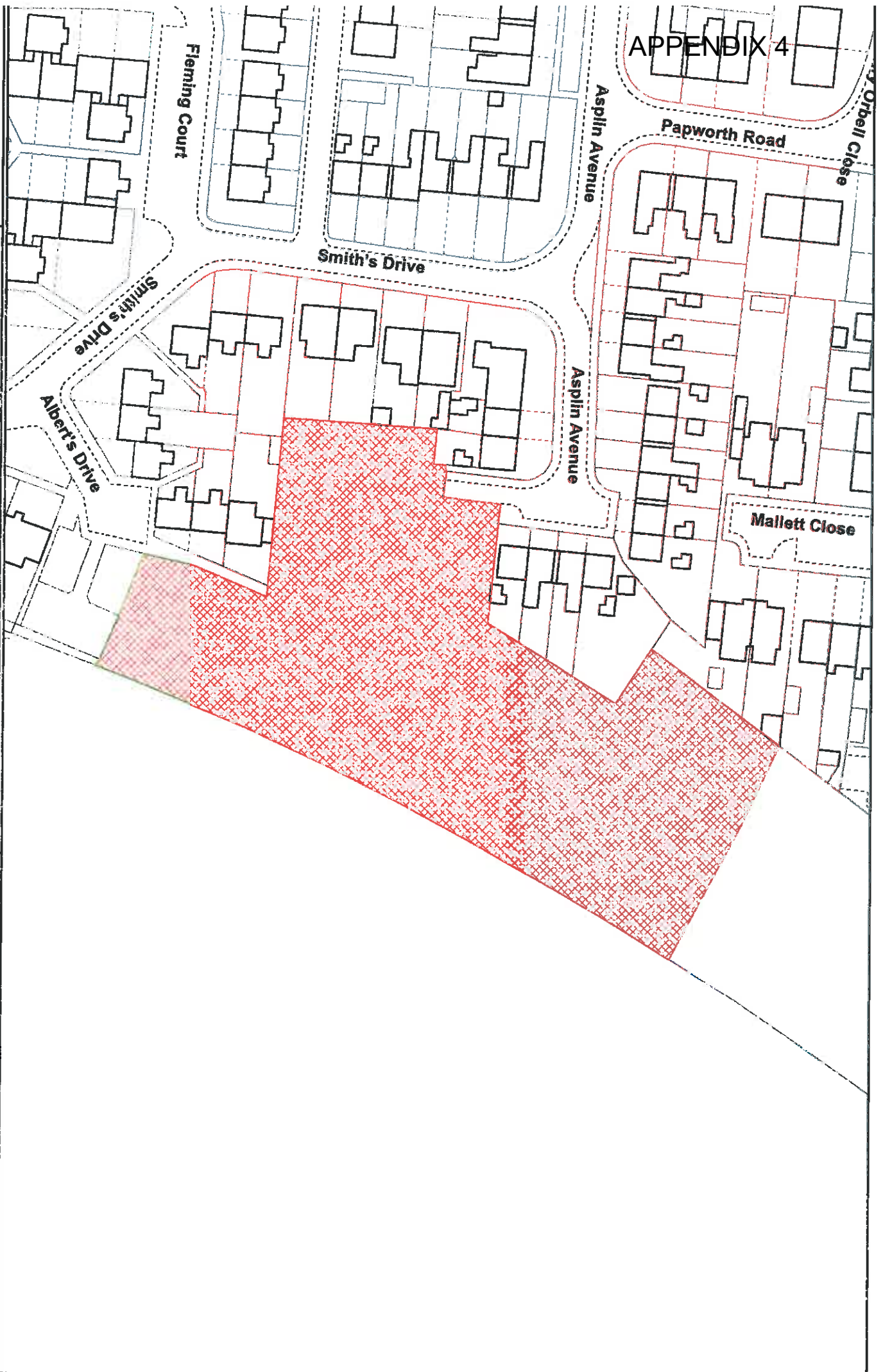
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Nicholas' Churchyard, Manea

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,100





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Albert's Drive, March

Dogs on Leads Area 
 Scale = 1:1,000



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Garden of Rest, March

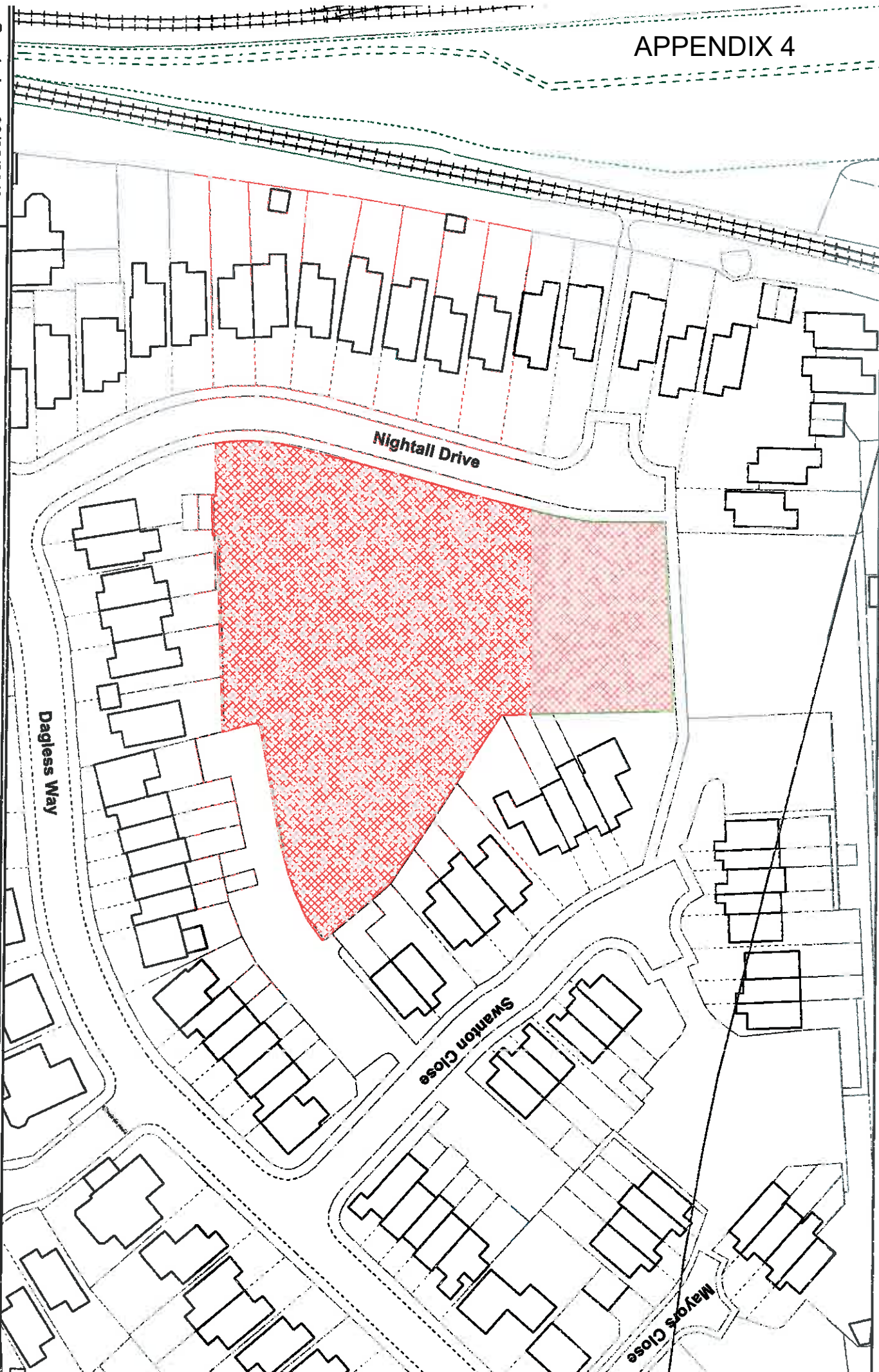


Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:500



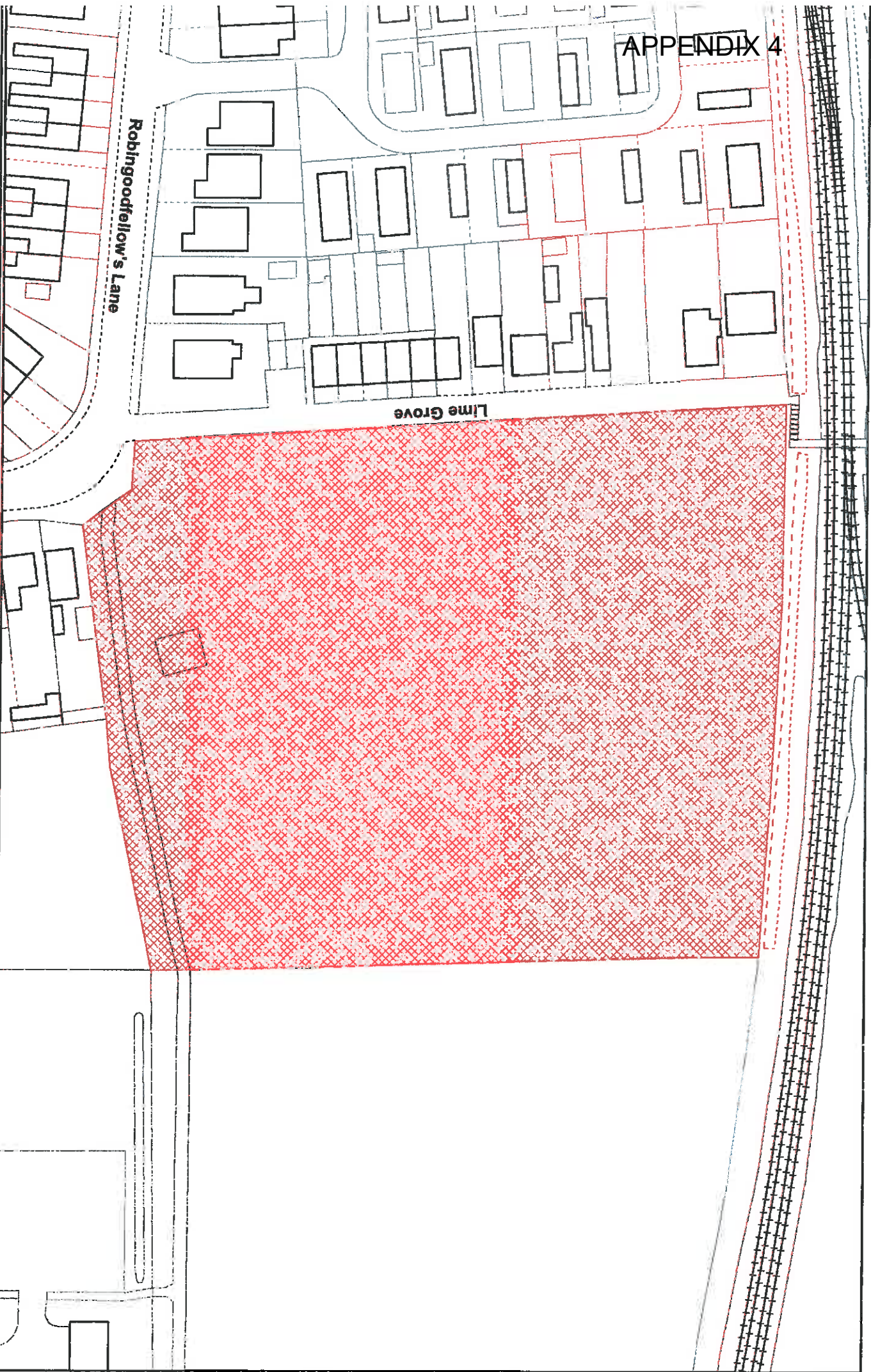


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Nightall Drive, March

Dogs on Leads Area
Scale = 1:800



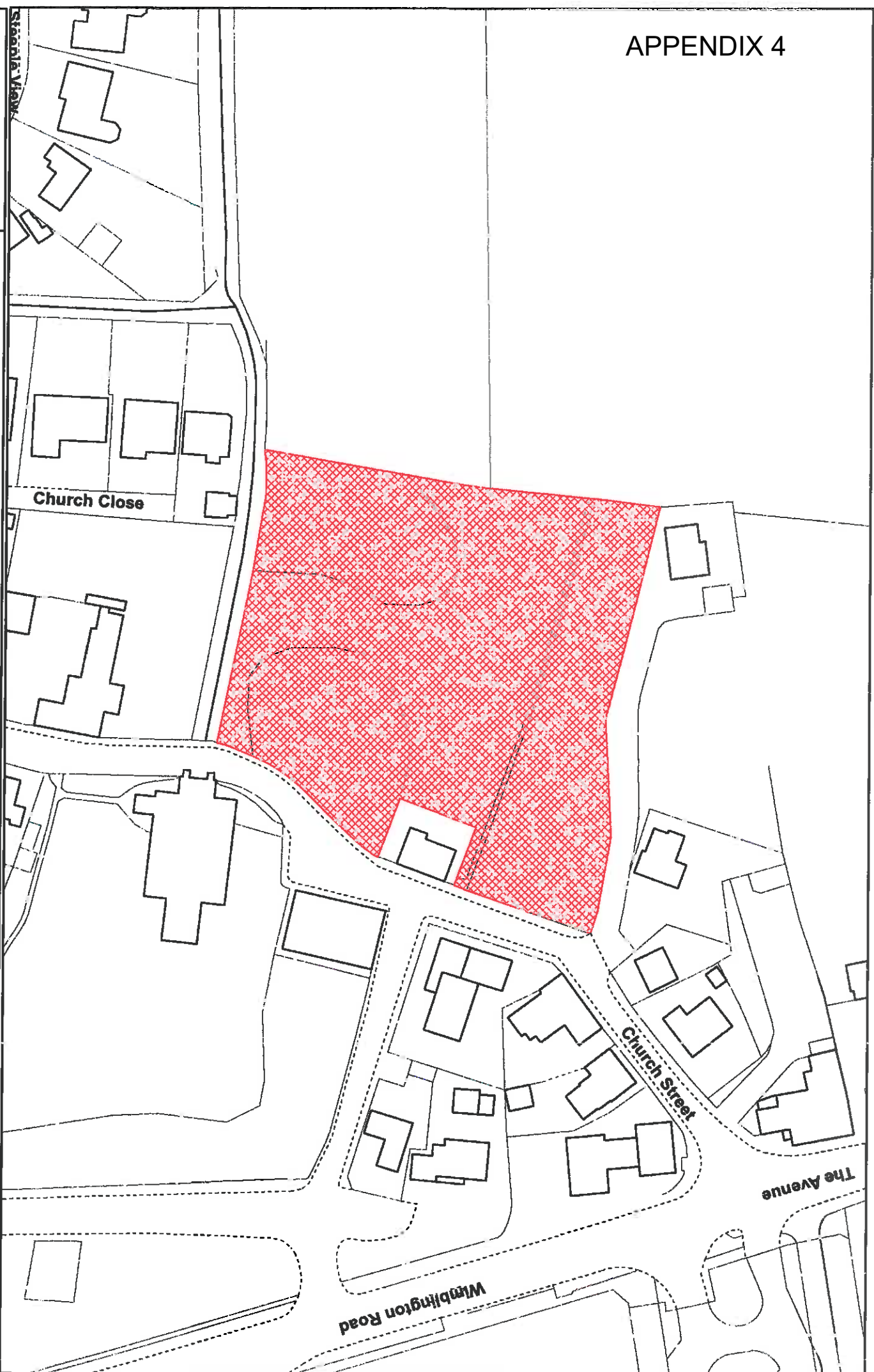


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
 Robingoodfellows Lane, March

Dogs on Leads Area 
 Scale = 1:1,000





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Wendredas' Cemetery, March

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,000



County Road

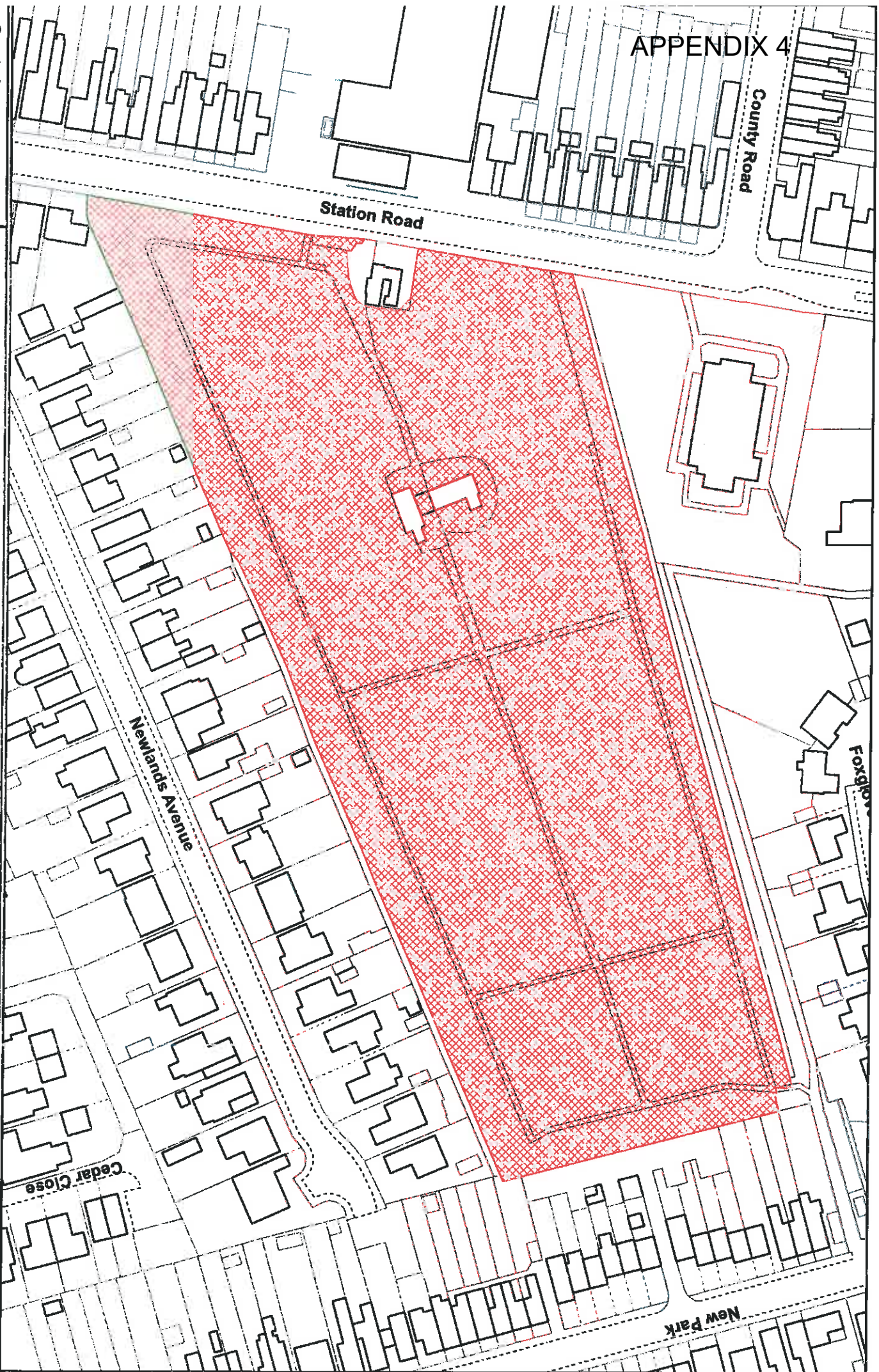
Station Road

Newlands Avenue

Cedar Close

New Park

Foxglove



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

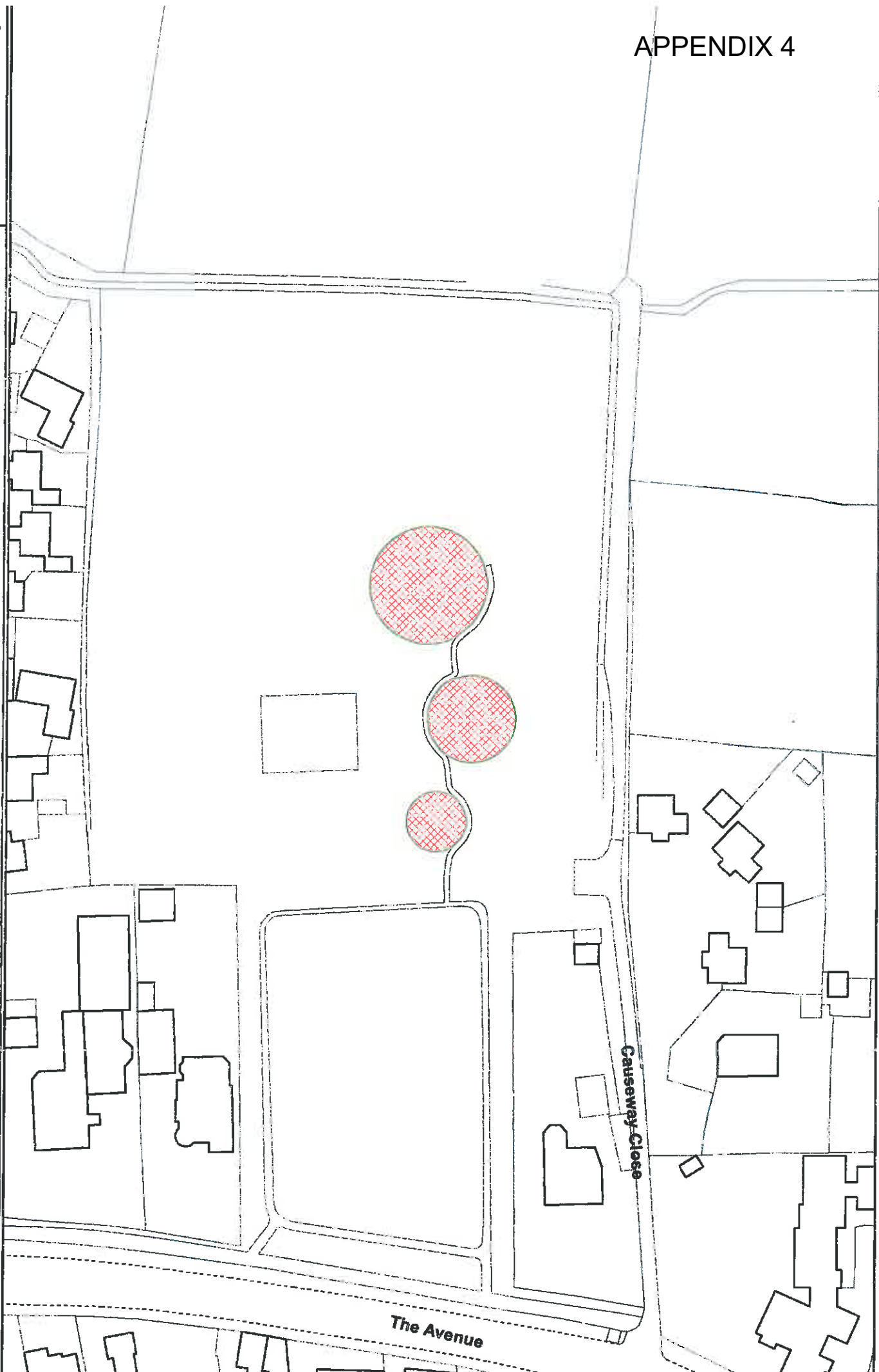
Station Road Cemetery, March

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,200



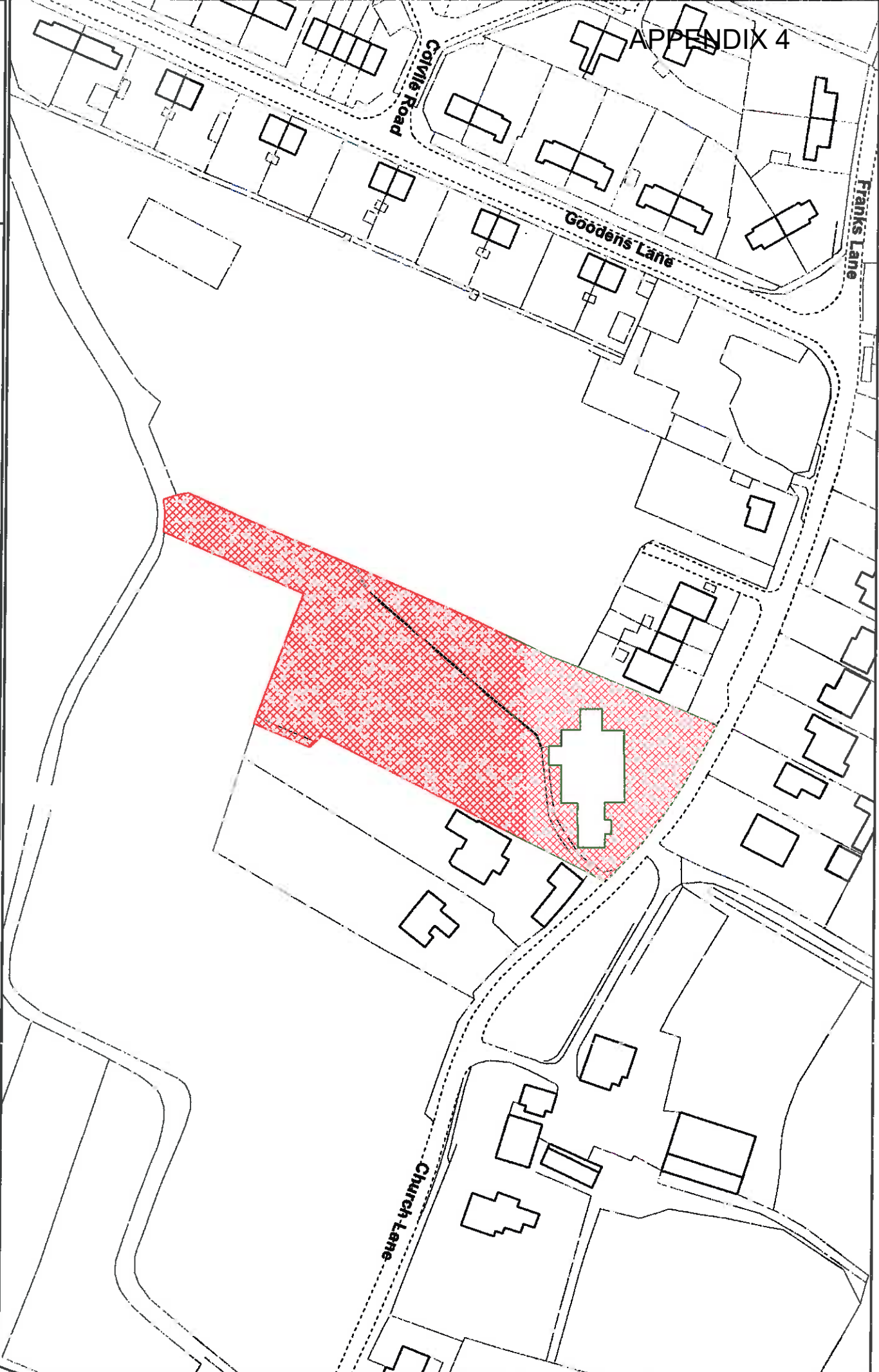


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
The Avenue, March

Dogs on Leads Area
Scale = 1:1,000





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St James' Churchyard, Newton

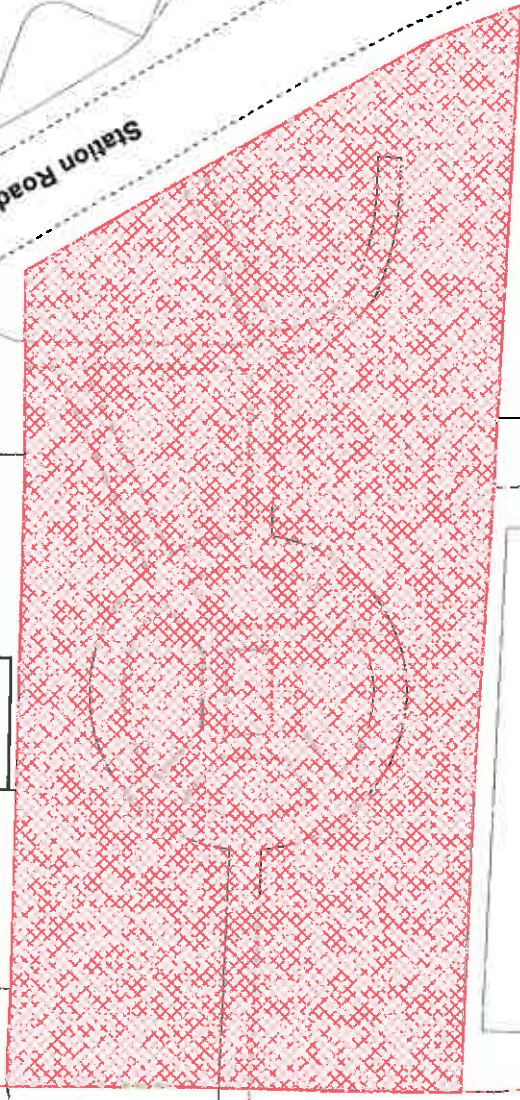
Dogs on Leads Area

 Scale = 1:1,400



Station Road

Scaldgate



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Garden of Rest, Whittlesey

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:500



Boyce Close

Church Street

Church Street

London Street

Parkinson's Lane

Parkinson's Lane

London Street

St Andrew's Place

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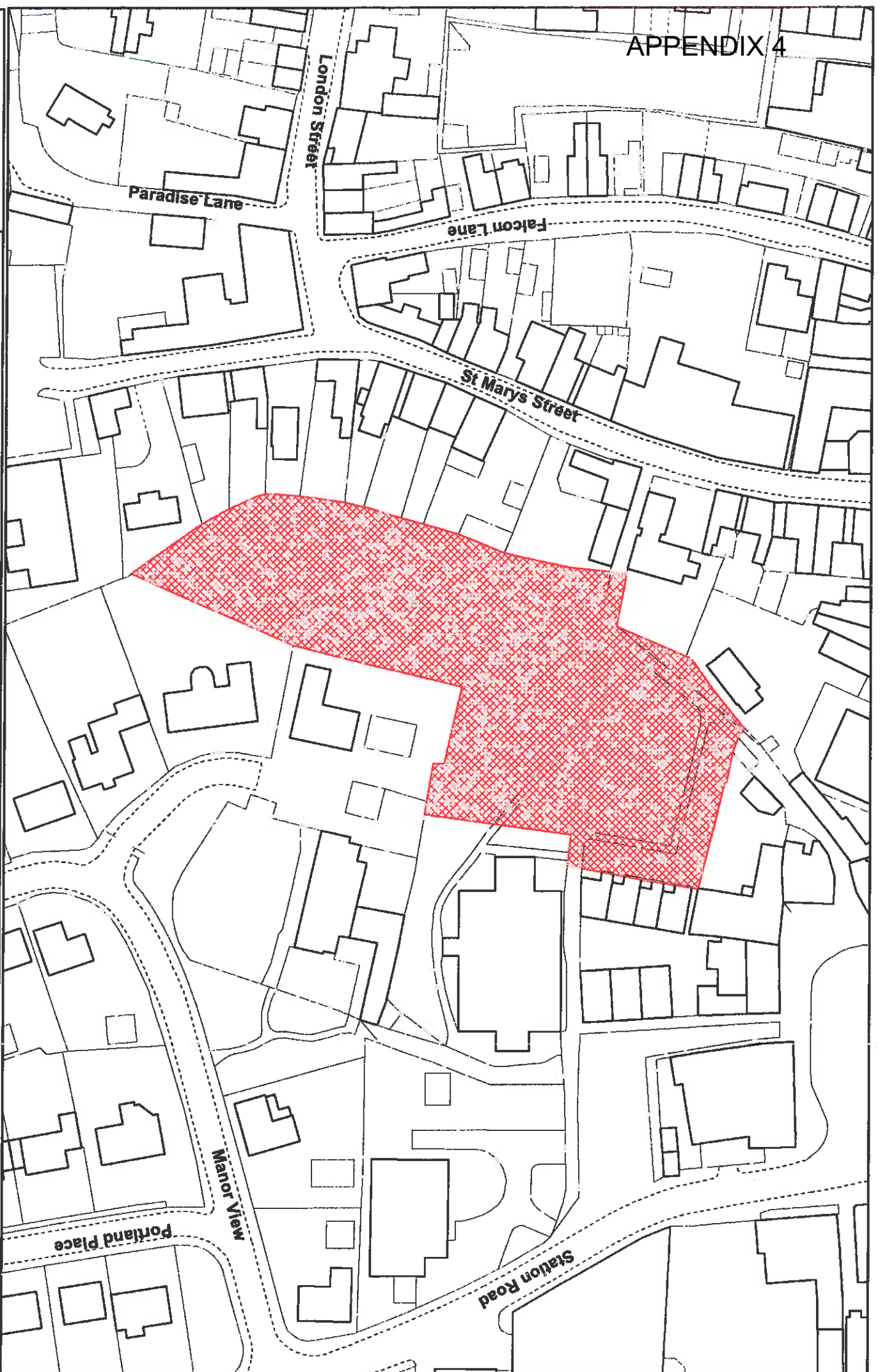
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Andrew's Churchyard, Whittlesey

Dogs on Leads Area




Scale = 1:900





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Mary's Churchyard, Whittlesey

Dogs on Leads Area

 Scale = 1:1,000





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Tower Close, Whittlesey

ts Road

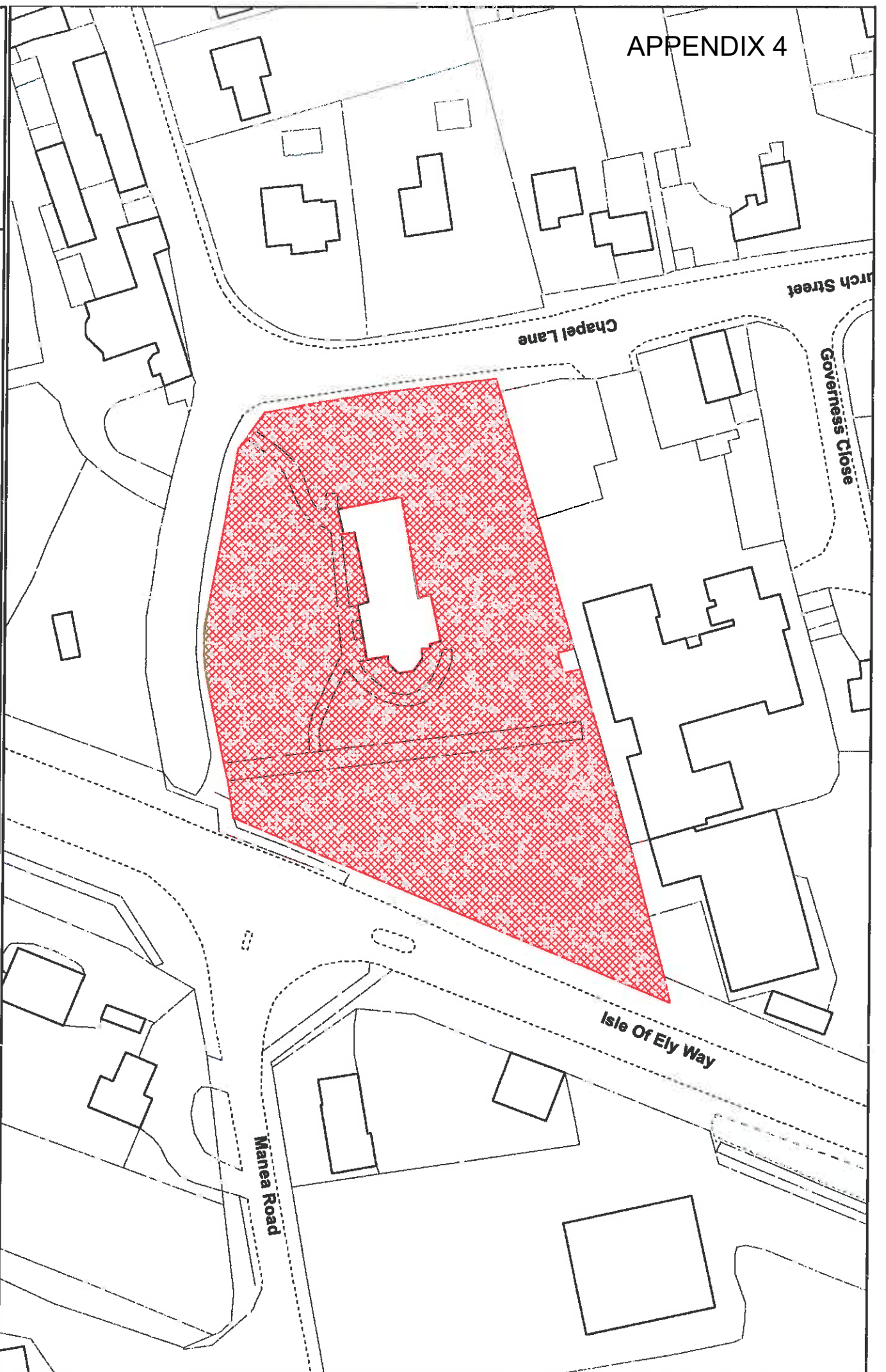
Baffes Way

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,000





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Peter's Churchyard, Wimblington

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:900





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

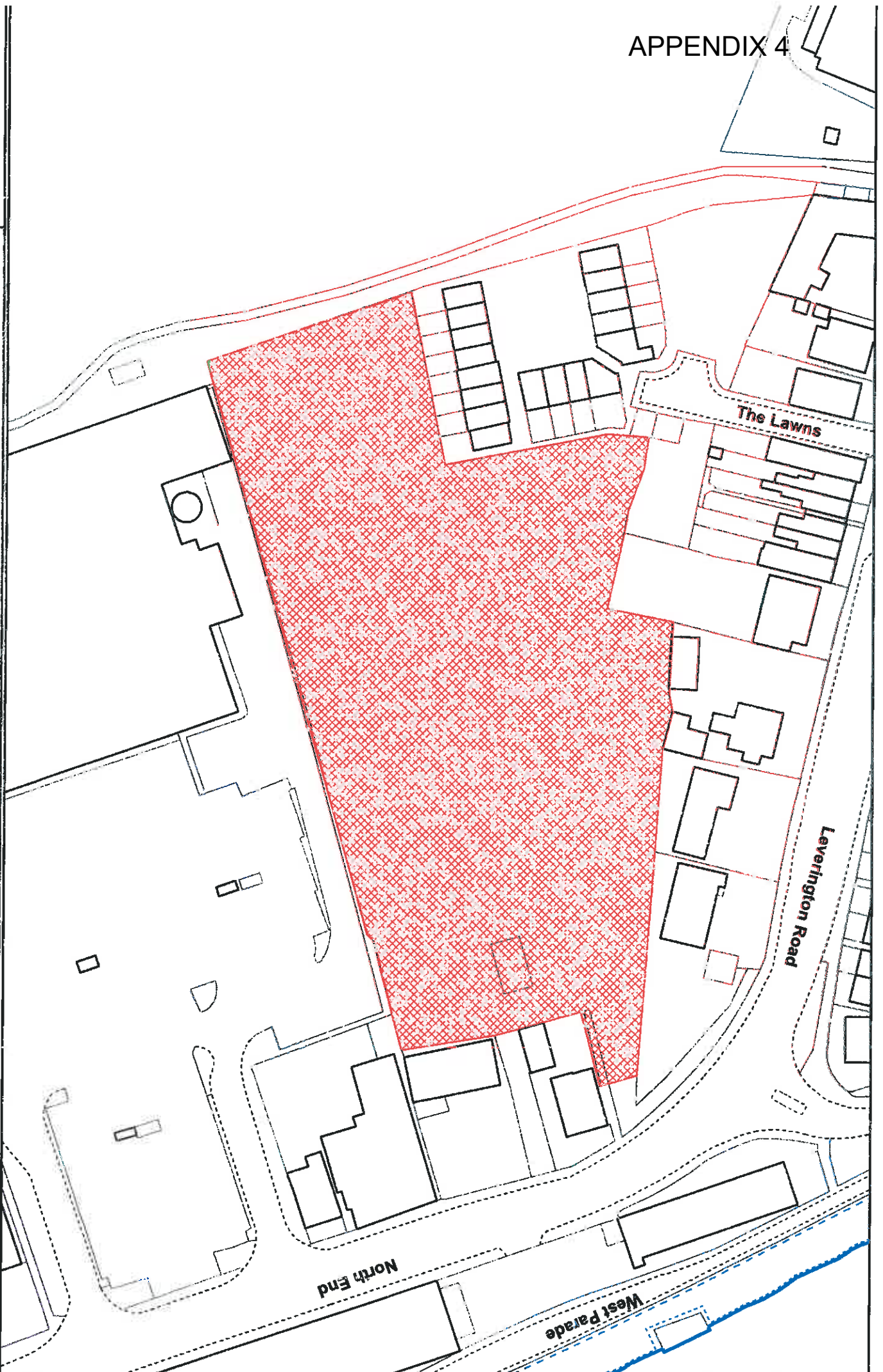
Burcroft Road, Wisbech

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:750





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

Wisbech General Cemetery, Wisbech

Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:1,000



Wassenham Lane

New Drive

Hatfield Lane

Robin Mews

Heron Road

Redwing Drive

Kestrel Drive

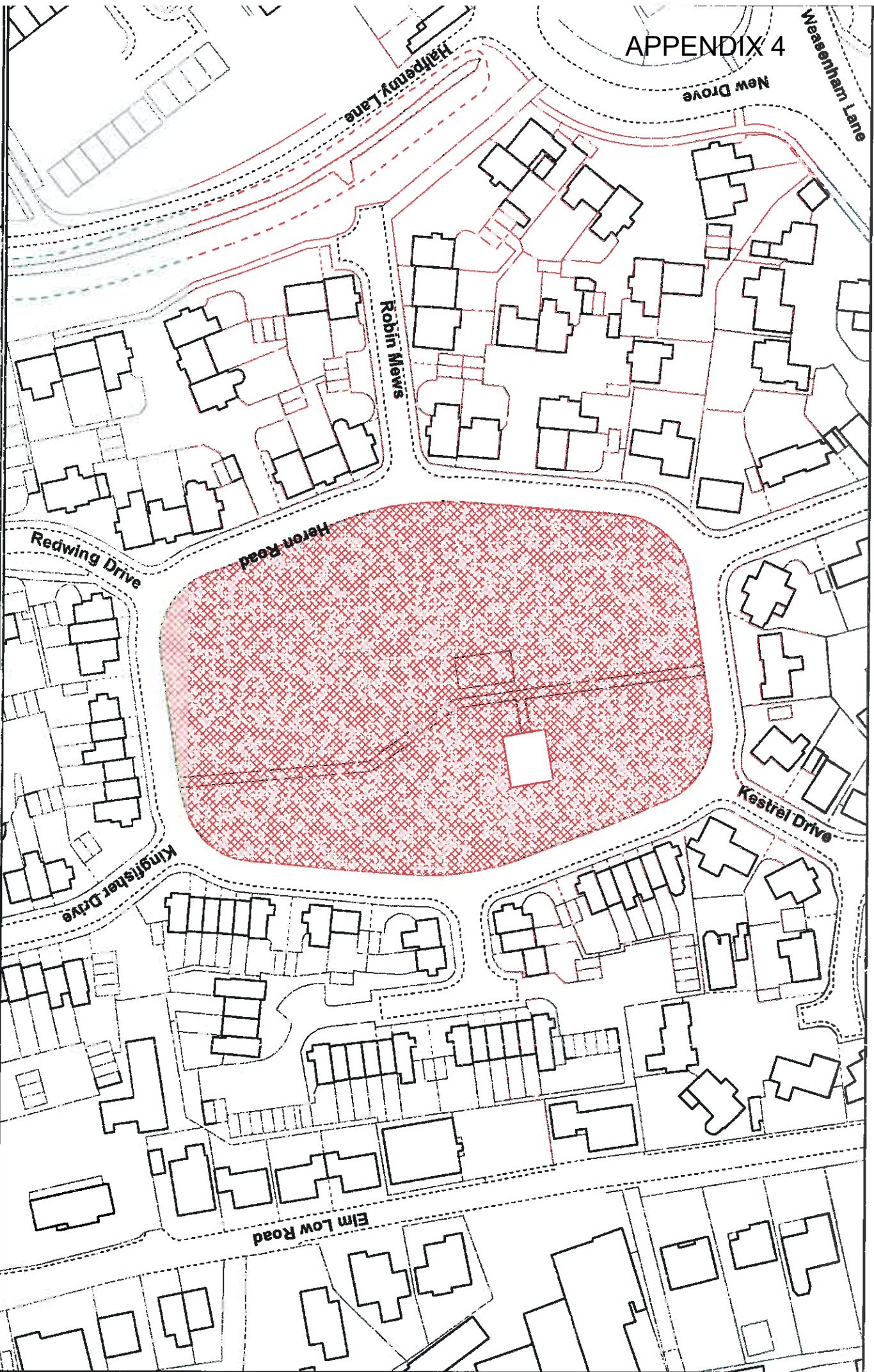
Kingfisher Drive

Elm Low Road

Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Heron Road, Wisbech

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Dogs on Leads Area 
Scale = 1:1,100





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Jasmin Close, Wisbech

Dogs on Leads Area
 Scale = 1:750

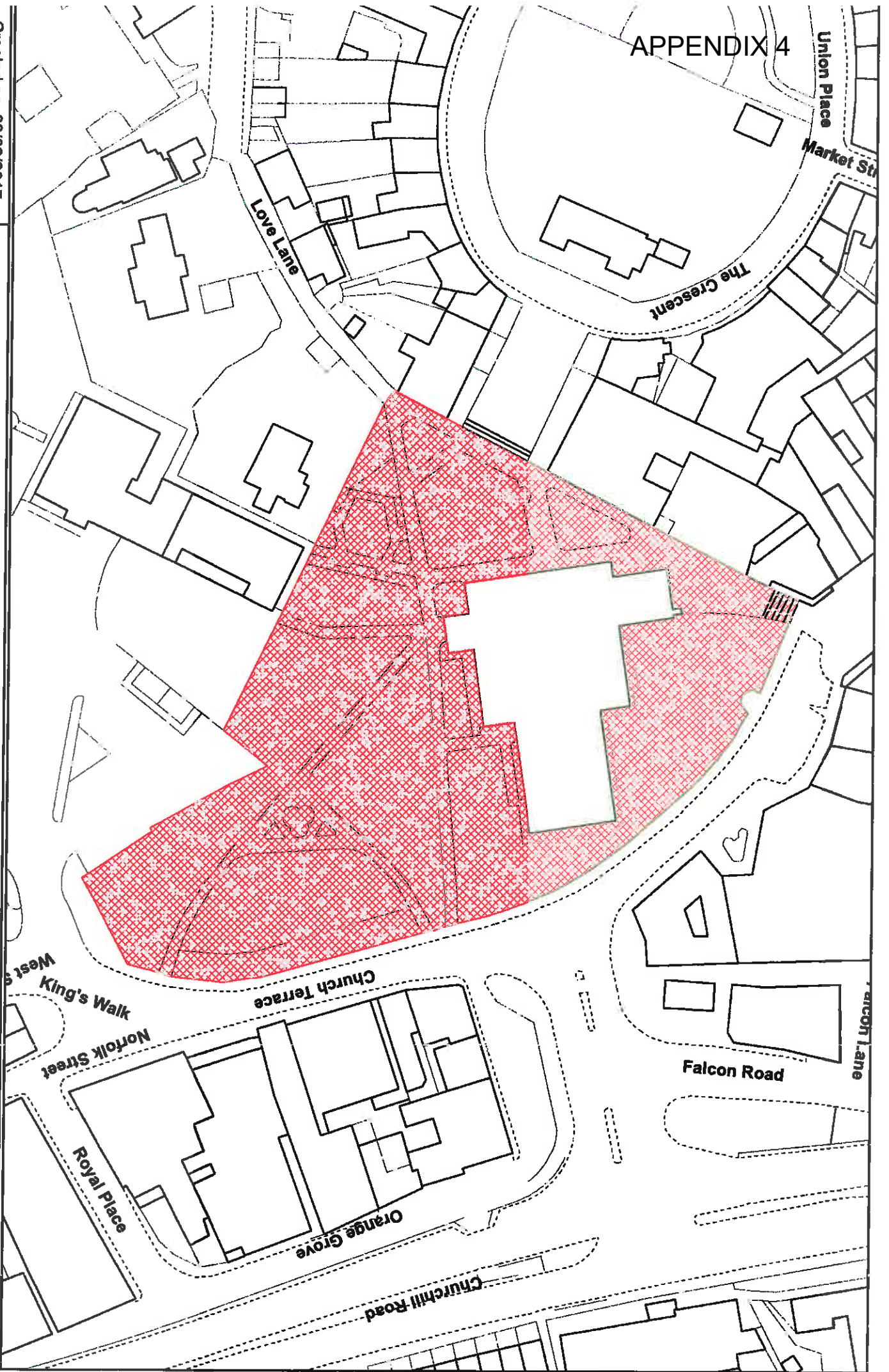


Union Place

Market Str

The Crescent

Love Lane



Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Peter's & St Paul's Churchyard, Wisbech

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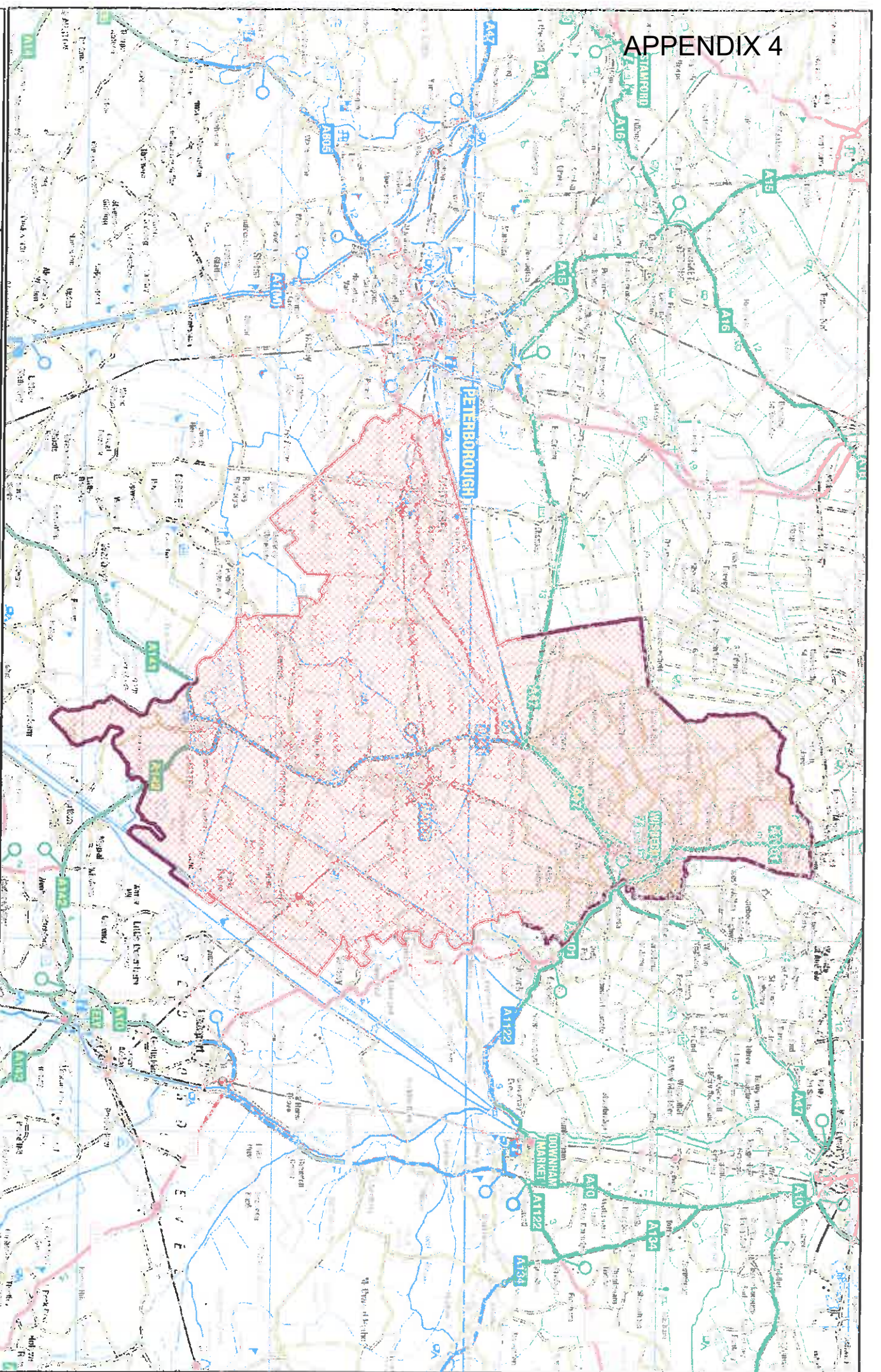
Dogs on Leads Area



Scale = 1:900




SCHEDULE 2



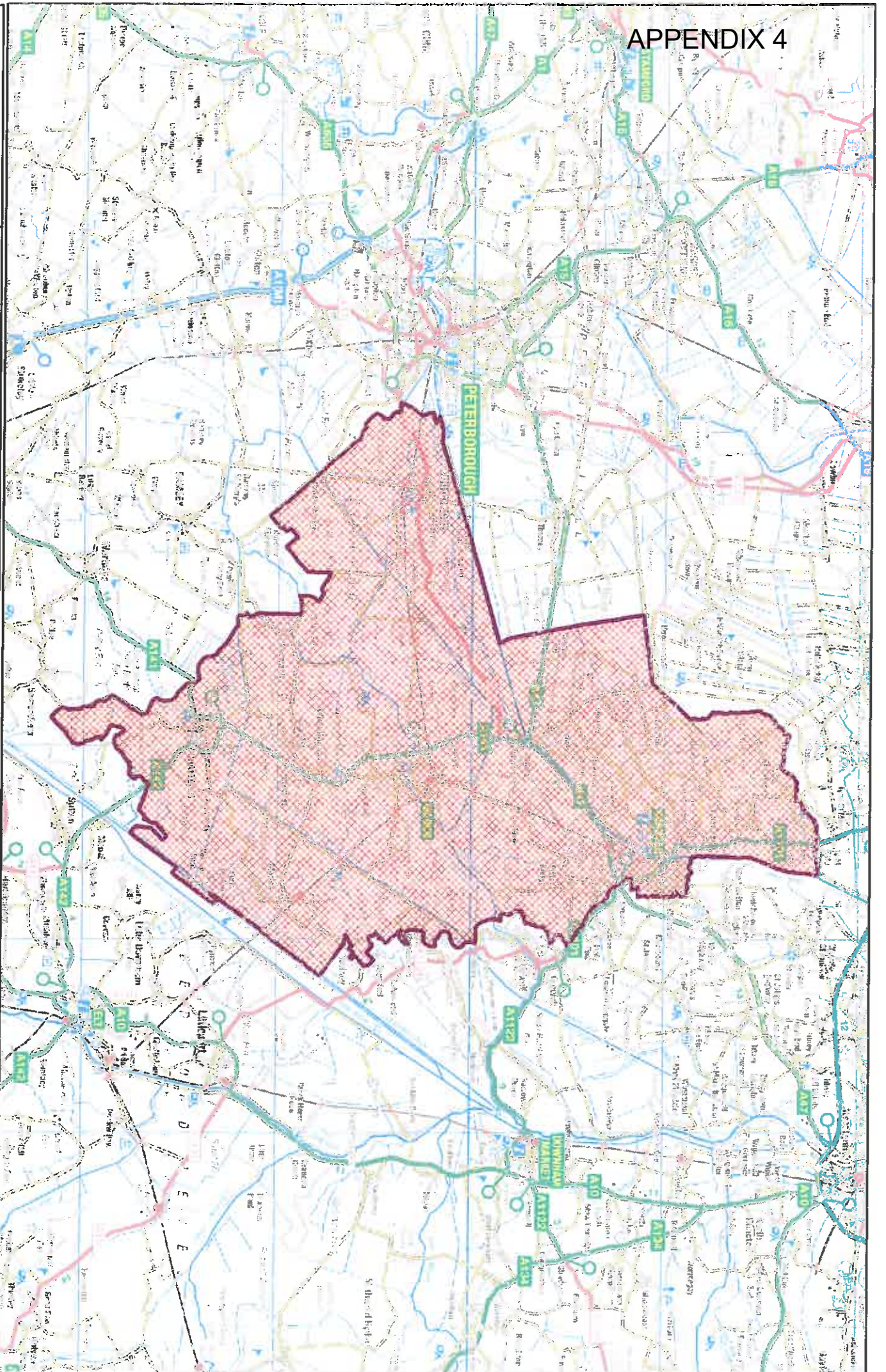
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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Fenland District

Dogs on leads by direction

 Scale = 1:250,000



SCHEDULE 3



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Fenland District

Dogs no fouling 
Scale = 1:250,000



SCHEDULE 4A

Those areas hatched in red on the attached plans being located within the areas listed below:

Settlement Area**Benwick**

High Street

Parson Drove

Main Road

Chatteris

Cricketers Way

Furrowfields

Hunter's Close

Huntingdon Road

Larham Way

New Road Cemetery

St Paul's Drive

Wenny Road

Whittlesey

Burdett Grove

Manor Leisure Centre

Pinewood Avenue

Snowley Park

Station Road

Whittlesey Cemetery

Doddington

Beech Avenue

Walden Close

Wimblington

Honeymead Road

Eastrea

Springfields

Thornham Way

Wisbech

Bath Road

Conference Way

Copperfields

Heron Road

Malt Drive

Mount Pleasant Cemetery

Westmead Avenue

Wisbech Park

Friday Bridge

West Drive

Manea

Williams Way

March

Eastwood Cemetery

Gaul Road

North Drive

West End Park

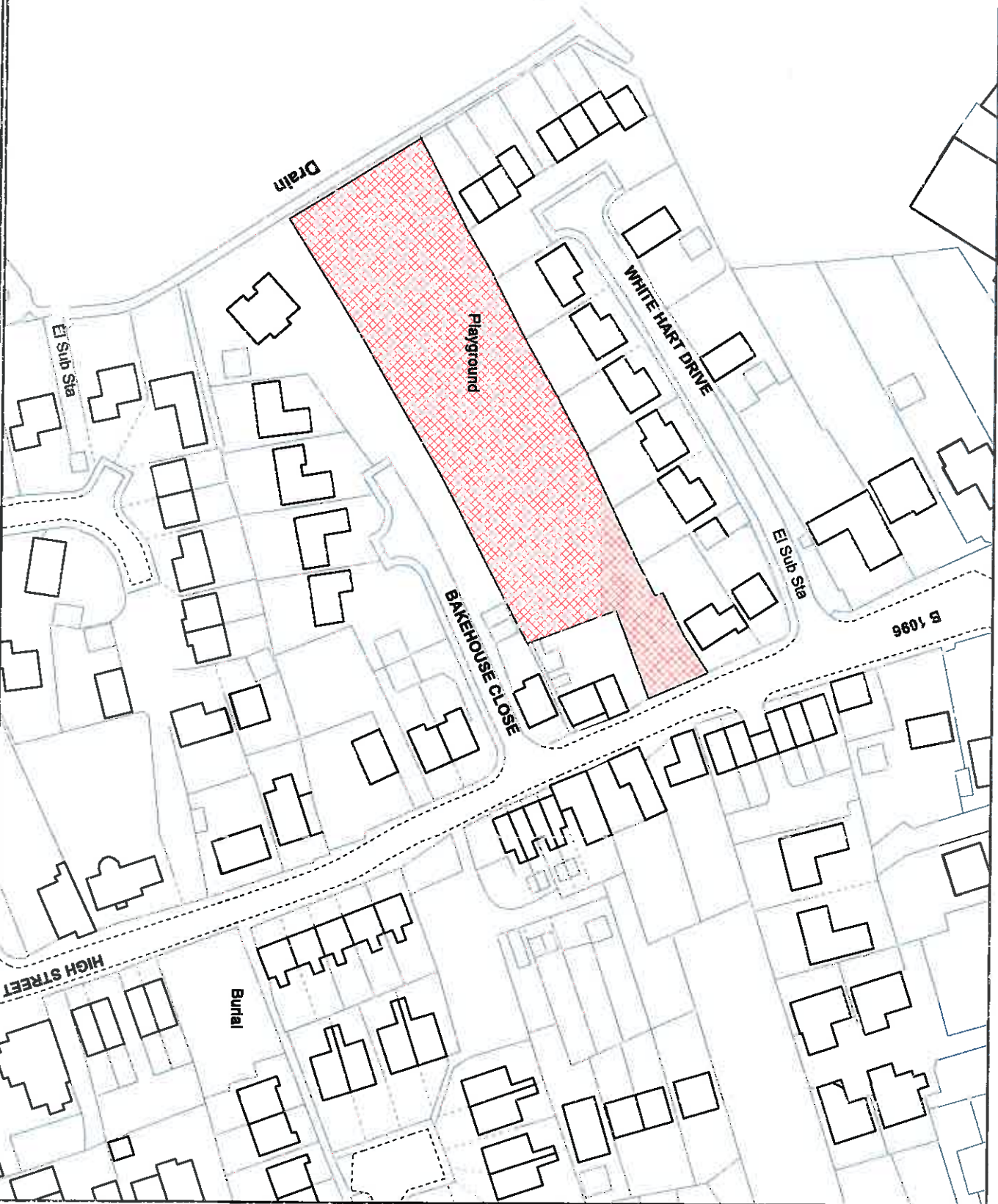
Wisbech St Mary

Wisbech St Mary Cemetery

SCHEDULE 4

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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
High Street Play Area, Benwick

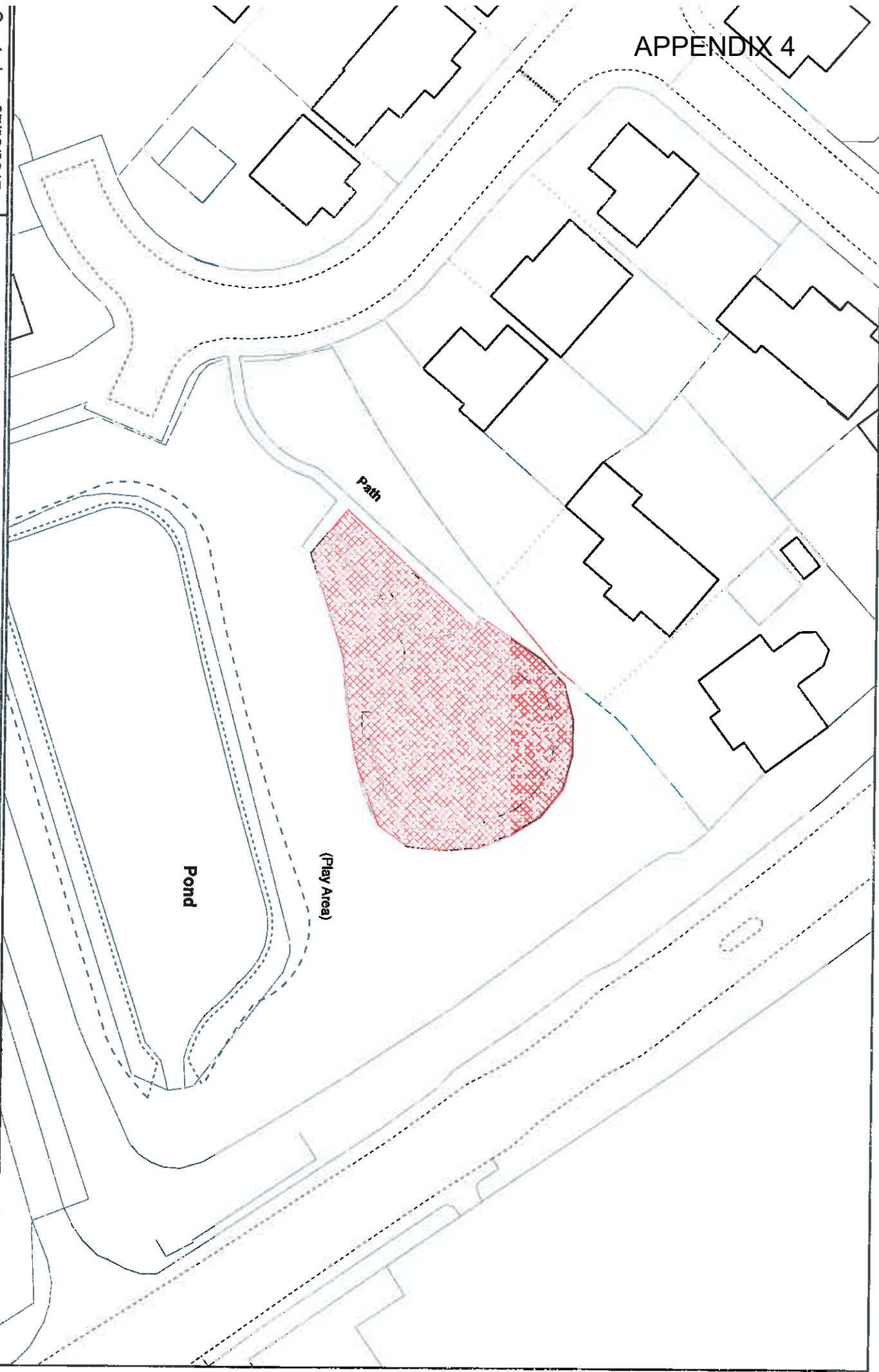


Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:1,250



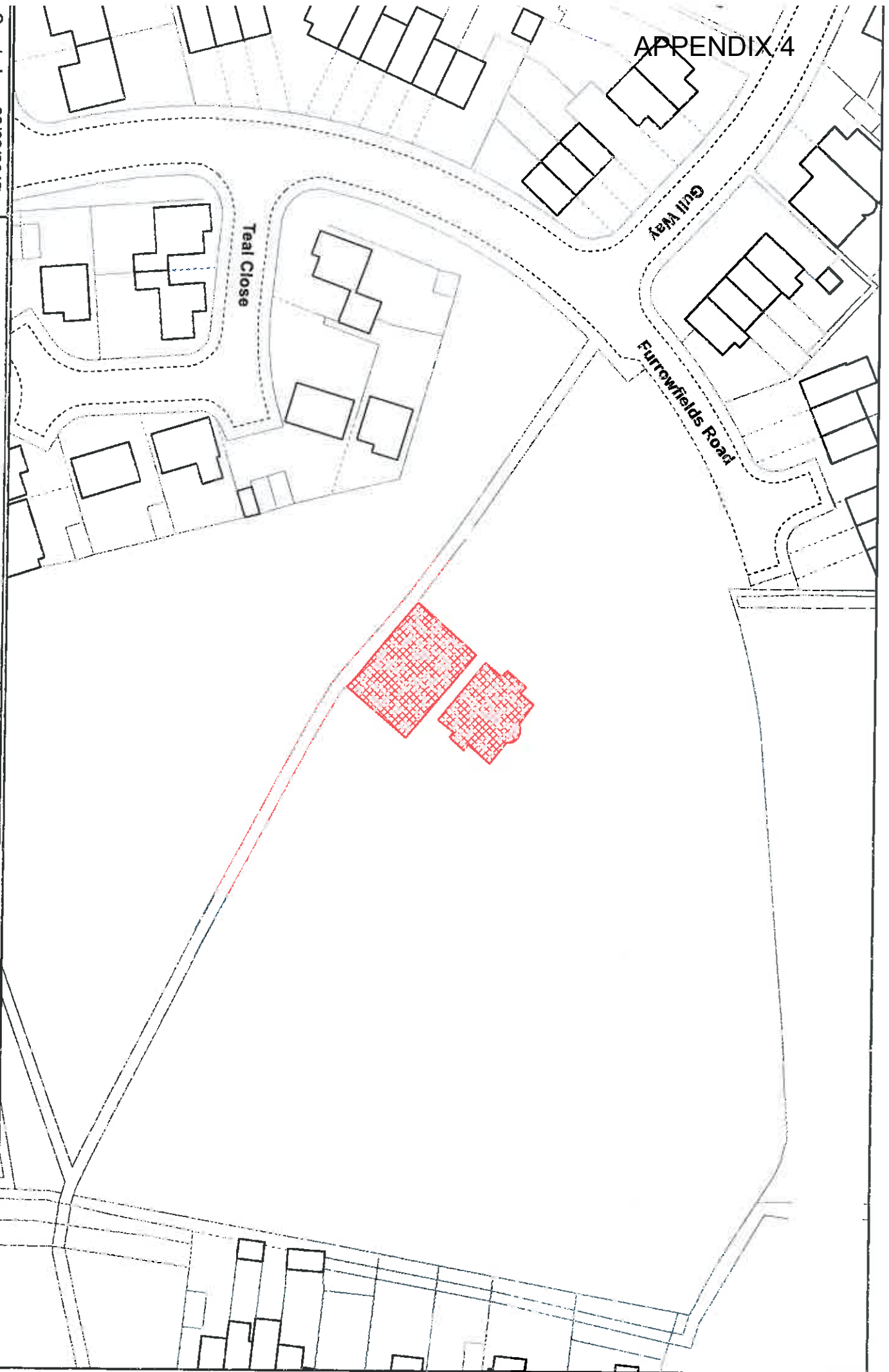


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Cricketer's Way, Chatteris

Dogs Excluded Area
Scale = 1:500





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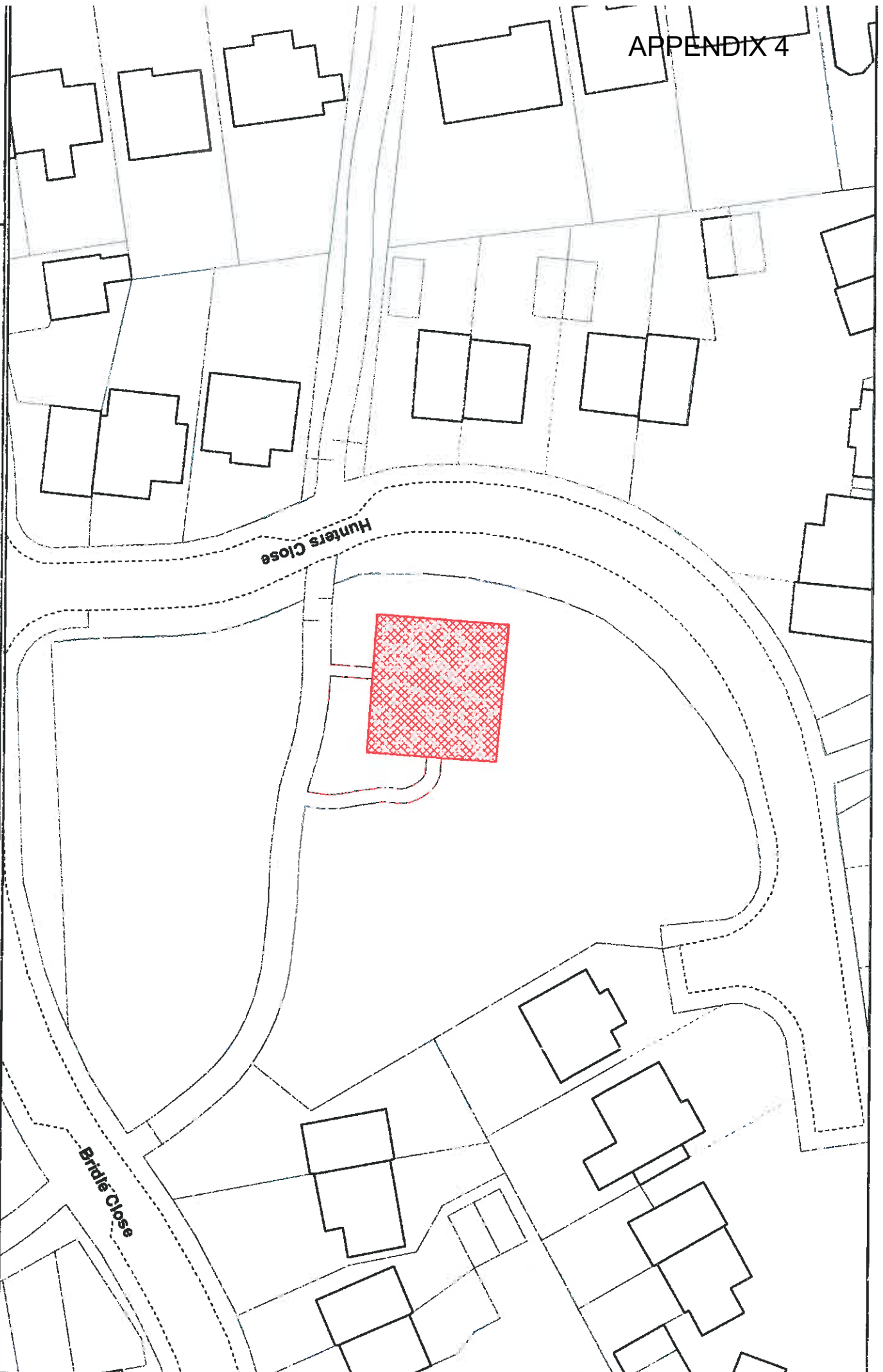
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Furrowfields, Chatteris

Dogs Excluded Area 
 Scale = 1:750



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Hunters Close, Chatteris



Dogs Excluded Area

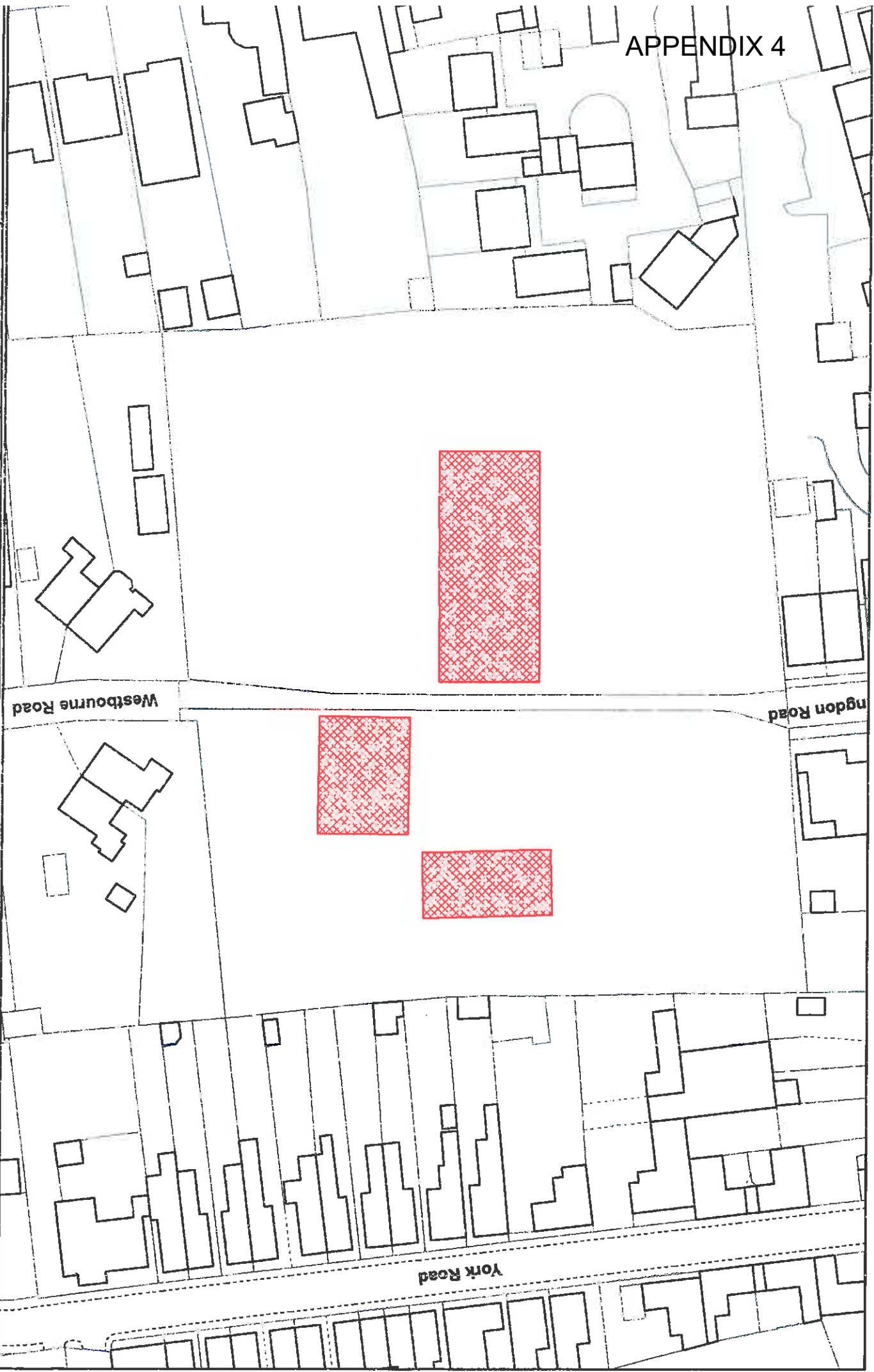


Scale = 1:500



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Huntingdon Road, Chatteris



Westbourne Road

Huntingdon Road

York Road

Dogs Excluded Area

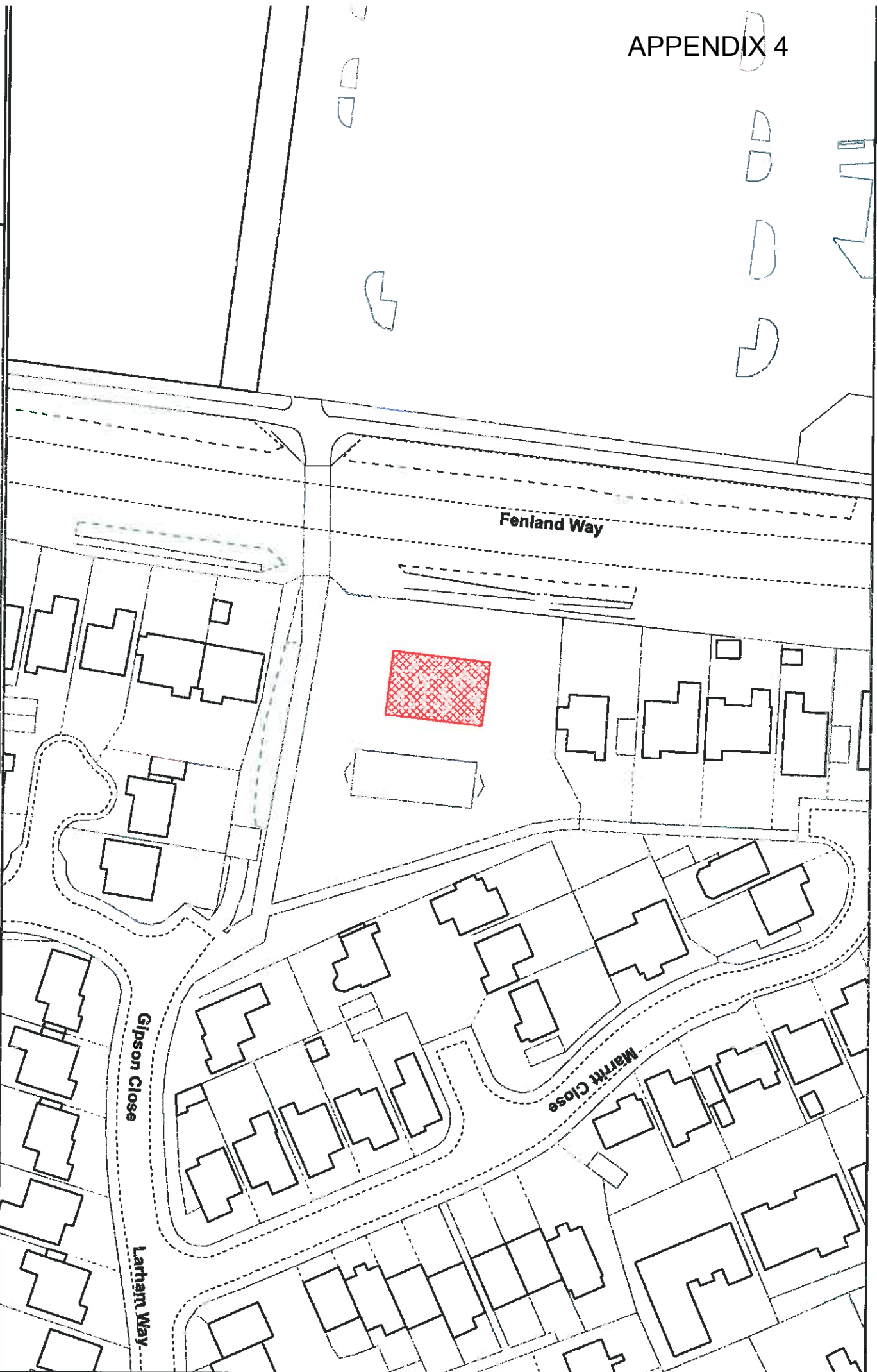


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Larham Way, Chatteris

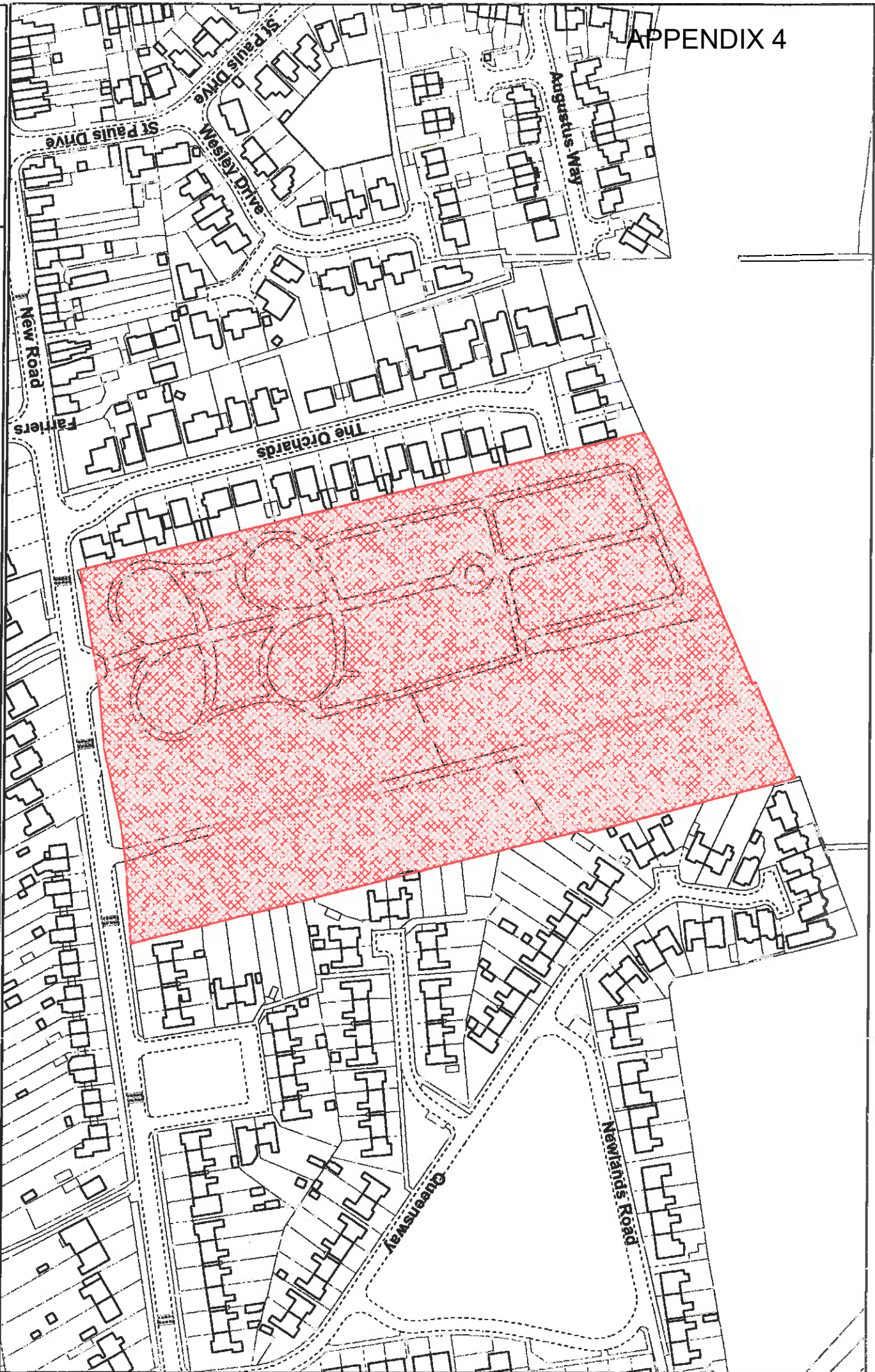


Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:800





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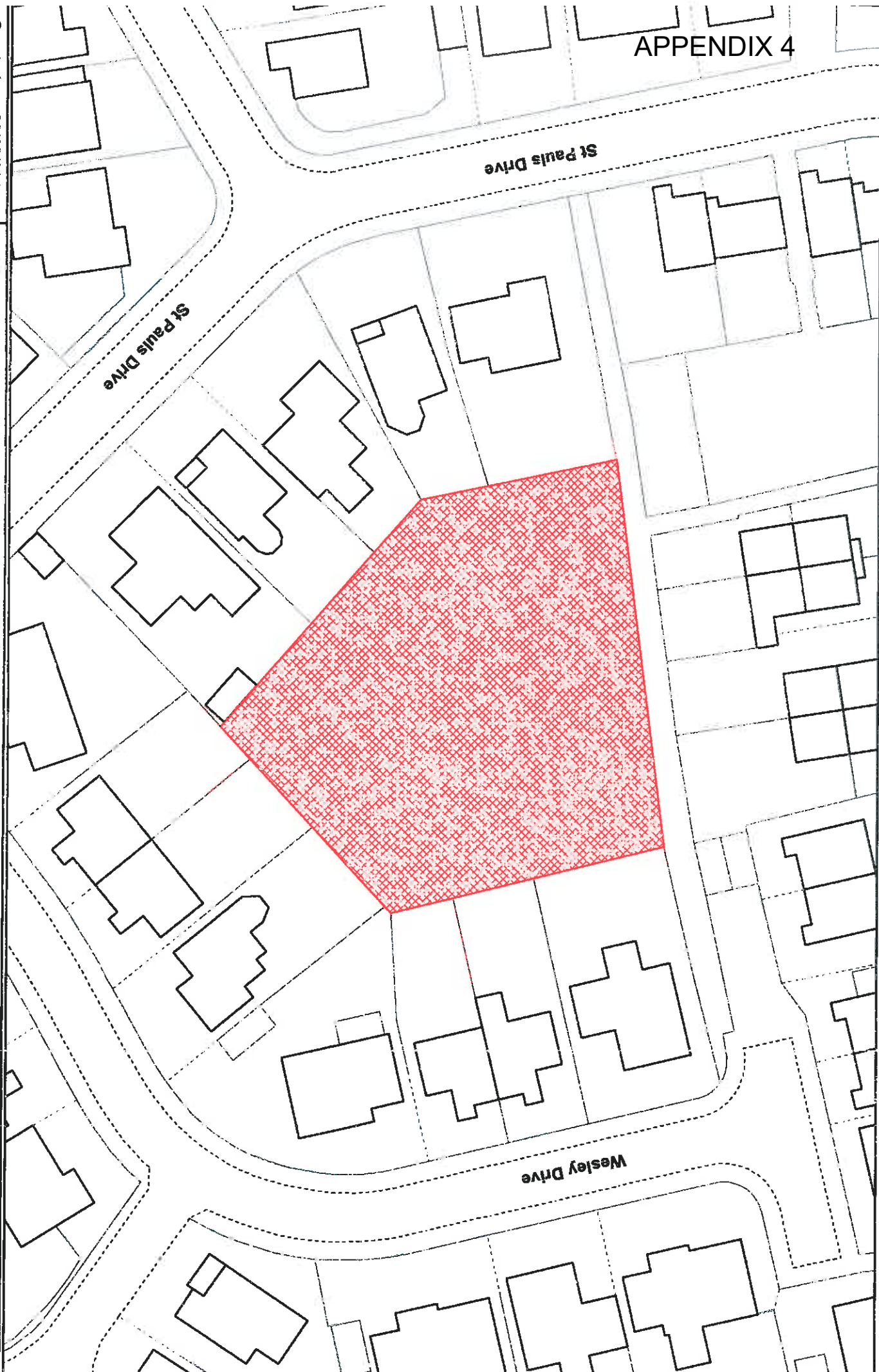
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
New Road Cemetery, Chatteris

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:2,000





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
St Paul's Drive Play Area, Chatteris


Dogs Excluded Area
Scale = 1:500



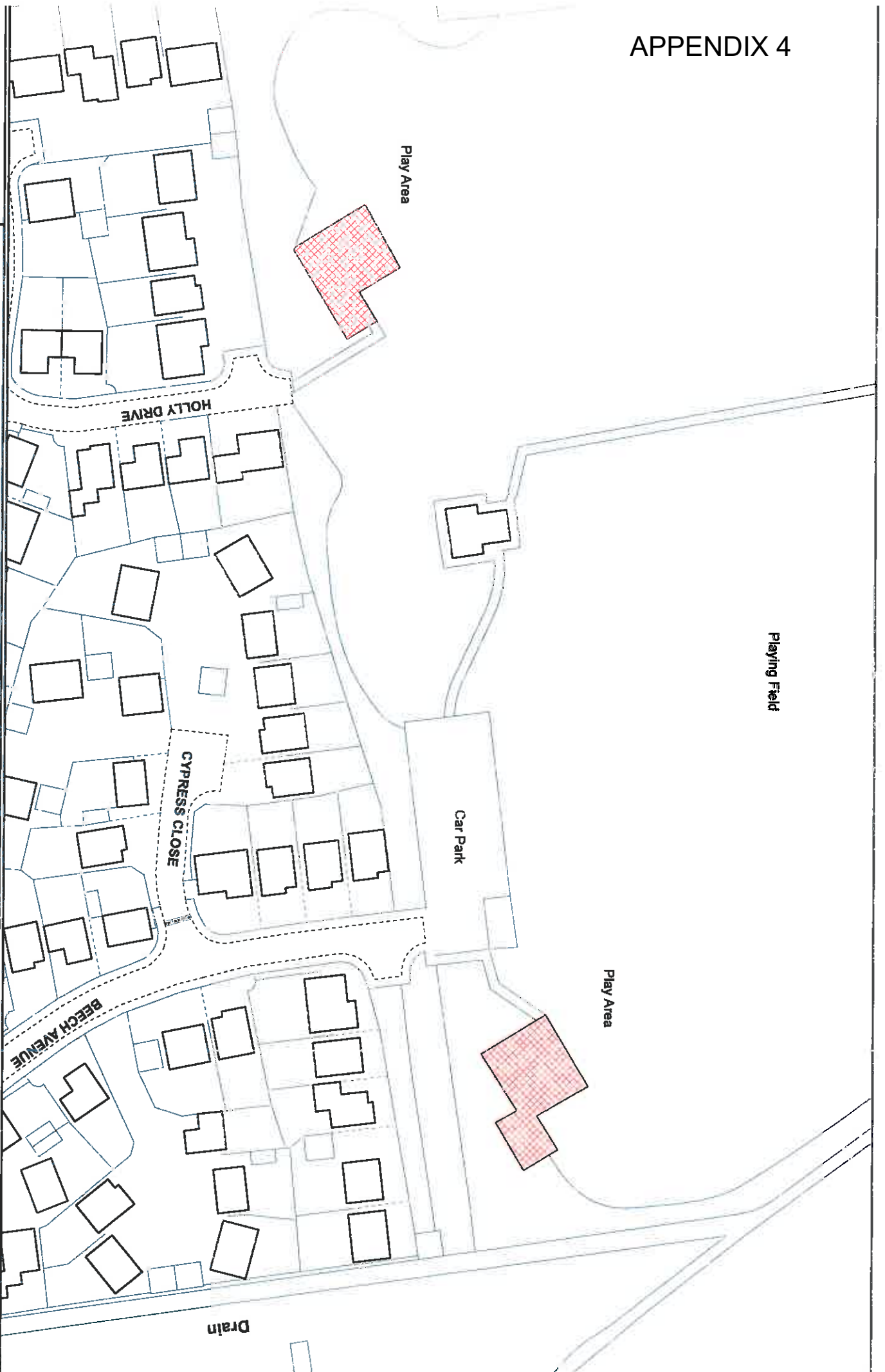


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Wenny Road, Chatteris

Dogs Excluded Area 
 Scale = 1:750





Playing Field

Play Area

Car Park

Play Area

Drain

HOLLY DRIVE

CYPRESS CLOSE

BEECH AVENUE

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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

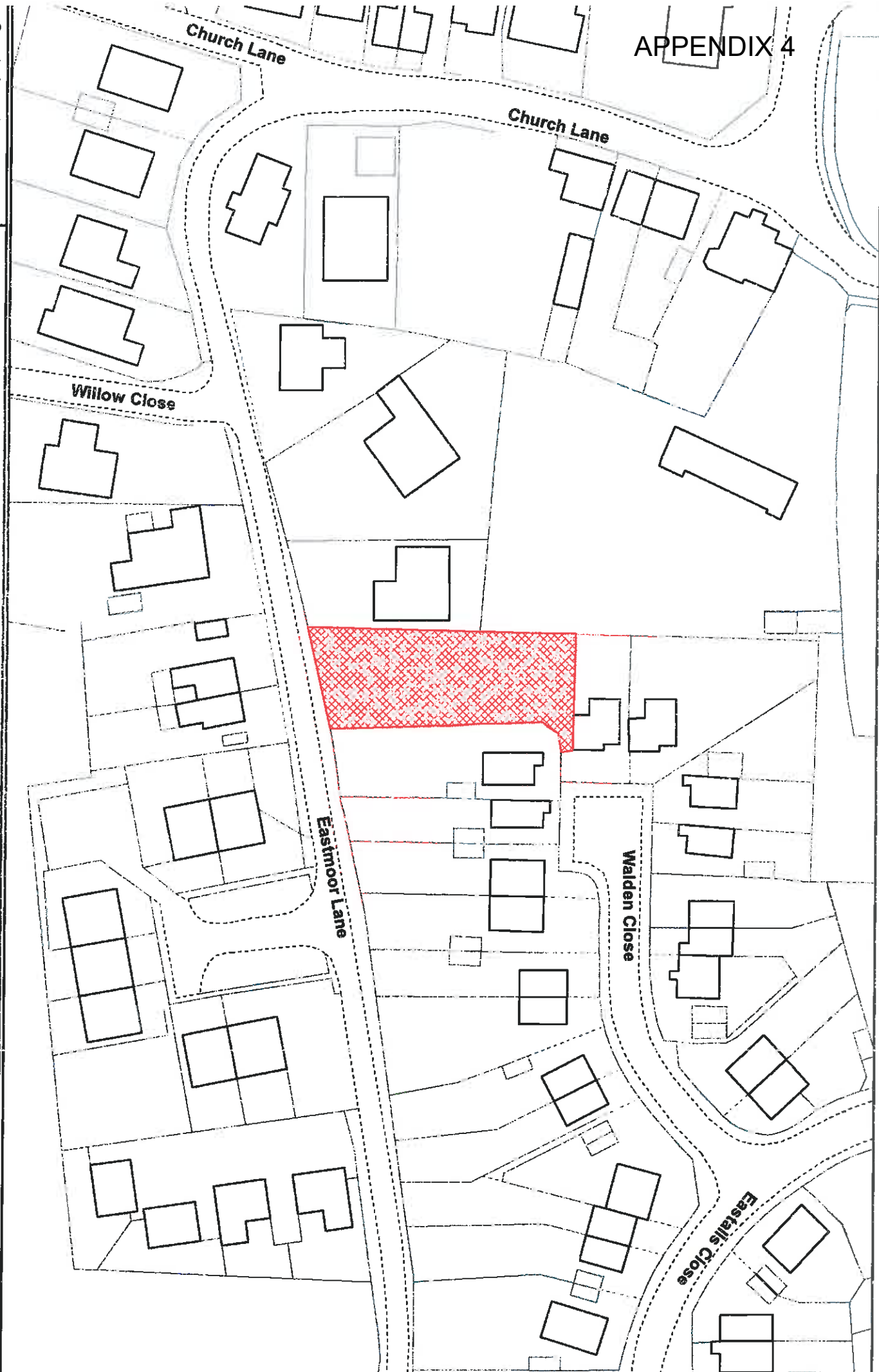
Beech Avenue, Doddington

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:1,000





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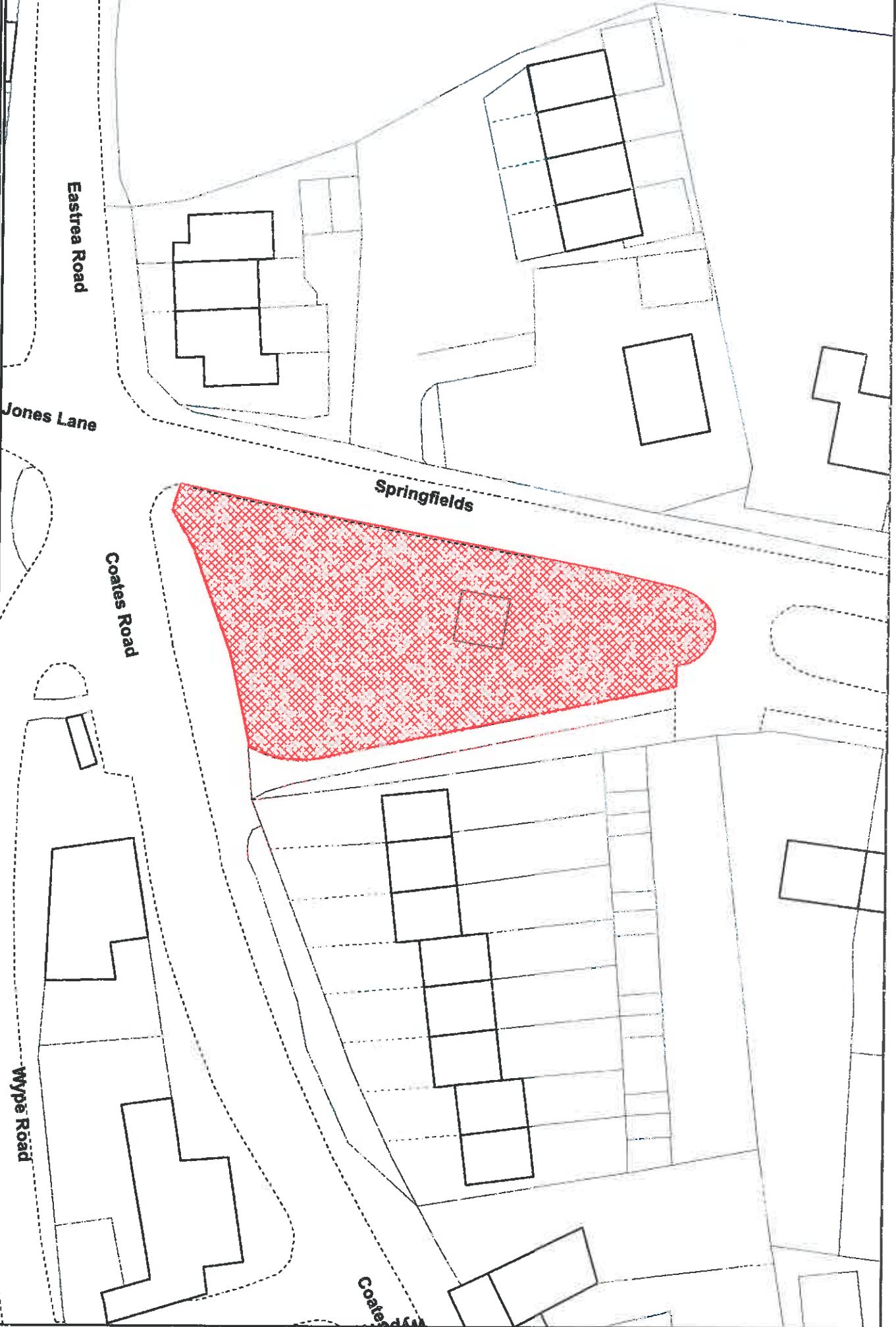
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
 Walden Close Play Area, Doddington

Dogs Excluded Area
 Scale = 1:800



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Springfields, Eastrea



Dogs Excluded Area



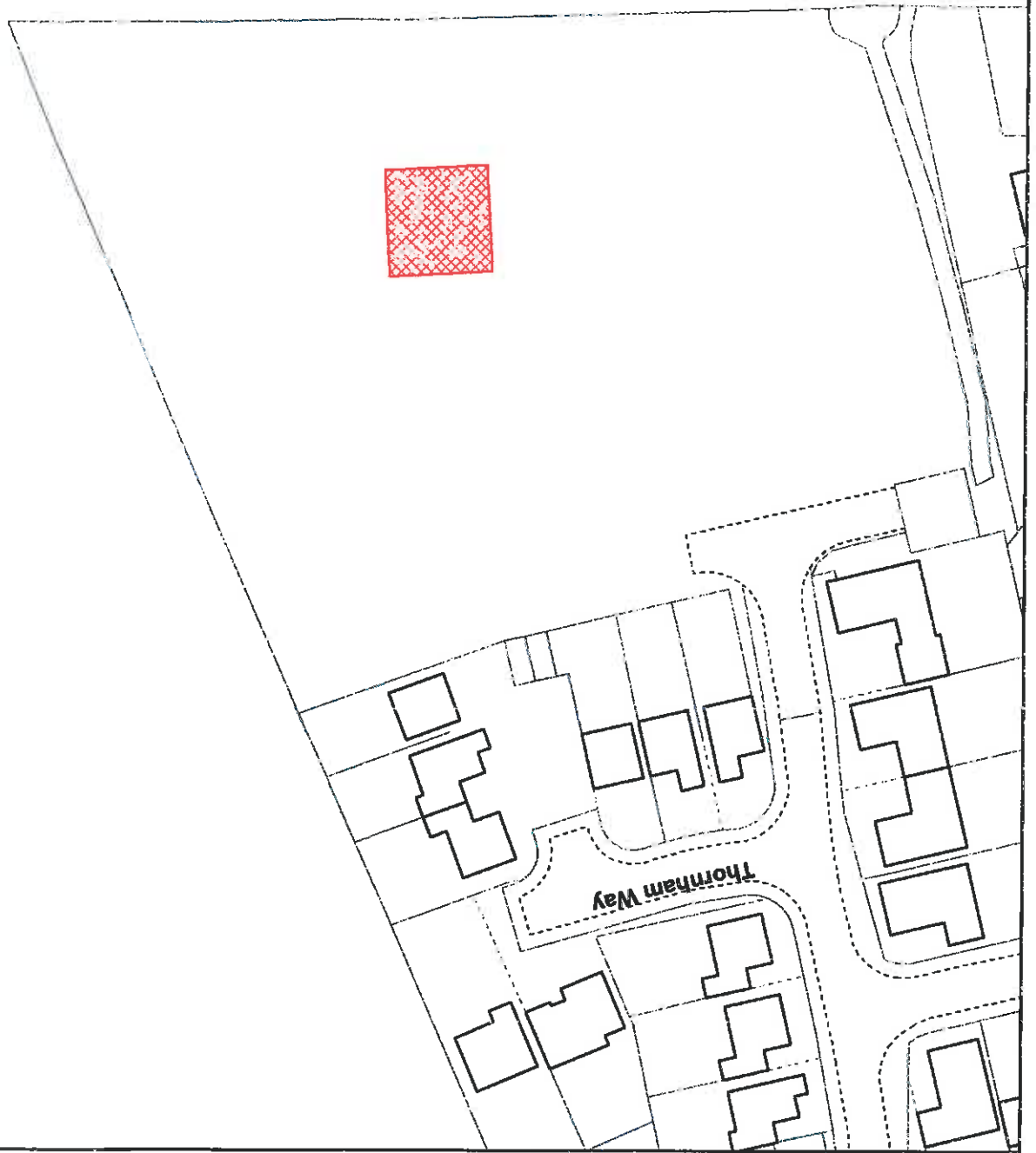
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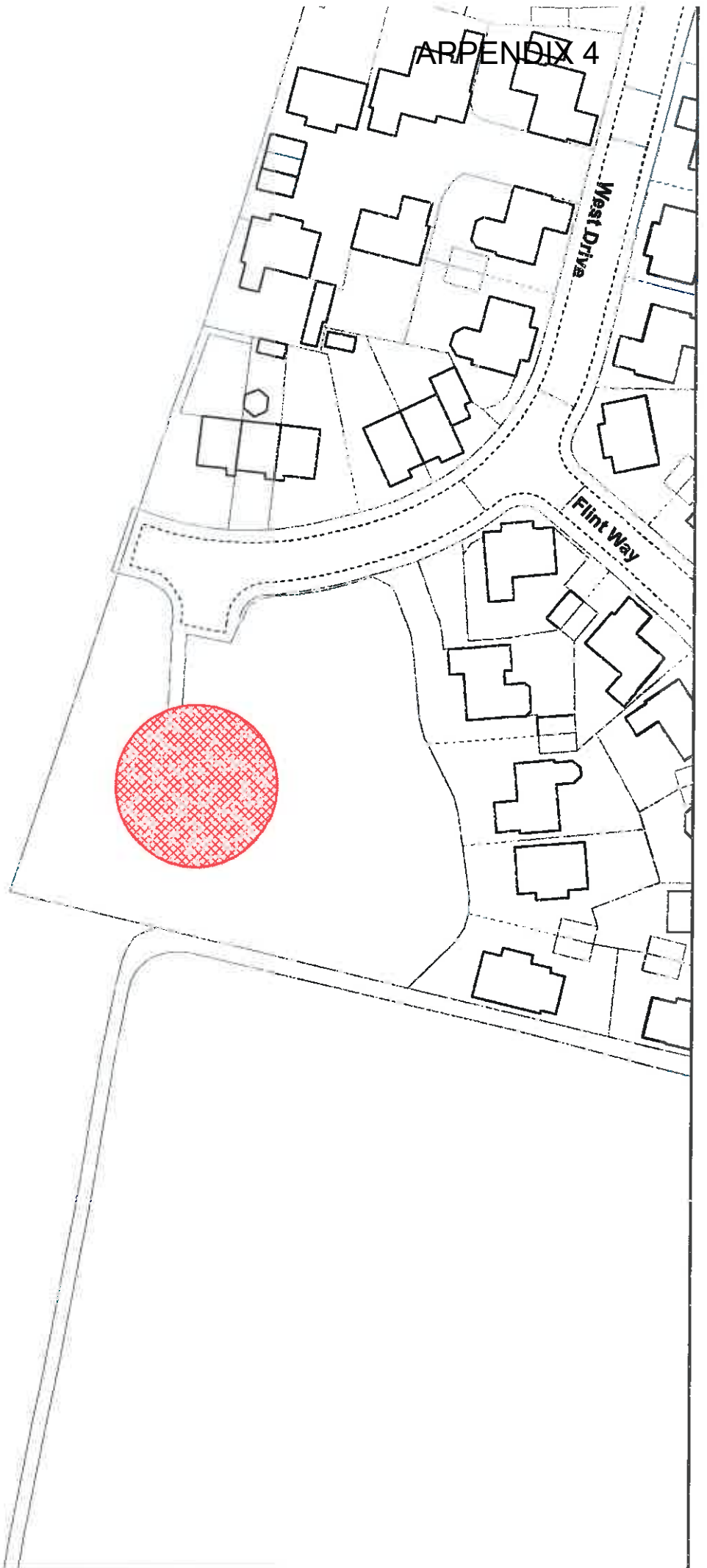


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Thornham Way, Eastrea

Dogs Excluded Area
Scale = 1:850





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

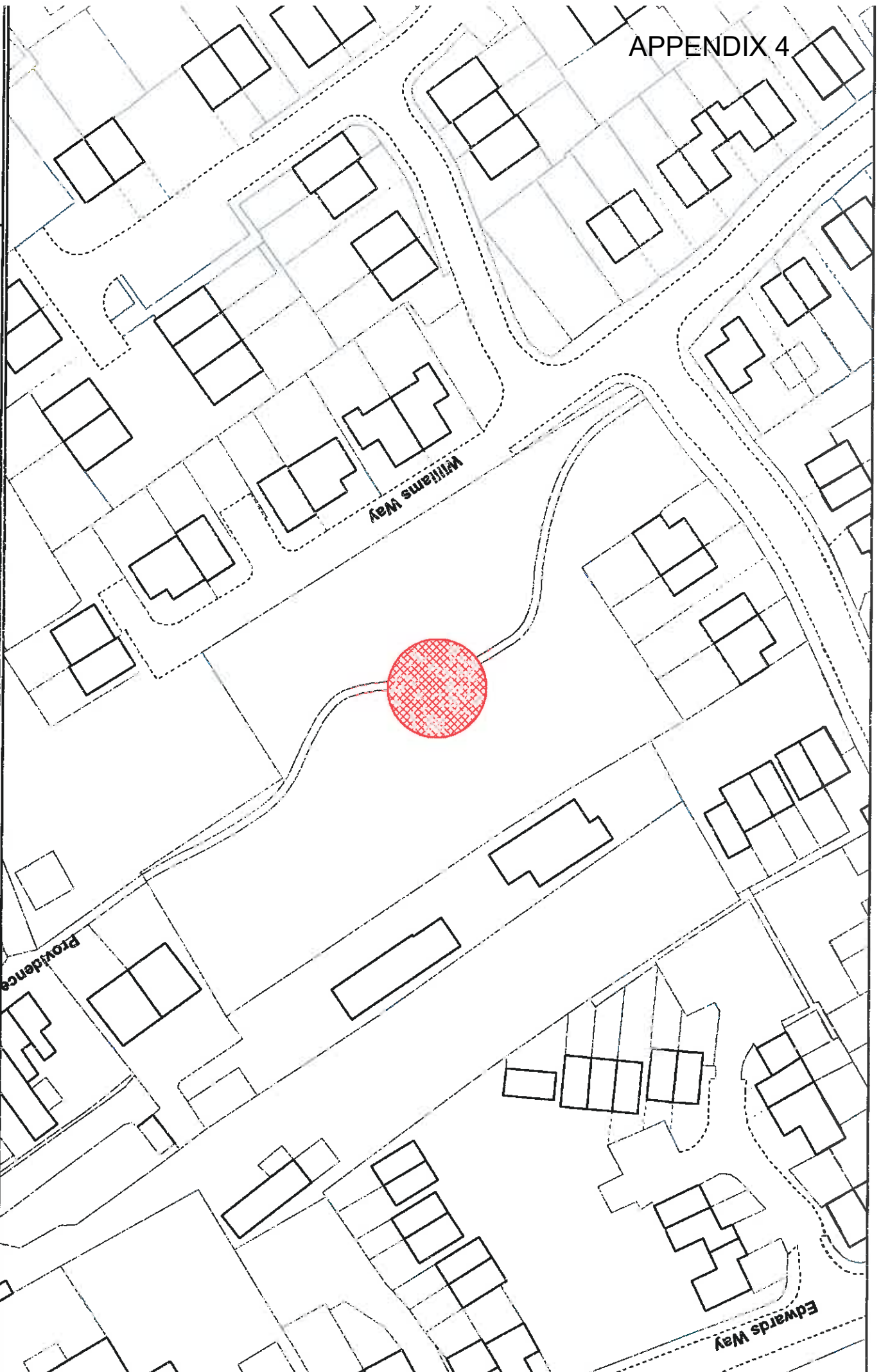
West Drive, Friday Bridge

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:800





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

Williams Way, Manea

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:750

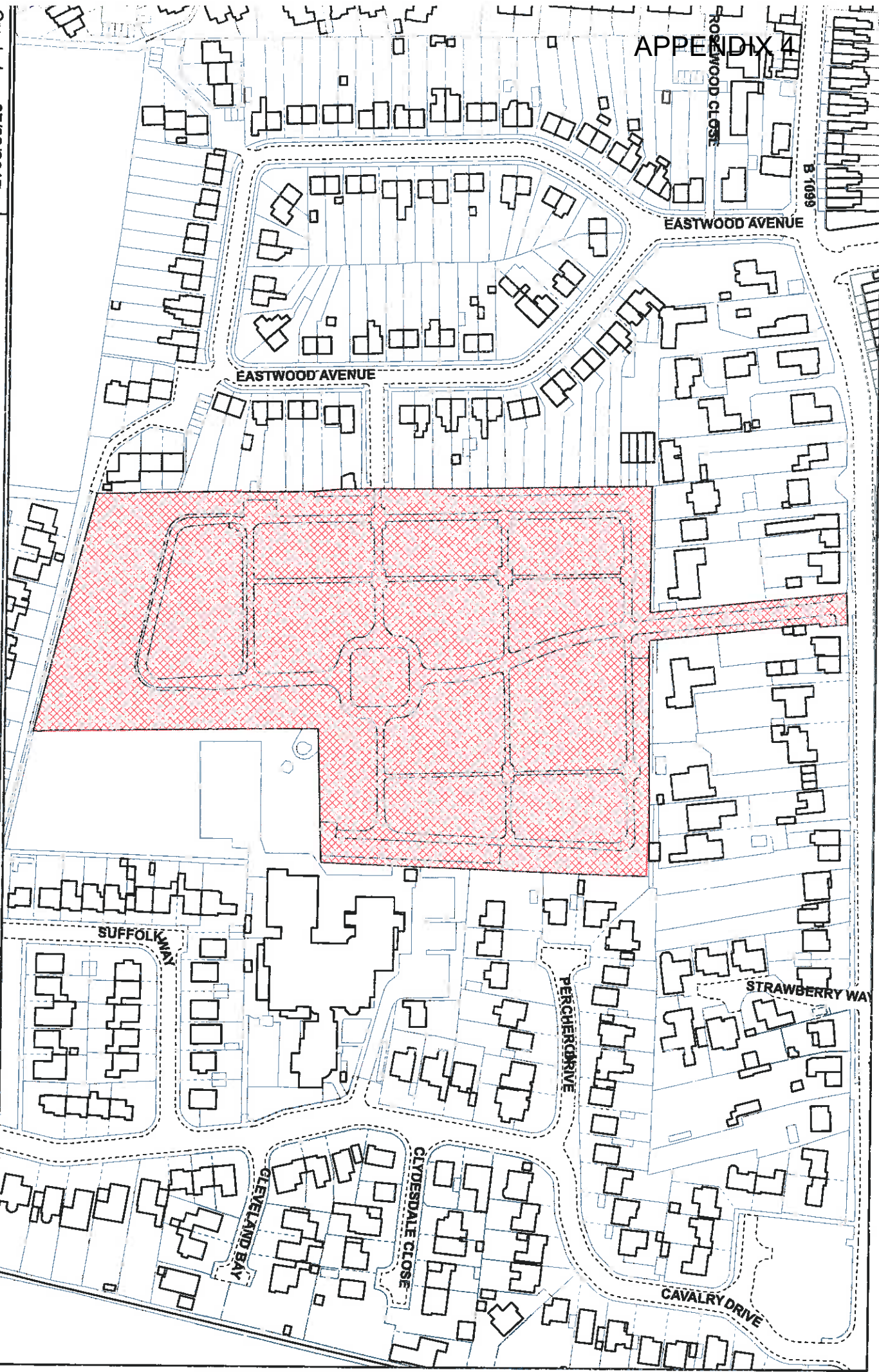


ROSEWOOD CLOSE

B 1039

EASTWOOD AVENUE

EASTWOOD AVENUE



Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Eastwood Cemetery, March

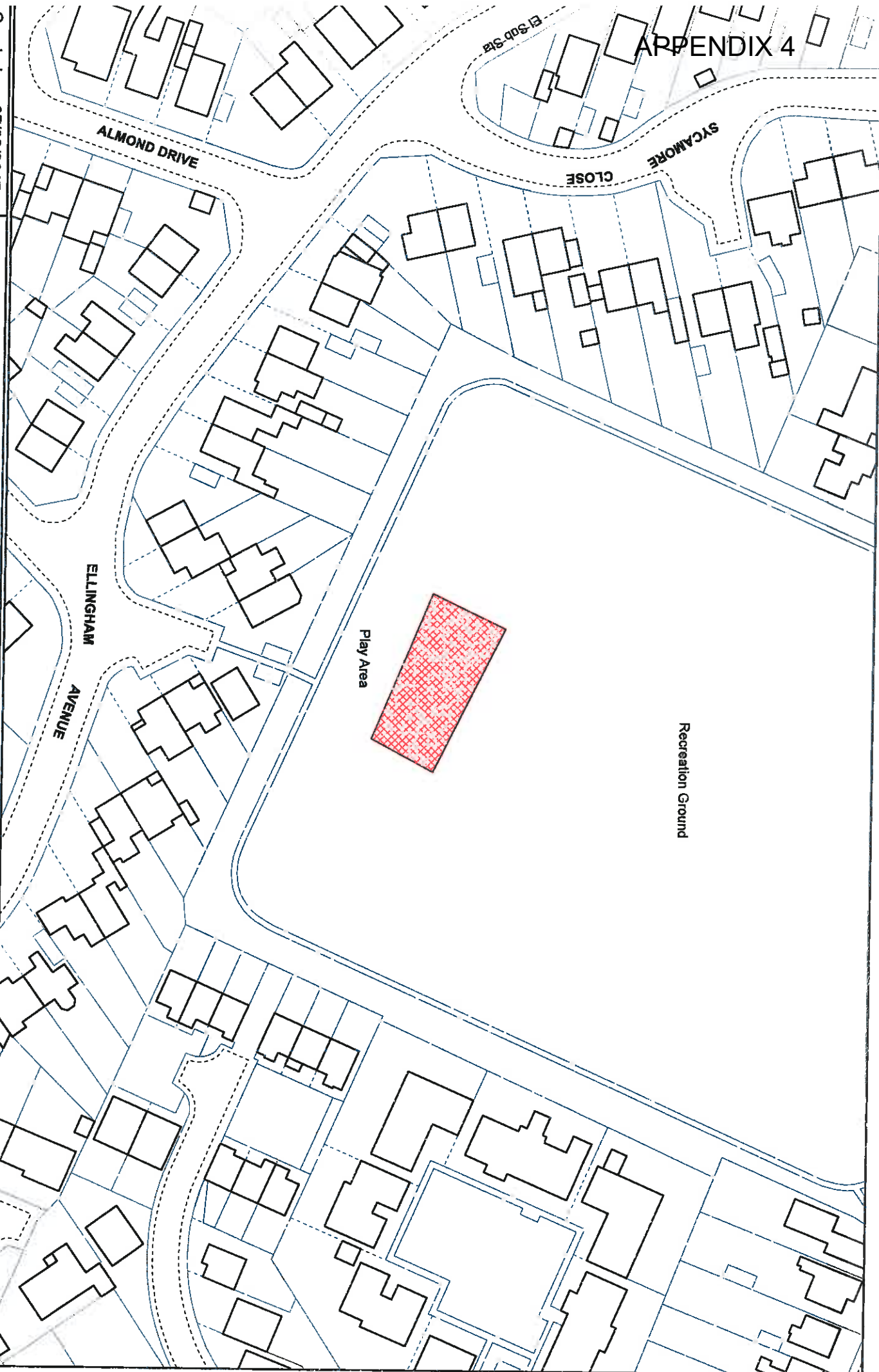
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Dogs Excluded Area



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Gaul Road, March

Recreation Ground

Play Area

ELLINGHAM AVENUE

ALMOND DRIVE

SYCAMORE CLOSE

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:1,000



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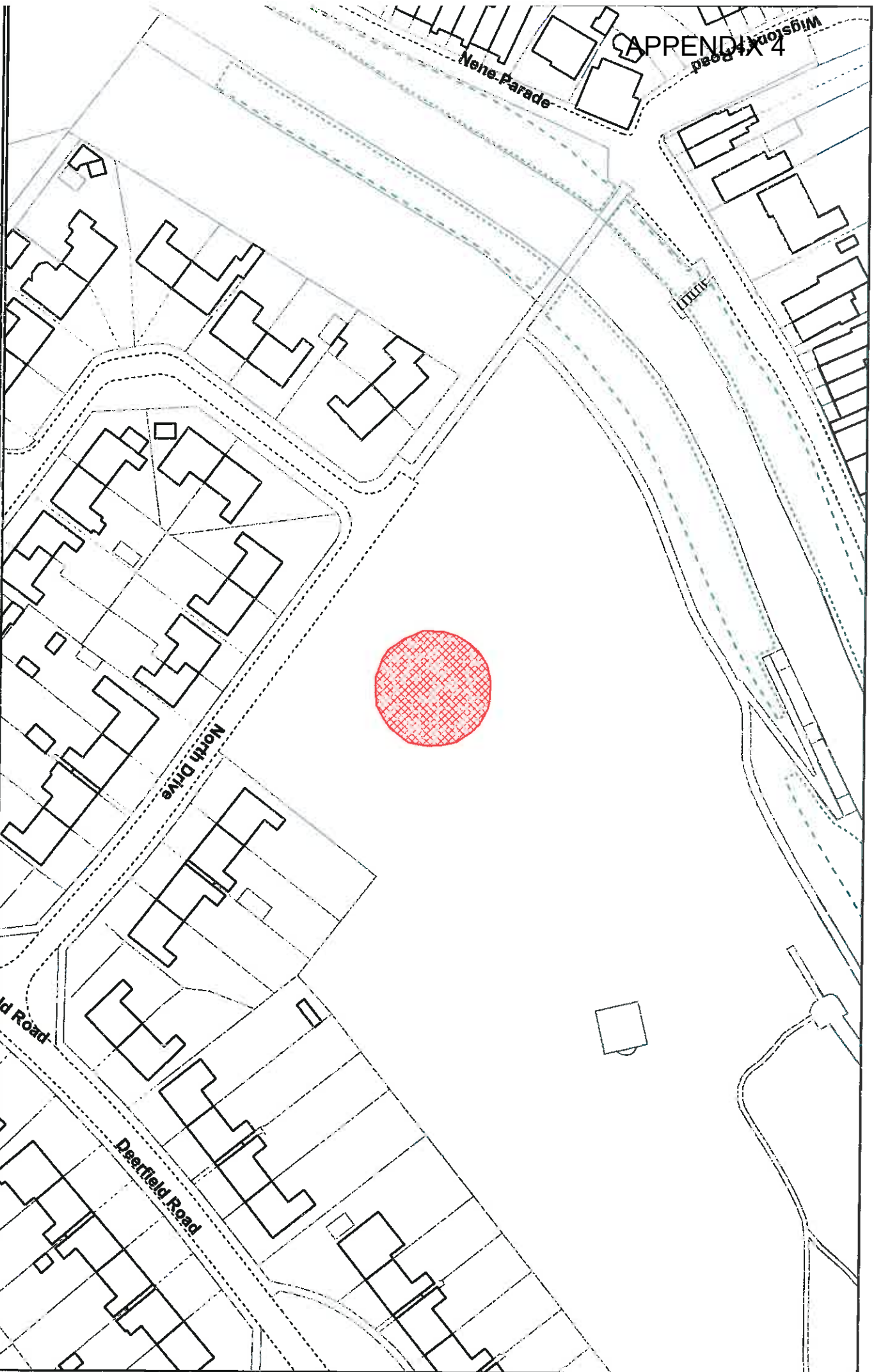
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

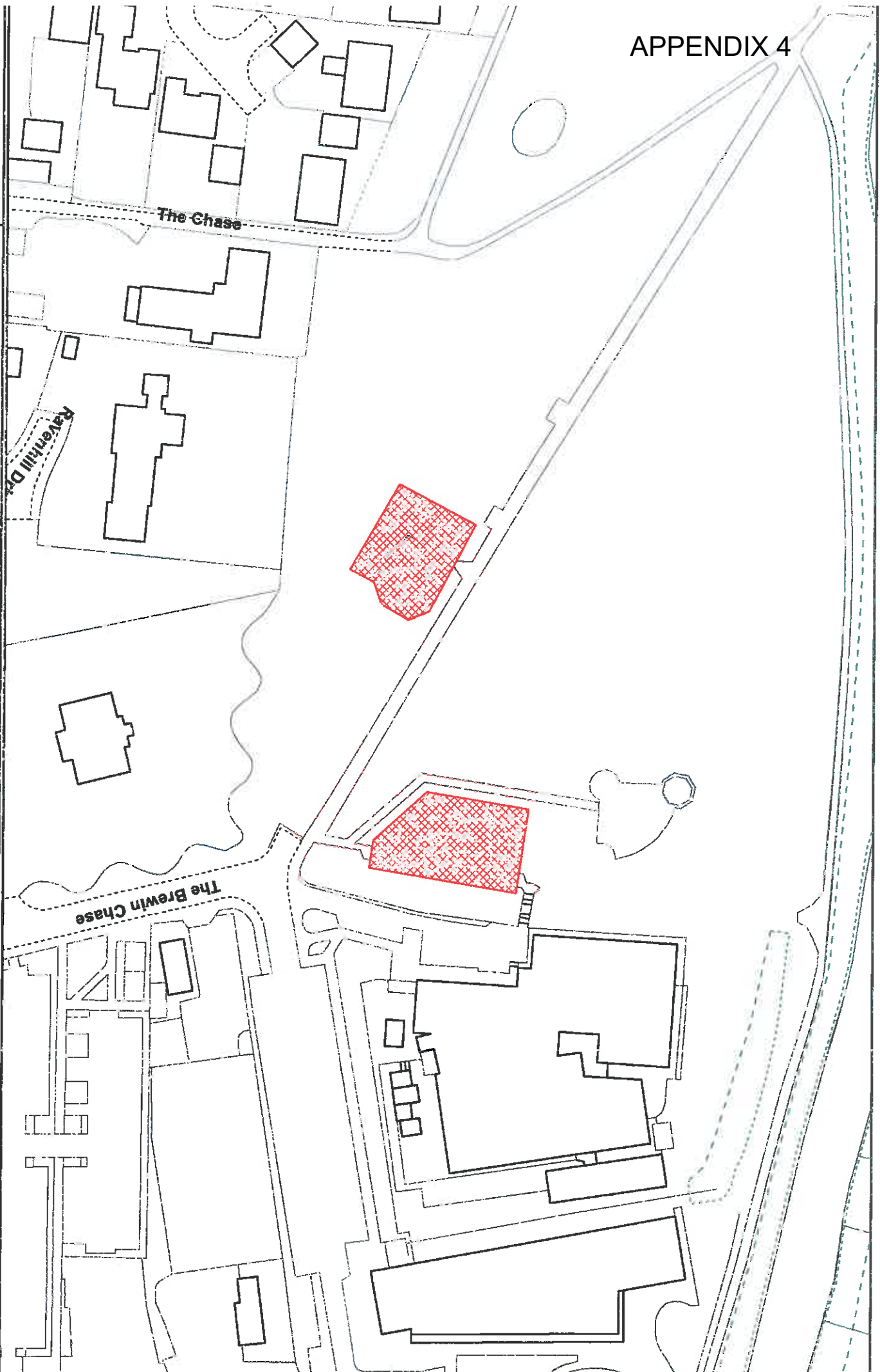
North Drive, March

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:1,000





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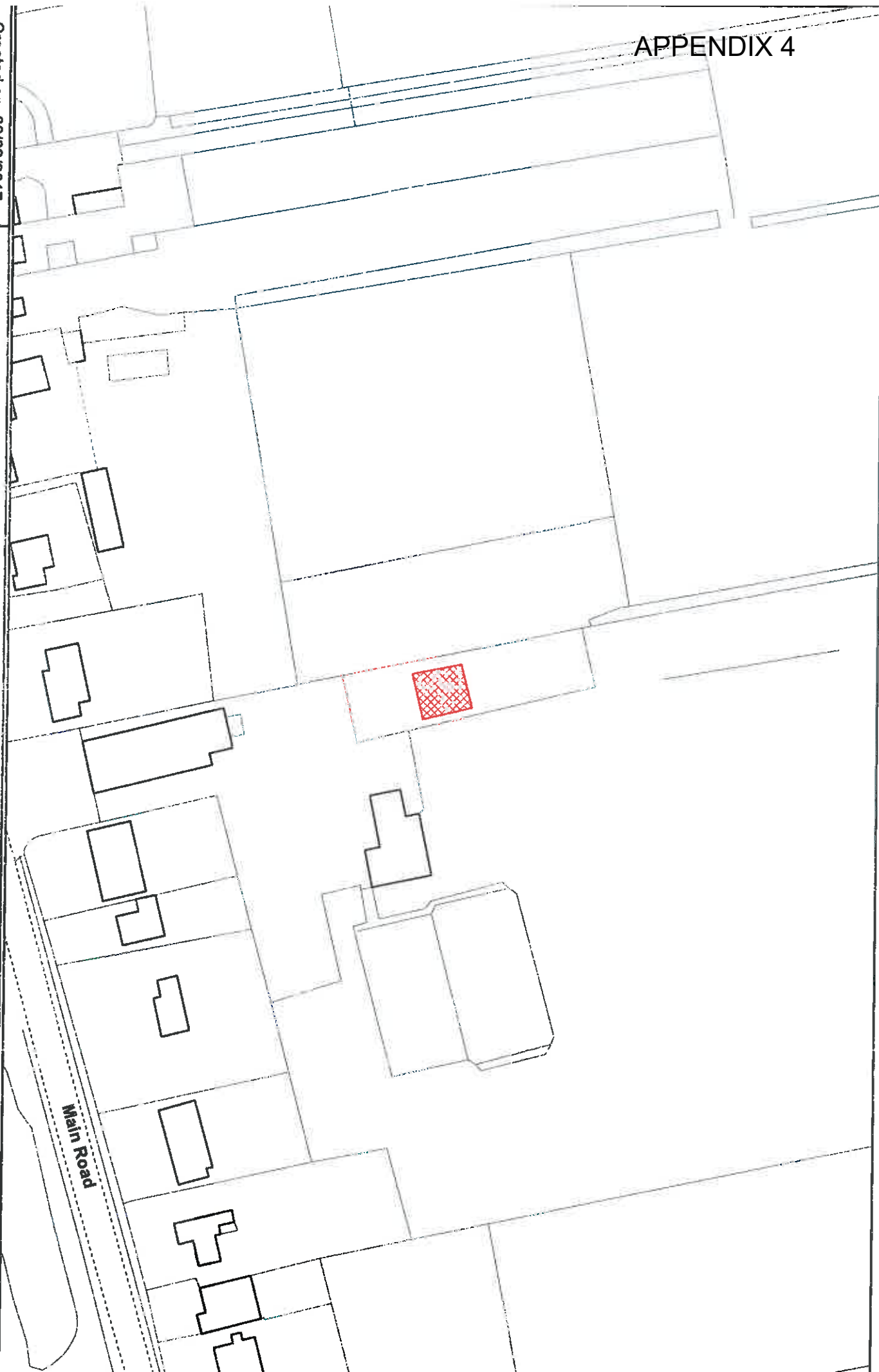
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
West End Park, March

Dogs Excluded Area
Scale = 1:1,000



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Main Road, Parson Drove



Dogs Excluded Area

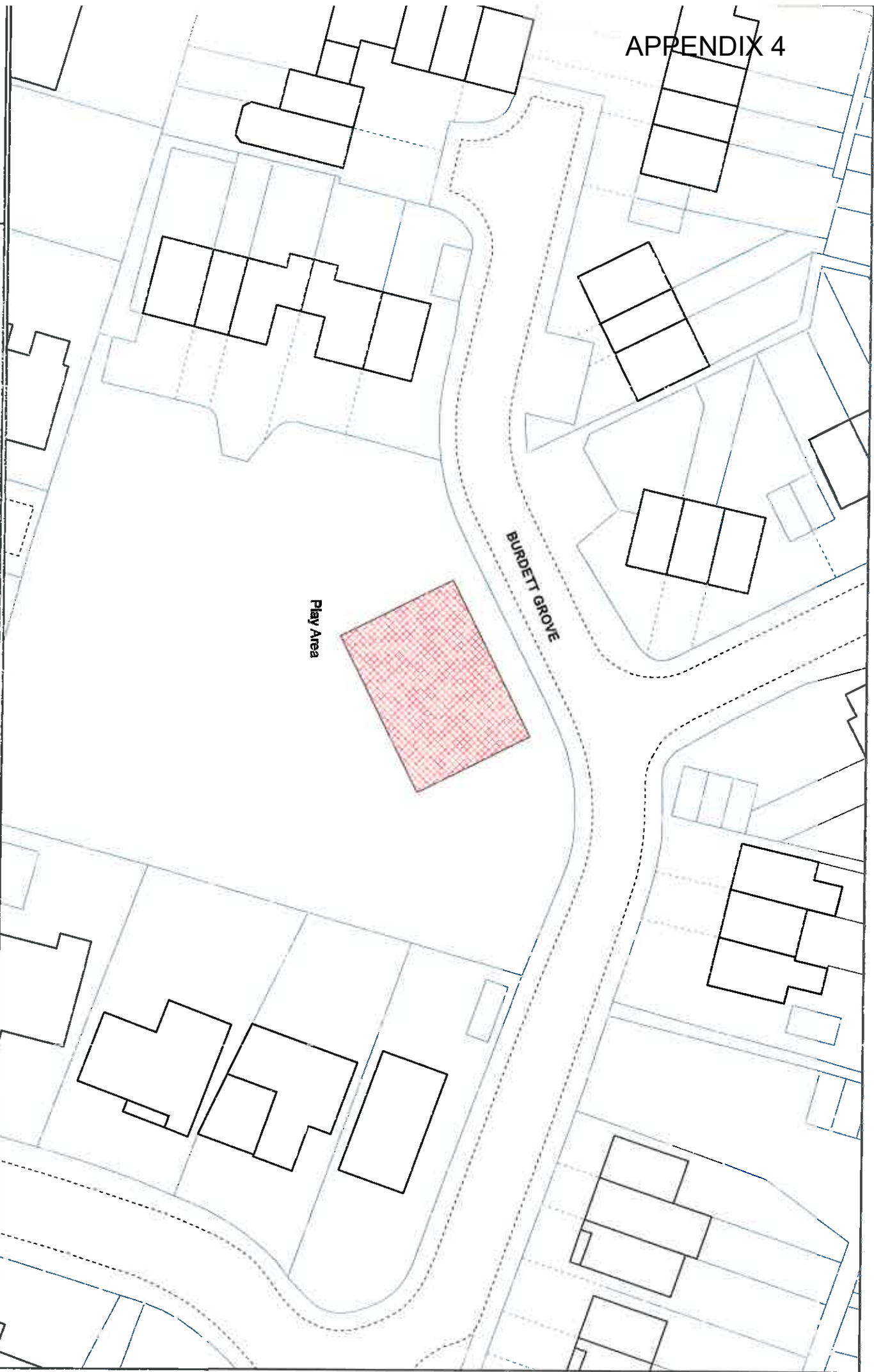


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Burdett Grove, Whittlesey

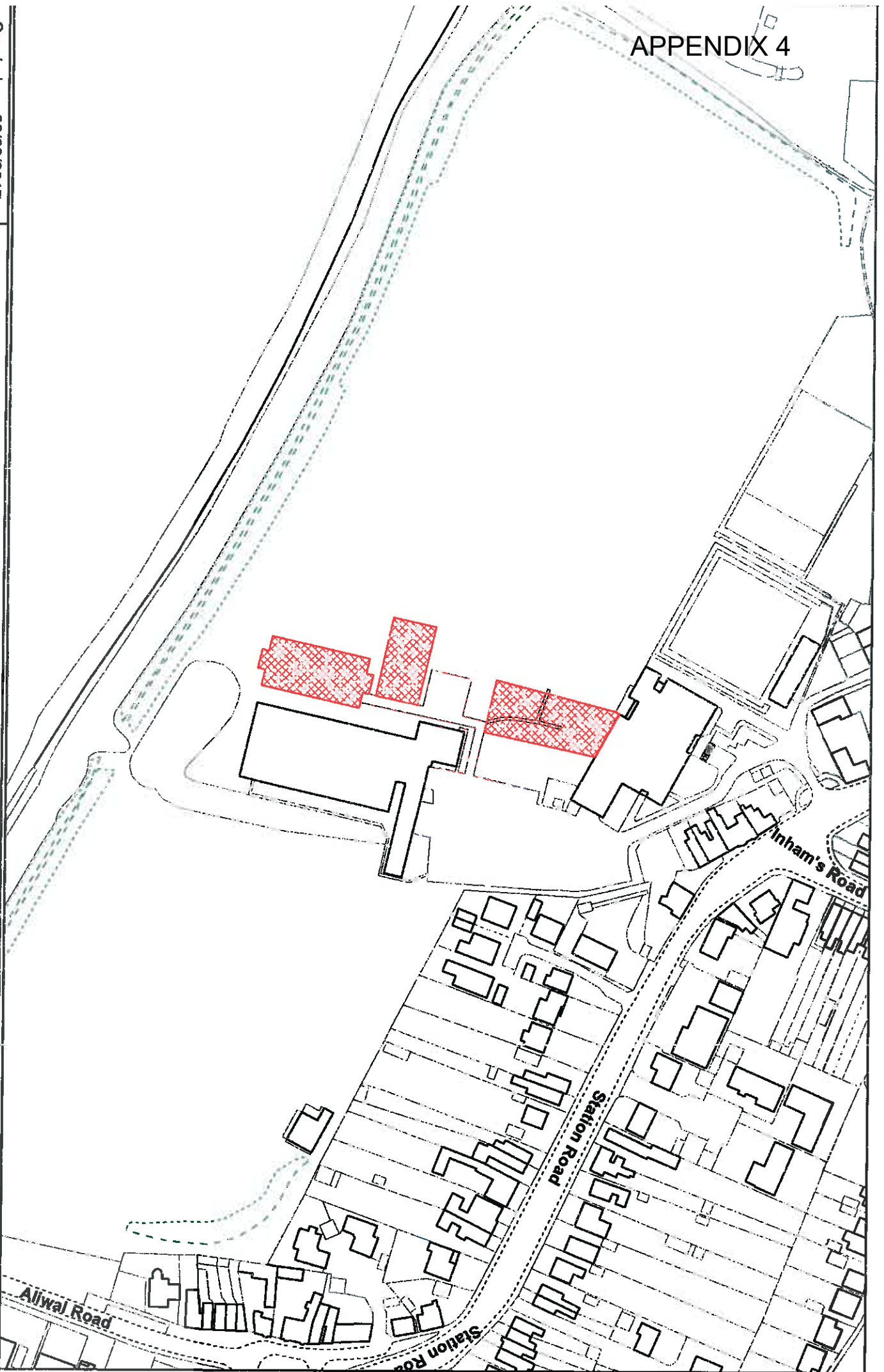


Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:500





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

Manor Leisure Centre Play Area, Whittlesey

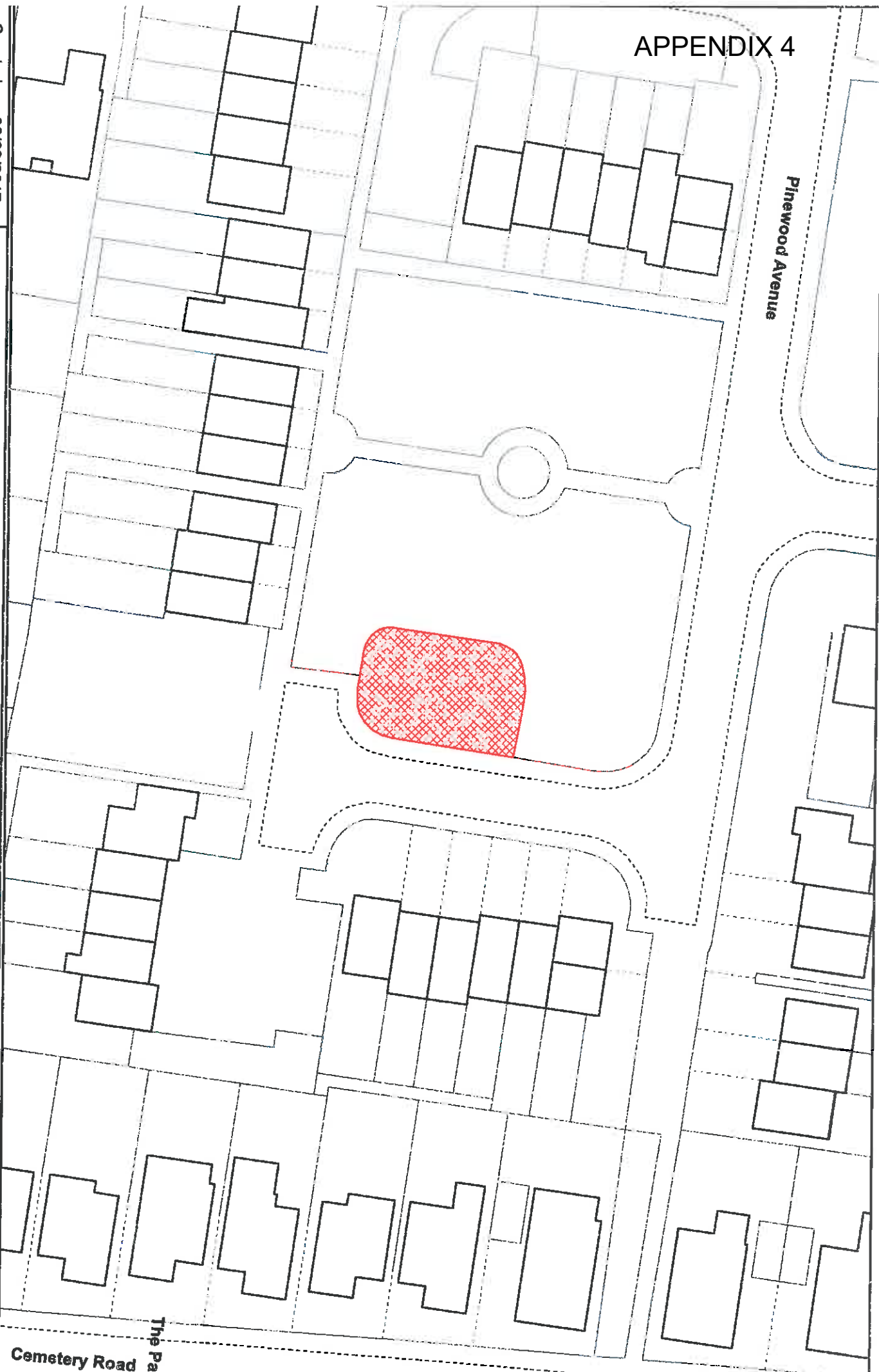
Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:1,800



Pinewood Avenue



Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Pinewood Avenue, Whittlesey

Dogs Excluded Area



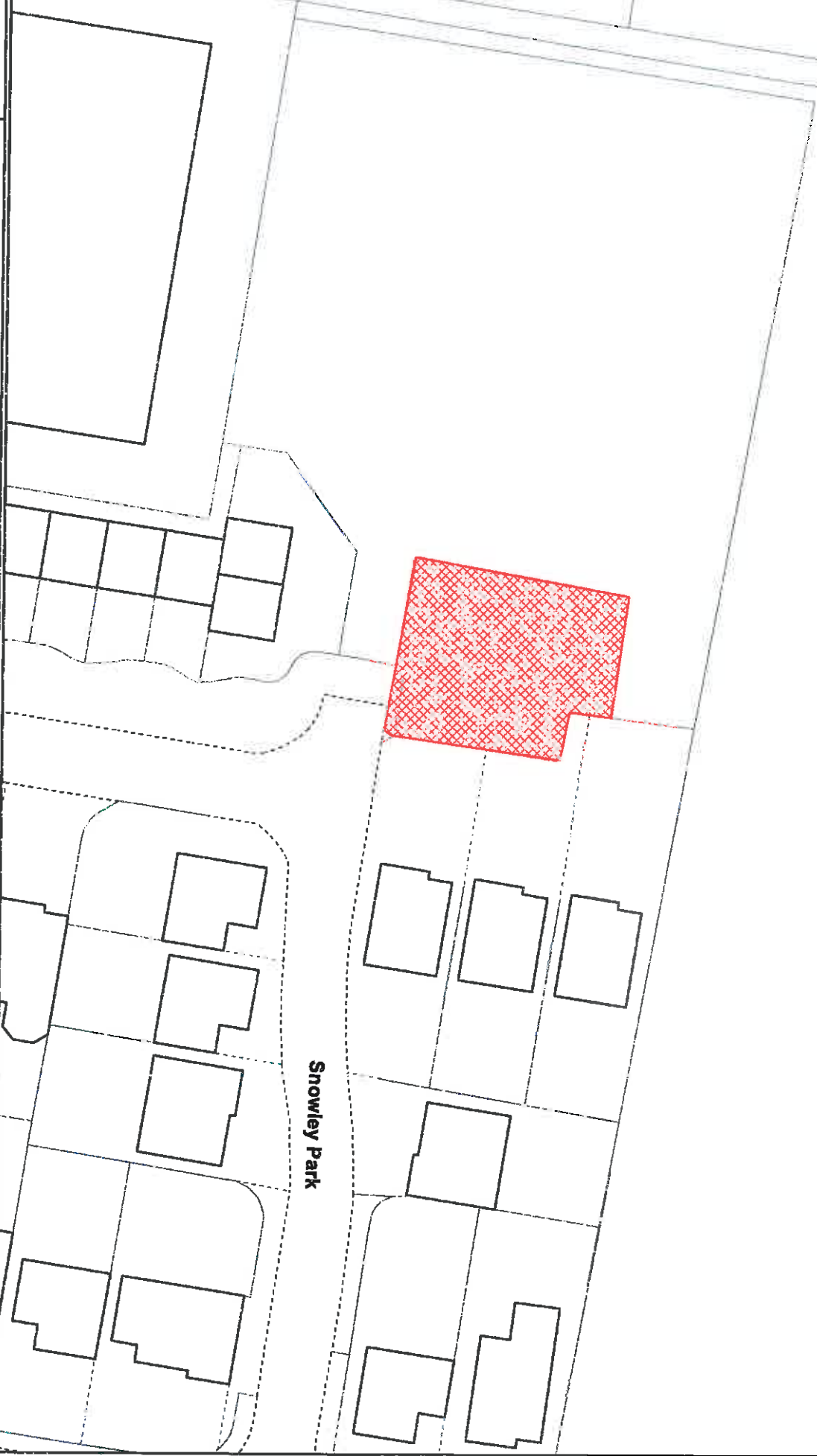
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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Snowley Park, Whittlesey



Snowley Park

Dogs Excluded Area



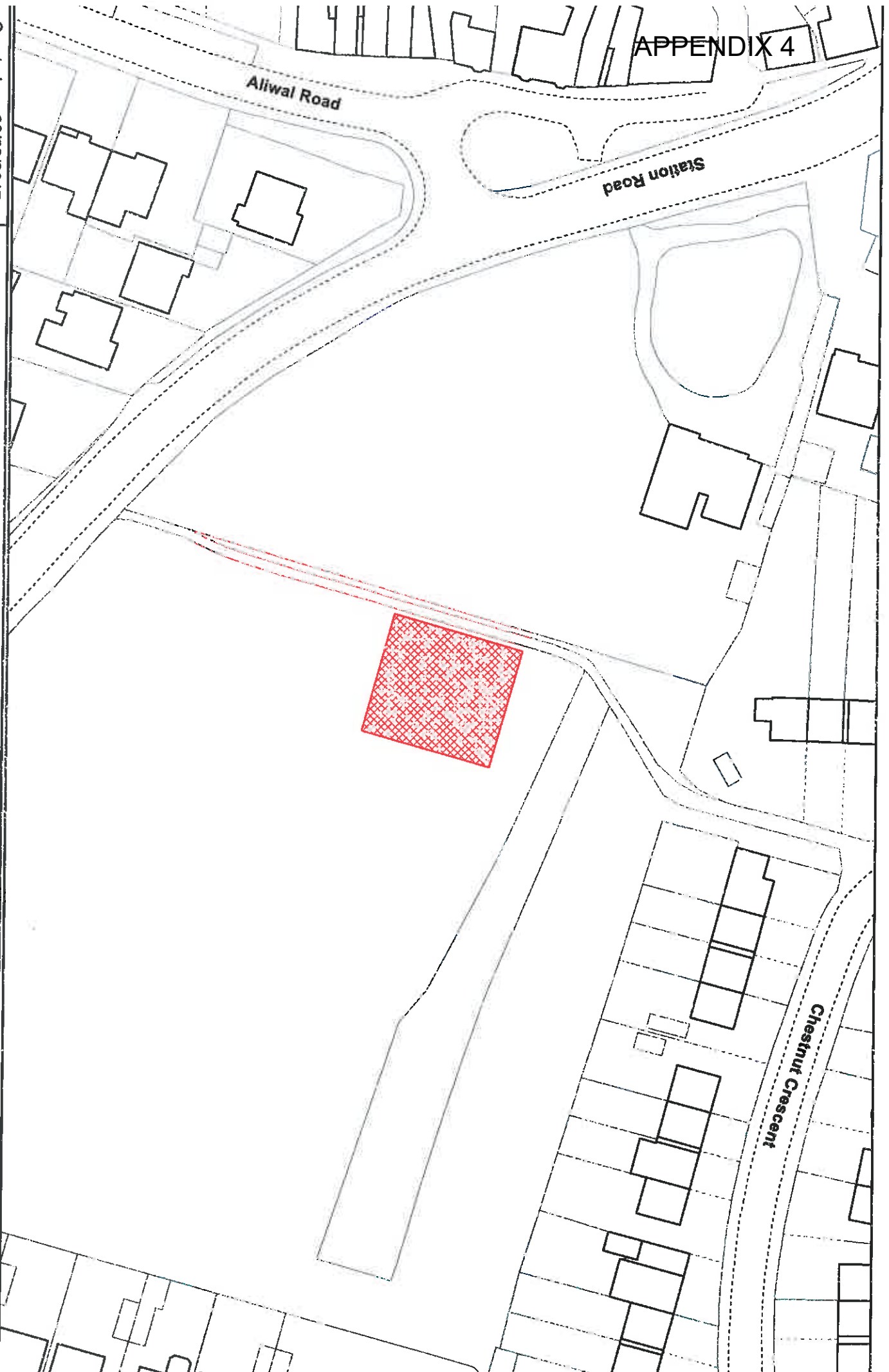
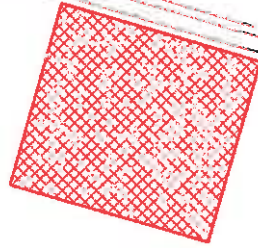
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Aliwal Road

Station Road

Chestnut Crescent



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

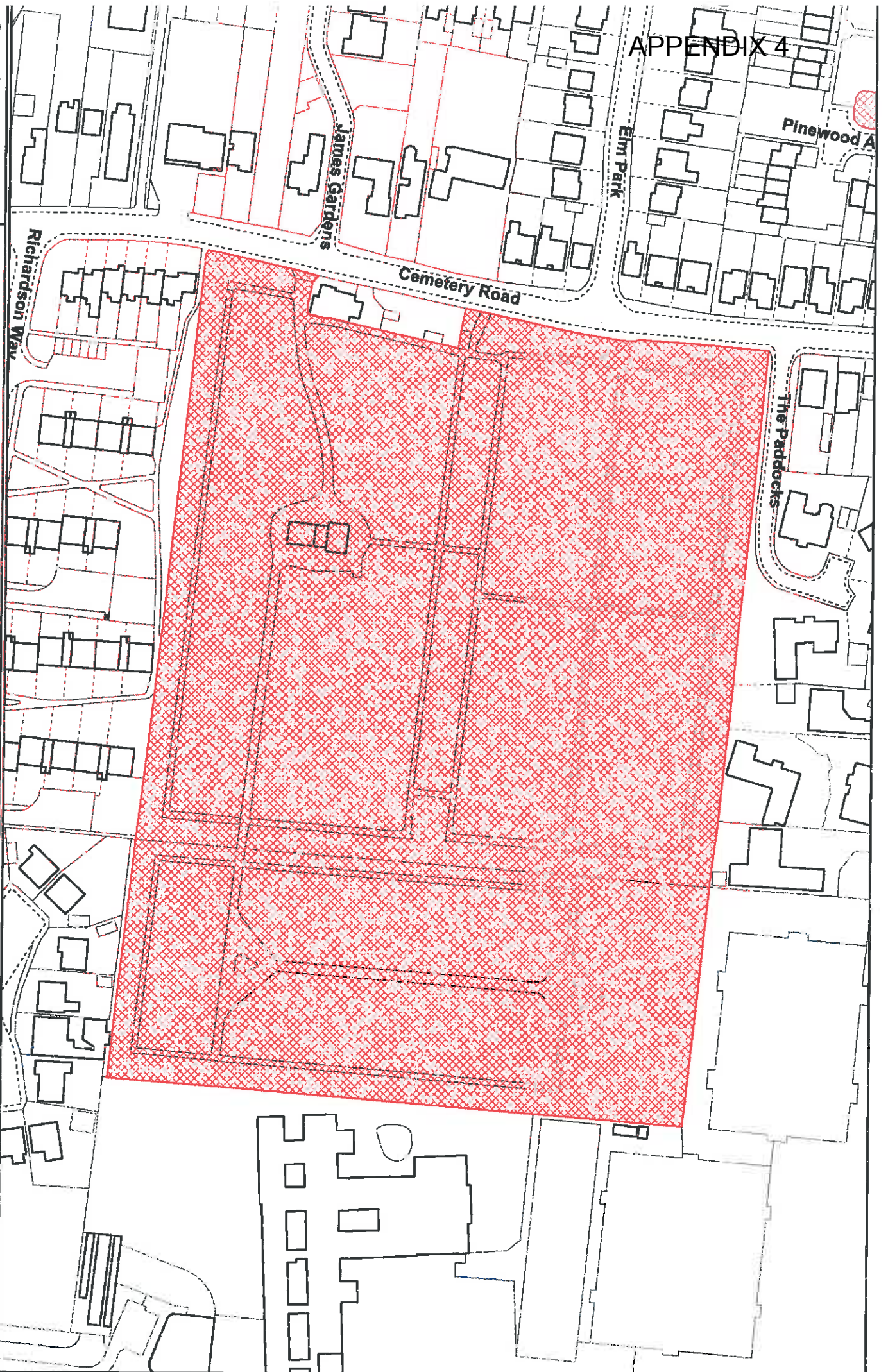
Station Road, Whittlesey

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:800





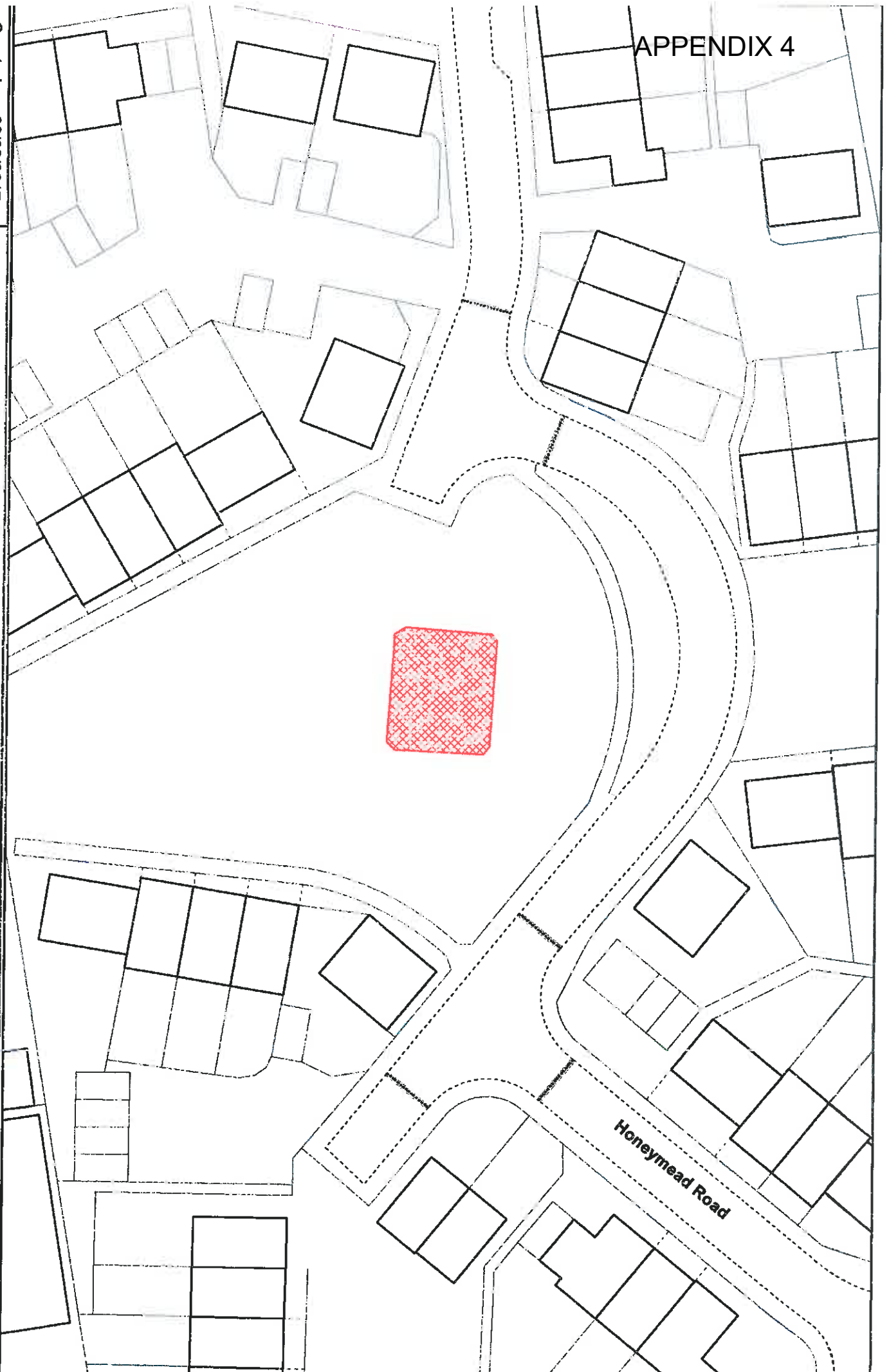
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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Whittlesey Cemetery, Whittlesey

Dogs Excluded Area 

Scale = 1:1,500





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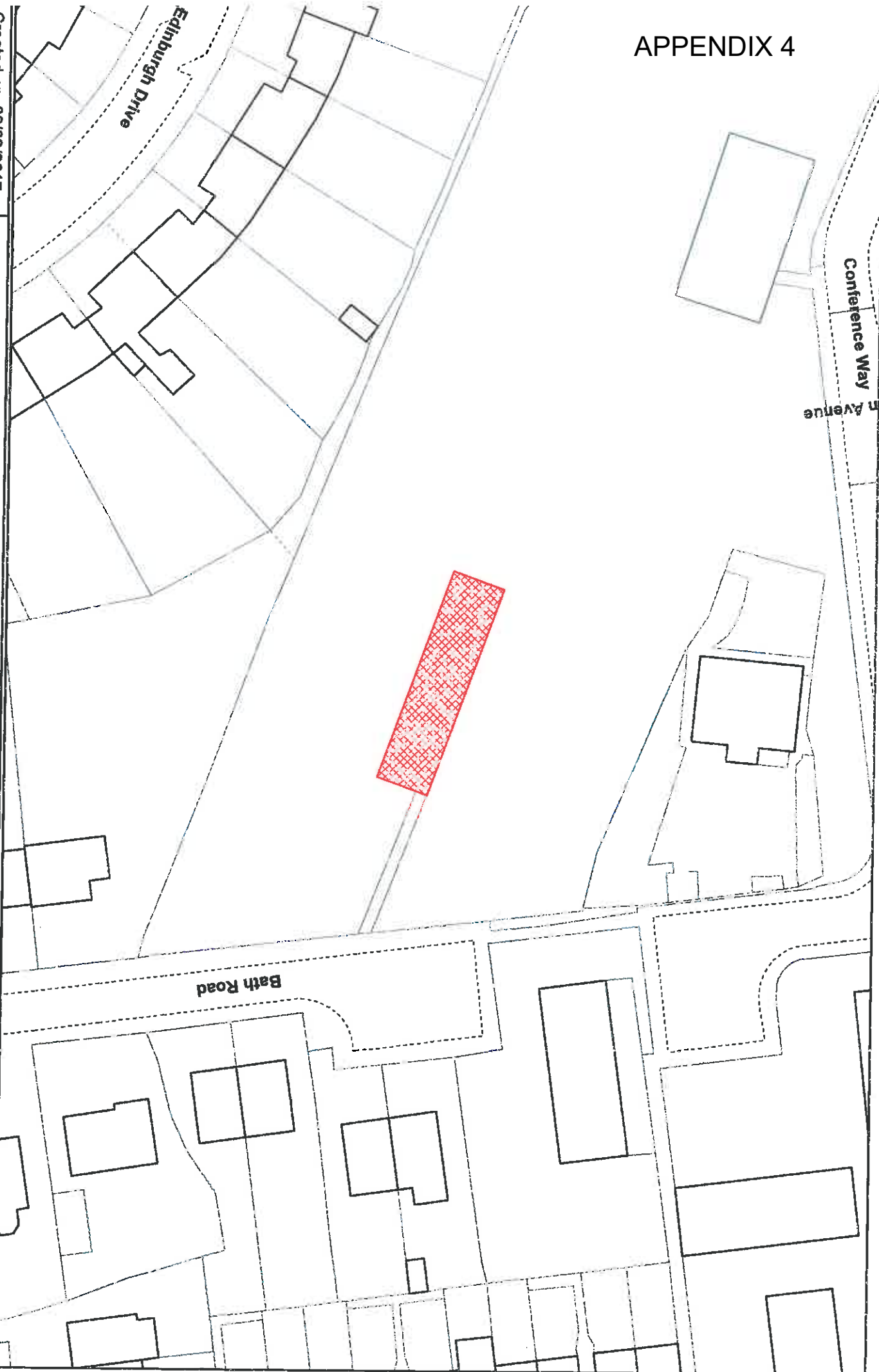
Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Honeymead Road, Wimblington

Dogs Excluded Area
Scale = 1:500



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Bath Road, Wisbech

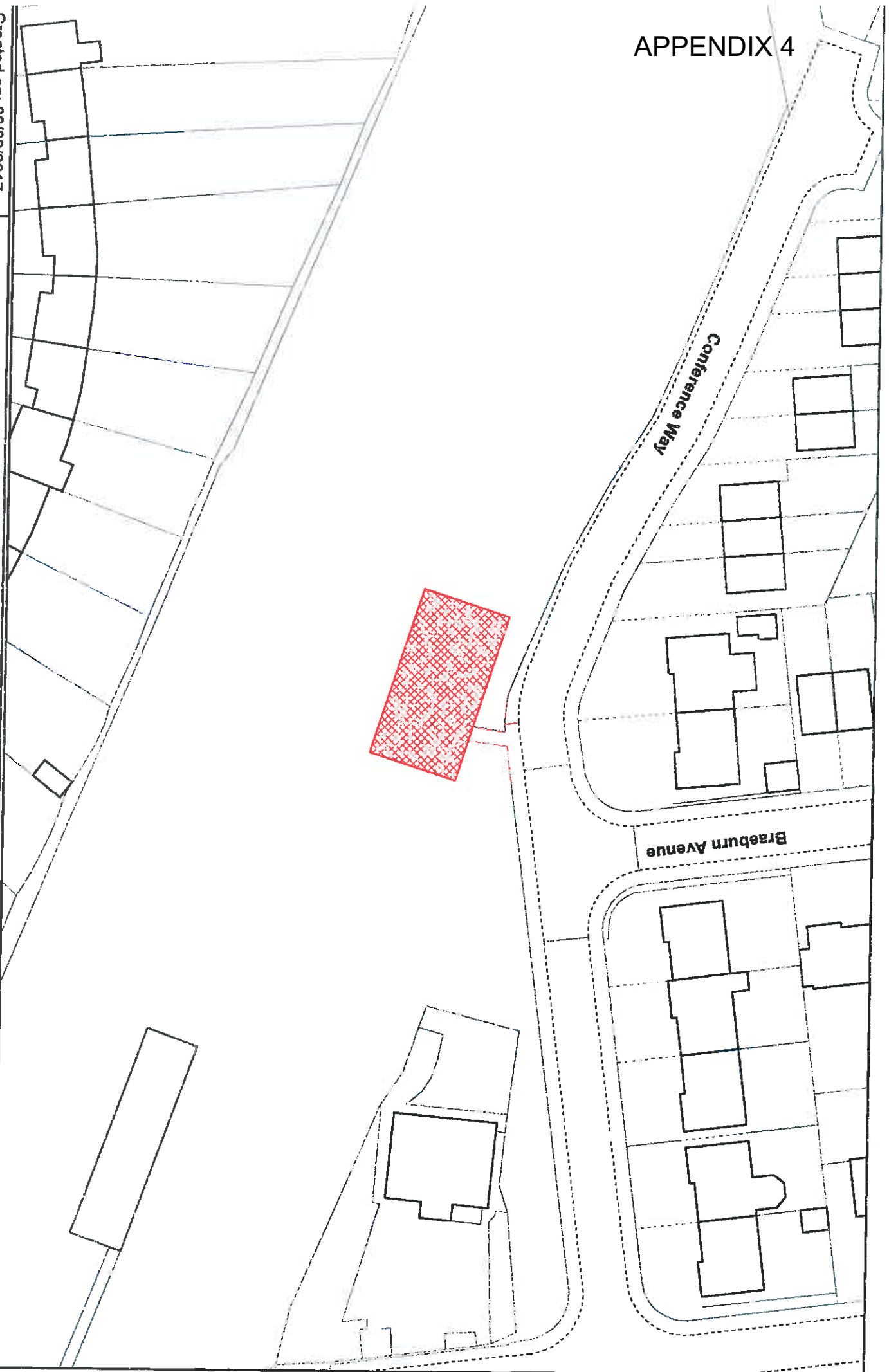


Dogs Excluded Area



Scale :: 1:600



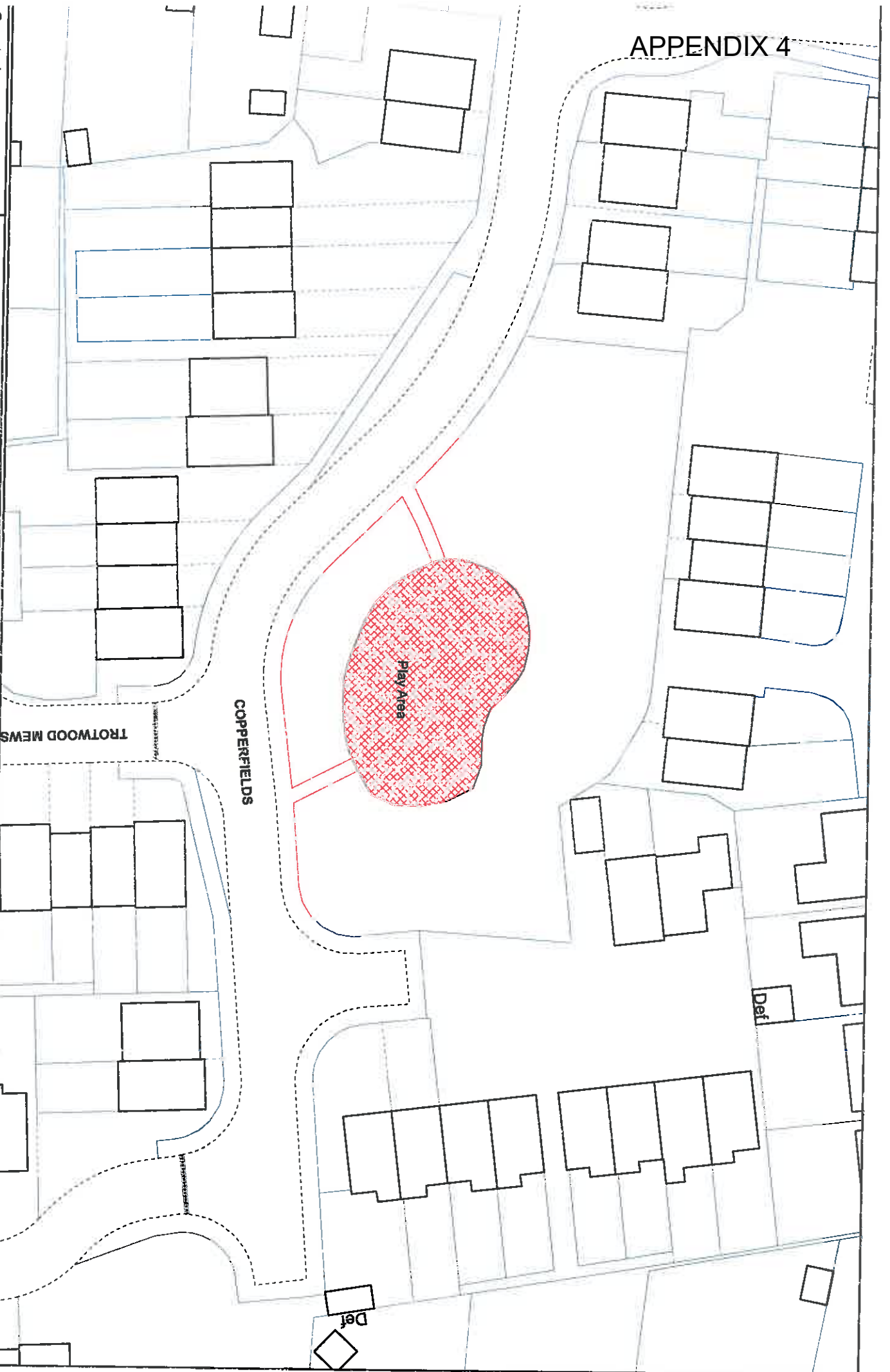


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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Conference Way, Wisbech

Dogs Excluded Area



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Copperfields, Wisbech

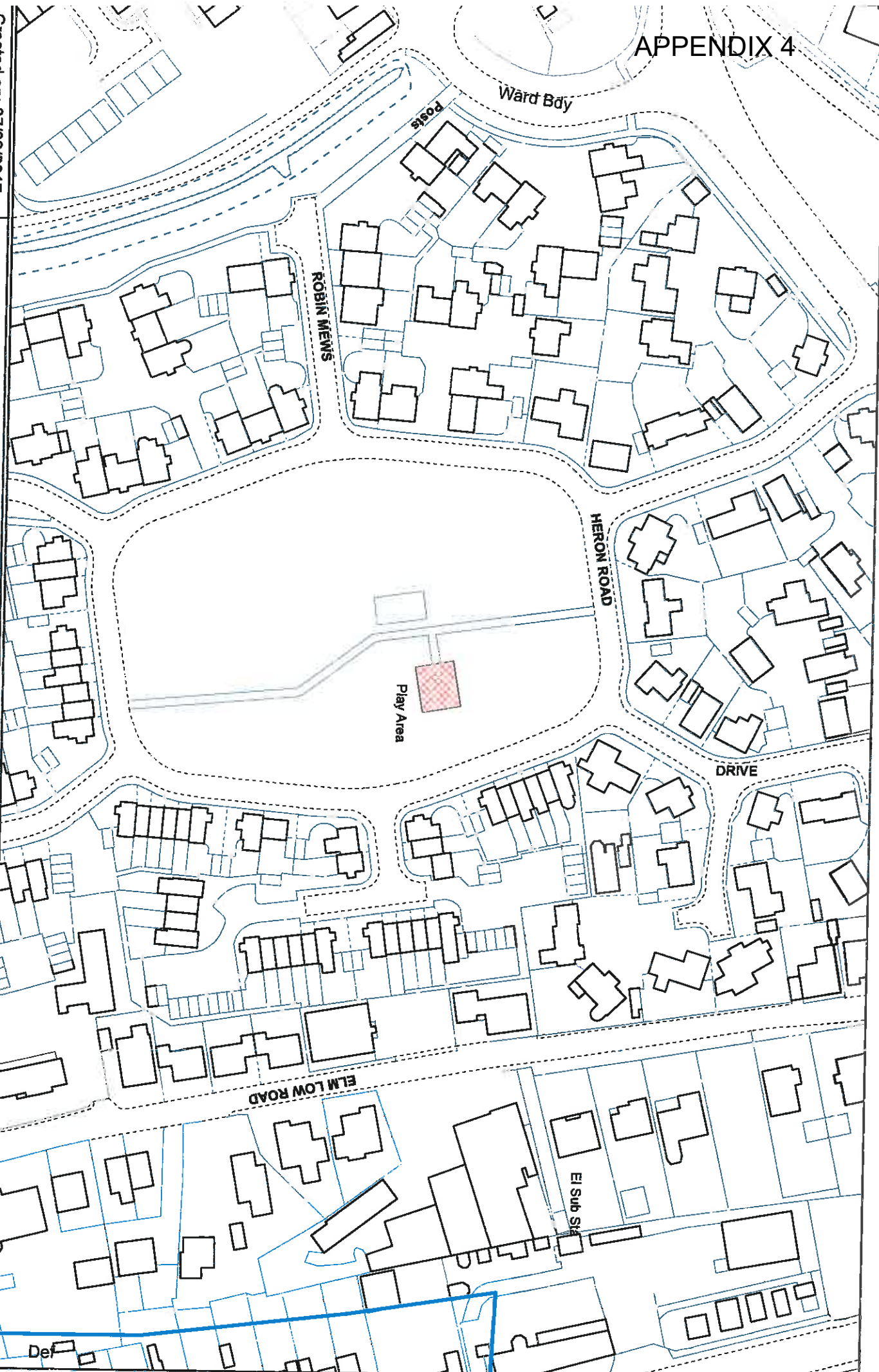
Dogs Excluded Area

 Scale = 1:500



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Heron Road, Wisbech



Dogs Excluded Area



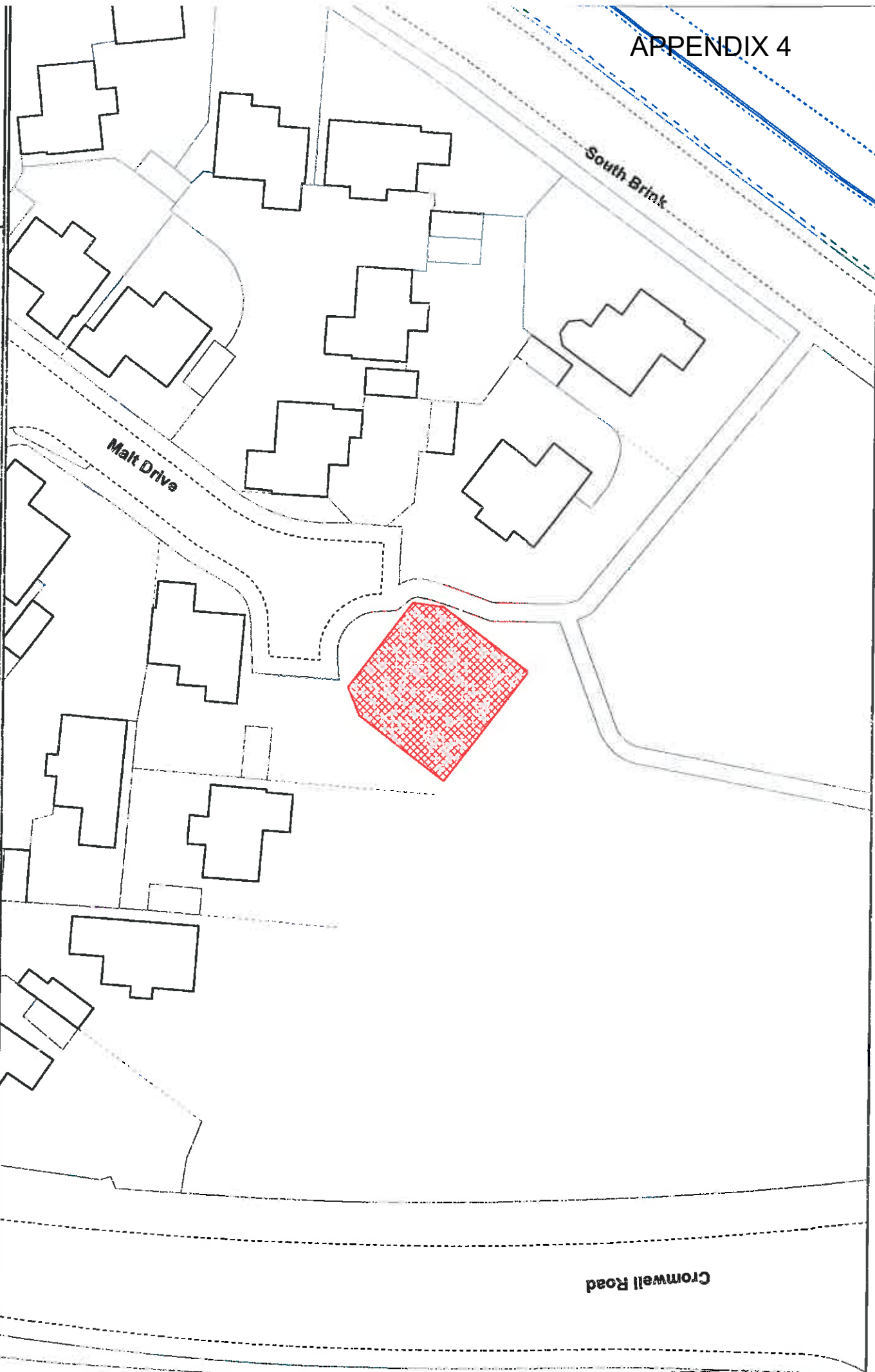
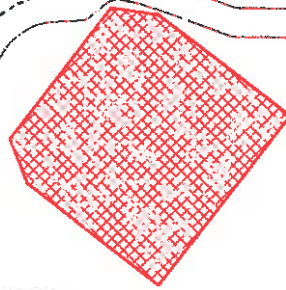
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South Brink

Malt Drive

Cromwell Road



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

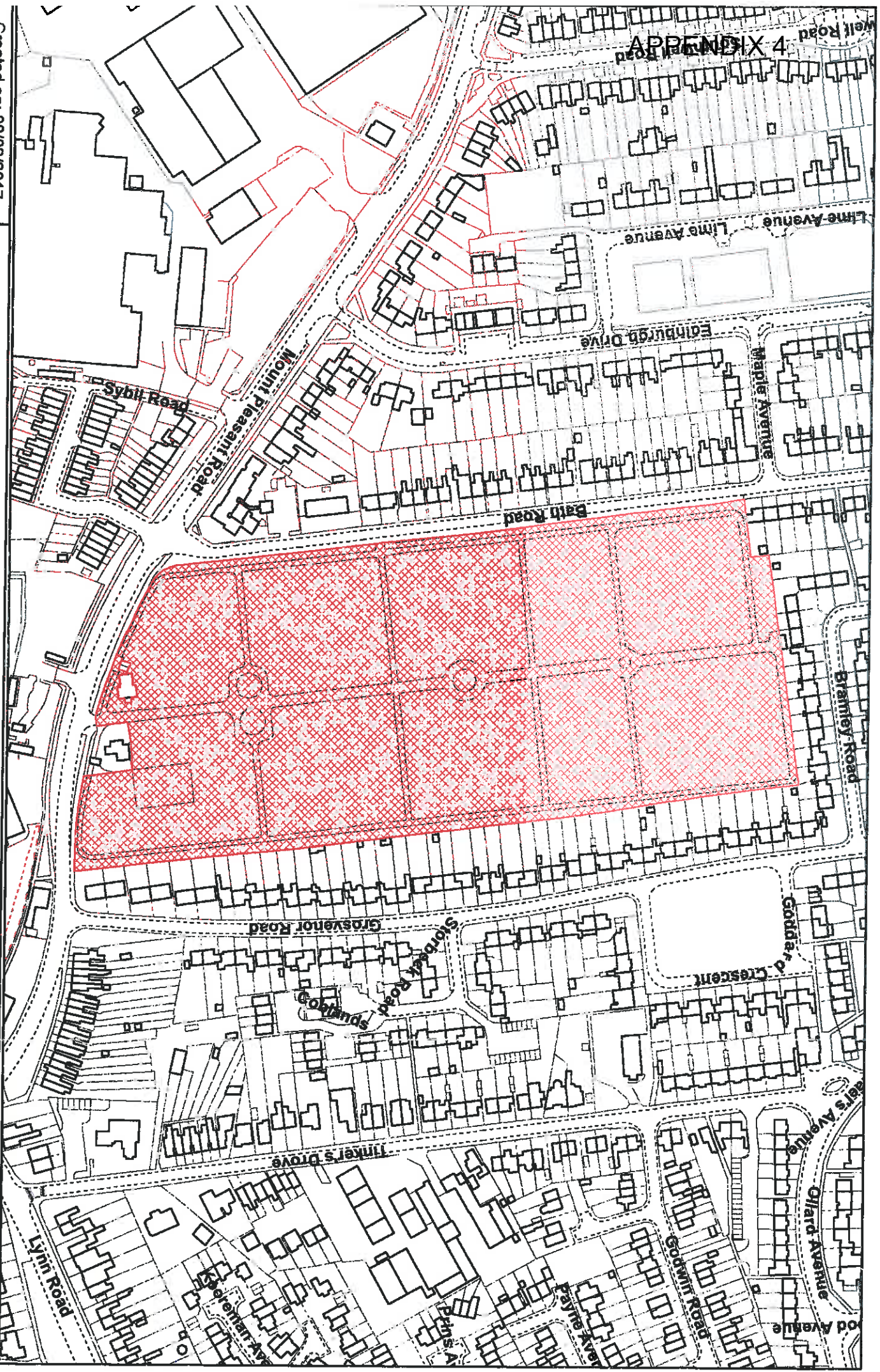
Malt Drive, Wisbech

Dogs Excluded Area



Scale = 1:500





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Wisbech

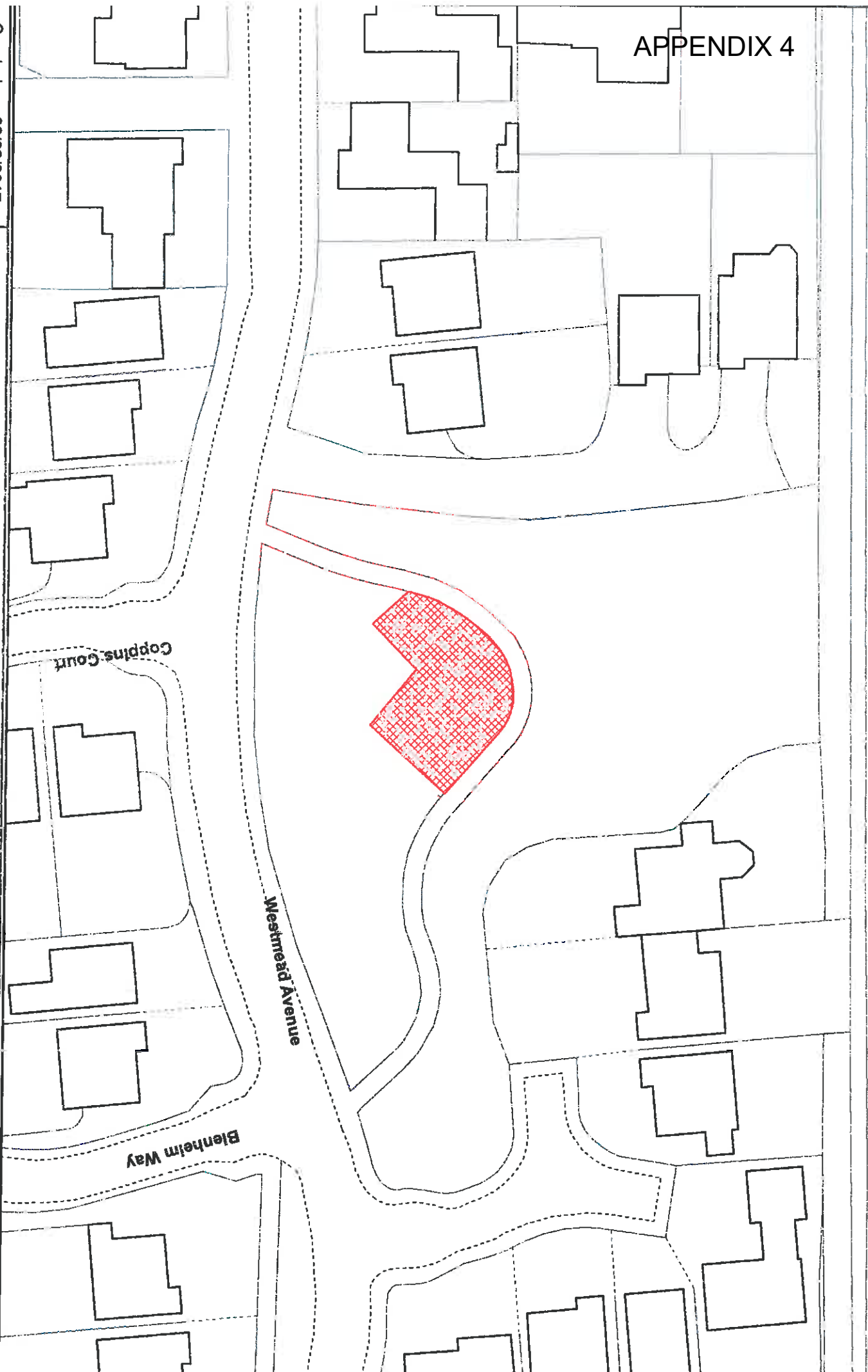
Dogs Excluded Area

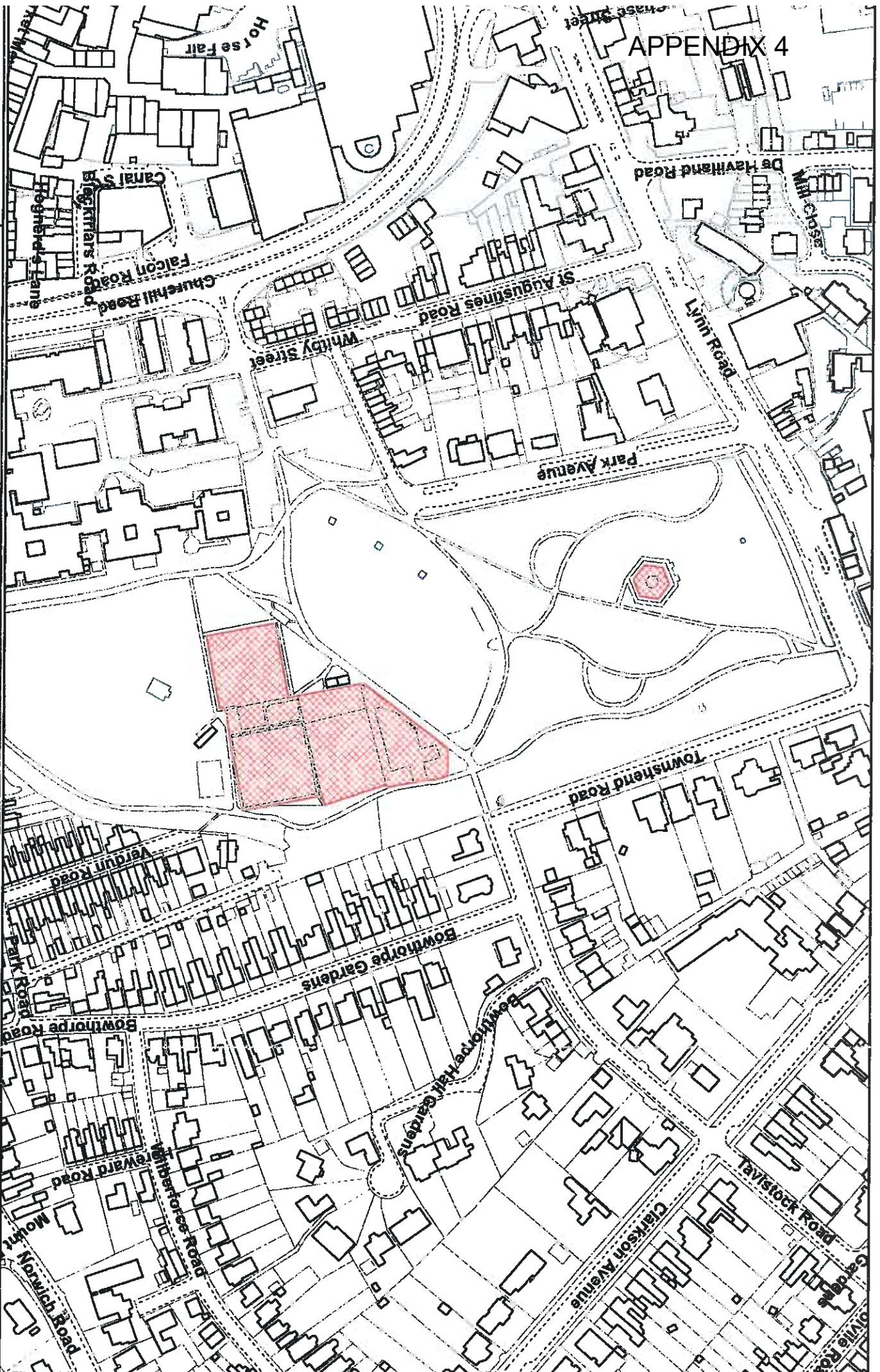



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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Westmead Avenue, Wisbech

Dogs Excluded Area
Scale = 1:500





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Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)
Wisbech Park, Wisbech

Dogs Excluded Area

 Scale = 1:2,500





Dogs Excluded Area

Scale = 1:750

Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)

Cemetery, Wisbech St Mary

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Agenda Item No:	7	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	Leisure Centre Facility Strategy – informing future capital requirements	

1 Summary - Developing a Leisure Facility Strategy to inform capital investment required in years 0 – 5

- 1.1 This report highlights steps that the Council can take to ensure that FDC plans for the future of the 3 elderly leisure centres that will require significant investment in the near term. The Portfolio Holder has asked that officers assess the facilities and develop a planned investment programme to ensure that the facilities are fit for purpose for the next decade and further into the future.
- 1.2 This briefing note covers an approach to the development of a strategic leisure facilities document that maps out the future for the leisure centres, and their associated capital costs. This work is necessary due to the age of the facilities and customer expectations.
- 1.3 For the purpose of this paper Chatteris Leisure has not been considered as it is a modern building with expected ongoing maintenance costs for the next decade to be limited.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 Fenland has three elderly leisure centres. To ensure that the facilities are fit for the future and continue to attract users, supporting their health and wellbeing, as well as strengthening our local communities, a strategic approach to maintaining the facilities is required.
- 2.2 A 2021 conditions survey assessment of the facilities has identified standstill costs of approximately £8.455m (adjusted for inflation) in the short term (0-5 years) as set out in Schedule 1. Additionally a further £2.060m has been identified after year 5.
- 2.3 This paper highlights steps to develop a plan to further understand the requirements, develop costed plans for those requirements and offer options to incorporate opportunities to improve the facilities, whilst carrying out necessary works.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That Cabinet authorises officers to proceed to procure the services required to develop the information detailed in 6.1 and for Cabinet to delegate to the Leader of the Council and Section 151 to determine the funding source for these works which will cost approximately £100,000.

Wards Affected	All						
Forward Plan Reference	KEY/24AUG23/02						
Portfolio Holders	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Cllr Alex Miscandlon</td> <td>Portfolio Holder for Leisure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Chris Boden</td> <td>Leader of the Council and</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Portfolio</td> <td>Holder for Finance</td> </tr> </table>	Cllr Alex Miscandlon	Portfolio Holder for Leisure	Cllr Chris Boden	Leader of the Council and	Portfolio	Holder for Finance
Cllr Alex Miscandlon	Portfolio Holder for Leisure						
Cllr Chris Boden	Leader of the Council and						
Portfolio	Holder for Finance						
Report Originator	Phil Hughes - Head of Service phughes@fenland.gov.uk						
Contact Officers	Carol Pilson - Corporate Director cpilson@fenland.gov.uk Phil Hughes - Head of Service phughes@fenland.gov.uk						
Background Papers	CIPFA Conditions survey, 2021						

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 Fenland has three elderly leisure centres. To ensure that the facilities are fit for the future and continue to attract users, supporting their health and wellbeing, as well as strengthening our local communities, a strategic approach to maintaining the facilities is required.
- 1.2 A 2021 conditions survey assessment of the facilities has identified standstill costs of approximately £8.455m (adjusted for inflation) in the short term (0-5 years). Additionally a further £2.060m has been identified after year 5.
- 1.3 This paper highlights steps to develop a plan to further understand the requirements, develop costed plans for those requirements and incorporate opportunities to improve the facilities whilst carrying out necessary works.

2 Maintaining and modernising the George Campbell, Manor and Hudson Leisure Centres

- 2.1 The three larger centres are all of a significant age and as such, despite ongoing maintenance and some investment from time to time, are showing that age. Work was last carried out to modernise them approximately 9 years ago. Despite this work, they are falling behind what the community expects of a modern facility.
- 2.2 Building ages
- 2.3 Hudson:
 - Pool build date 1974
 - Sports hall mid-1970's
 - Gym section (formally the indoor bowls hall) 1980's
- 2.4 George Campbell (GCLC):
 - Pool and current older gym section and spinning room 1960's

- Pool covered and reception area added in 1984
 - Gym changing rooms early 1990's
 - New pool changing rooms 2013
- 2.5 Manor Centre – consisting of 2 buildings, 30m apart
- Dryside building; (hall and soft play) built 1974
 - Swimming pool building; open air pool built 1966
 - Pool covered in 1984
- 2.6 Chatteris Leisure:
- Modern 10-year-old building, fit for purpose.
- 2.7 A conditions survey of the sites undertaken by CIPFA (The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) in 2021 has identified required works - to stand still - in the short term and the Council has a capital budget in place to carry out some of these works. Some work has commenced, such as the leisure centre roofing project, some limited electrical works and the refurbishment of the GCLC gym changing rooms.
- 2.8 This paper highlights the 2021 prices for standstill costs for the older leisure buildings. An additional inflationary estimate of 35% – 40% added to these prices will bring them up to 2024 estimates. Please note that estimates from qualified Quantity Surveyors have recently not been sufficiently reliable and that the Council should only consider costs firm at procurement stage, or RIBA Stage 4 'cost certainty' stage.
- 2.9 The annual breakdown of stand still maintenance requirements may be found in **SCHEDULE 1**, with a summary below;

	0-5 year costs	5 year+ cost	Total
George Campbell	£1.06m	£426,000	£1.486m
Manor	£3.268m	£515,000	£3.783m
Hudson	£2.127m	£585,000	£2.712m
Total	£6.455m	£1.526m	£7.981m
Less;			
Leisure roofing works	(£0.644m)		(£0.644)
GCLC dryside changing	(£0.100m)		(£0.100)
Est. inflation @ 35%	£2.000m	£0.534m	£2.534m
Est. inflation adj. total	£7.711m	£2.060m	£9.771m

- 2.10 As highlighted above, FDC has spent approximately £644,000 on the leisure centre roofs in the past three years. It should be noted that work has **NOT** been carried out on the Manor sports hall roof, pending decisions regarding the future of the building due to the building's short term (0-5 year) maintenance costs, as well as the £500,000 estimate for this roof's repair / replacement.

3 **Reassessment – an opportunity to move forwards and not just stand still**

- 3.1 To further develop the standstill work and consider possible improvements to the facilities to make them suitable and more viable for the next 2 decades, a further comprehensive suite of surveys including mechanical and structural assessments, architectural assessments and demand analysis work is required. This work will highlight improvements to the facilities that are necessary above the standstill element in order to offer facilities to the Fenland community that will be fit for the future, continue to attract customers, grow the income base and support the Council's aspirations to help our communities become healthier.
- 3.2 The cost for this work is in the region of £100,000.
- 3.3 This work will give **Cost Confidence** (RIBA stage 2 / 3). This stage requires a relatively low proportion of fees (compared to any final total project value). This approach provides a robust projection of costs of the eventual contract sum, to be confirmed following detailed design.
- 3.4 A Stage 3 Interim Report provides an interim step **before** any commitment to full 'Cost Certainty' which includes detailed design work and further surveys and detailed costings and entails additional fees. At the completion of the **Cost Confidence** work, the Council will receive indicative layout designs for the facilities (informed by the surveys carried out), itemised estimated build cost plans, total estimated project costs, essential survey reports, equipment designs, and project visuals.
- 3.5 A report regarding this work would be anticipated to be presented to Cabinet in late Spring 2024 if a decision to commit capital funding of £100,000 to the project was made in November 2023.
- 3.6 Following Cabinet and Council's consideration of the report produced in Spring 2024, further work to mitigate the potential of the 'cost confidence' stage mismatching a 'cost certainty' stage, would then be undertaken. This **Cost Certainty** stage (RIBA Stage 4) would progress projects selected by the Council in Spring 2024 to be taken to the final pre-construction gateway, developing proposals to a stage of 'Cost Certainty'.
- 3.7 **Cost Certainty** delivers the following:
Full issue of development and contractor proposals, including, but not limited to:
- Detailed layouts / designs (informed by surveys) Itemised build cost plan (informed by surveys)
 - Risk Register
 - Total Project Costs, giving a fixed contract sum to take forwards
 - Reports from further Survey work
- 3.8 This will give the Council all of the information required to make an informed decision to progress any selected projects into the construction phase.

4 Works that require action in the short term from FDC's capital programme;

- Building Energy Management System panel replacement; January 2024
- Hudson re-wiring; date TBC
- Hudson fire alarm replacement; January 2024
- GCLC failed pool filter replacement; December 2023
- GCLC replacement pool boilers x 2; December 2023
- Manor Combined Heating and Power unit replacement; January 2024
- FDC is currently undertaking a reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete assessment (RAAC) of the leisure centres to identify if RAAC has been used in their construction. Any RAAC discovered may have a significant impact on useability of the facilities, as well as ongoing capital costs for remediation.

5 Work already undertaken to support future assessment of the facilities

Manor centre latent demand analysis – memberships

5.1 This work has been completed and identifies that currently the membership at the centre only has a potential to grow by an additional 100 members. This analysis highlights that the current capacity of the gym and exercise studios is sufficient for the catchment of the centre and still has headroom for increased housing growth in the area. An increased capacity is not required in the facility.

5.2 An assessment of the demand for pool use has not been completed as yet.

High Level Facility assessment – the ‘art of the possible’ with the current facilities

5.3 A third party firm has visited all three leisure centres and, using their expertise and an in-house architect, has assessed the facilities and highlighted what each facility is likely to require in the shorter term in terms of making them fit for purpose going forwards for the next decade, as well as increasing the likelihood of them continuing to attract higher footfall. This is un-costed work.

5.4 A second third party firm has assessed the Manor sports hall facility in terms of its removal, and has costed necessary additions to the Manor poolside facility should the sport hall's facilities be removed.

5.5 Manor Facility;

- Cost to demolish dryside building; £787,500 + £200,000 asbestos removal contingency
- Cost to demolish rifle range building; £122,625

5.6 Cost to reconstruct the following spaces added to the existing pool building once the dryside building was removed:

- Studio
- Dance Studio

- Staff Office
- Reception
- Changing Rooms
- Plant Room

The total area of new accommodation would be 992m².

5.7 Cost; approx. £5,097,000 (including the demolition costs highlighted above)

5.8 To add in a soft play facility, the floor area increases to 1,383m².

Cost; approx. £6,409,000 (including the demolition costs highlighted above)

Caution; These costs assessments are estimates based limited research and information.

6 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 To develop an informed, reasoned approach to the ongoing capital requirements of three elderly, complex facilities, specialist advice and support is required.

7 CONSULTATION

N/A

8 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The recommendation in this report will lead the Council to potential options. At this stage the Council has a professional assessment of the facilities stating considerable sums to standstill. Further, more in depth assessments, will allow exploration of other options and approaches that may be more cost effective and beneficial in the longer term than the standstill approach.

9 IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

9.1 Fenland has a contractual obligation with Freedom to maintain non wear and tear aspects of our leisure facilities. If facilities are not fit for use, then Freedom may have cause to seek an alteration of the payment made to FDC annually for managing the facilities.

Financial Implications

9.2 At this stage, the financial commitment of approximately £100,000 to carry out further assessment works of the three older facilities.

Equality Implications

9.3 N/A

10 SCHEDULE 1

2021 condition survey. Minimum costs - at 2021 prices – for the leisure centres to ‘stand still’

UPRN : FDC022

Property Name : George Campbell Leisure Centre

Element	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Post 2025	Total
Ceilings	£1,060.05	£15,623.90	£11,493.37	£192.81	£11,950.62	£0.00	£40,320.75
Electrical	£15,765.60	£39,947.20	£65,450.20	£3,353.60	£126,529.10	£106,063.30	£357,109.00
External Areas	£9,477.00	£11,216.80	£6,200.00	£6,200.00	£32,066.10	£55,143.00	£120,302.90
External Walls Windows & Doors	£575.00	£7,178.20	£2,900.00	£3,450.00	£0.00	£0.00	£14,103.20
Fixed Furniture	£850.00	£4,693.55	£38,128.39	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£43,671.94
Floors And Stairs	£651.67	£37,485.20	£77,028.78	£0.00	£16,665.75	£24,144.87	£155,976.27
Internal Walls & Doors	£2,171.72	£27,477.82	£135,863.34	£0.00	£0.00	£867.58	£166,380.46
Mechanical	£11,160.20	£15,050.00	£10,300.00	£1,100.00	£226,780.00	£118,880.00	£383,270.20
Redecorations	£1,614.60	£11,538.30	£28,758.00	£8,550.00	£3,863.00	£52,863.98	£107,187.88
Roofs	£1,600.00	£1,600.00	£1,978.96	£1,600.00	£1,600.00	£66,570.00	£74,948.96
Sanitary Services	£434.16	£7,240.26	£10,306.20	£0.00	£0.00	£715.18	£18,695.80
Total	£45,360.00	£179,051.23	£388,407.24	£24,446.41	£419,454.57	£425,247.91	£1,481,967.36

CS Fiveyear Element Breakdown

UPRN : FDC023

Property Name : Manor Leisure Centre and Pavilion

Element	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Post 2025	Total
Ceilings	£3,981.91	£6,476.29	£0.00	£4,504.57	£0.00	£24,782.24	£39,745.01
Electrical	£13,545.00	£35,467.60	£365,610.75	£6,242.00	£57,766.80	£141,380.80	£620,012.95
External Areas	£21,651.00	£111,217.32	£13,103.70	£11,509.20	£27,126.00	£36,000.00	£220,607.22
External Walls Windows & Doors	£21,357.83	£34,627.24	£0.00	£0.00	£451,606.00	£0.00	£507,591.07
Fixed Furniture	£1,000.00	£7,979.54	£62,049.89	£0.00	£16,545.70	£22,035.25	£109,610.38
Floors And Stairs	£18,516.98	£31,441.49	£130,157.03	£4,520.98	£29,162.99	£84,049.67	£297,849.14
Internal Walls & Doors	£2,708.79	£63,631.88	£129,186.42	£0.00	£7,759.20	£1,735.16	£205,021.45
Mechanical	£9,392.00	£74,819.00	£51,724.75	£9,230.00	£35,886.29	£85,070.00	£266,122.04
Playing Fields	£0.00	£48,371.40	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£48,371.40
Redecorations	£3,510.76	£22,494.51	£46,241.95	£29,977.32	£19,928.48	£119,294.22	£241,447.24
Roofs	£32,623.30	£1,190.00	£0.00	£4,638.60	£1,159,671.41	£0.00	£1,198,123.31
Sanitary Services	£0.00	£14,612.64	£4,308.00	£0.00	£6,386.98	£1,295.94	£26,603.56
Total	£128,287.57	£452,328.91	£802,382.49	£70,622.67	£1,811,839.85	£515,643.28	£3,781,104.77


CS Fiveyear Element Breakdown

UPRN : FDC025

Property Name : Hudson Leisure Centre

Element	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Post 2025	Total
Ceilings	£8,586.37	£0.00	£97,320.33	£2,145.50	£21,847.89	£5,570.33	£135,470.42
Electrical	£5,687.00	£134,472.40	£447,000.20	£3,997.00	£7,517.80	£114,712.00	£713,386.40
External Areas	£21,700.00	£44,209.20	£125,184.80	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£0.00	£207,094.00
External Walls Windows & Doors	£15,013.86	£13,048.85	£29,009.00	£0.00	£13,200.00	£71,631.90	£141,903.61
Fixed Furniture	£2,285.00	£805.00	£33,271.00	£2,350.00	£18,787.69	£57,372.81	£114,871.50
Floors And Stairs	£44,851.70	£776.88	£68,653.61	£1,818.88	£53,175.98	£103,665.31	£272,942.36
Internal Walls & Doors	£7,501.44	£2,685.83	£148,838.37	£3,880.76	£16,326.97	£12,104.58	£191,337.95
Mechanical	£8,166.60	£26,590.00	£33,155.00	£1,275.00	£95,599.47	£79,125.00	£243,911.07
Redecorations	£1,212.81	£29,047.62	£59,290.47	£55,603.02	£21,592.49	£125,945.37	£292,691.78
Roofs	£2,668.48	£200,332.00	£9,446.20	£160,441.20	£1,500.00	£0.00	£374,387.88
Sanitary Services	£2,265.32	£0.00	£0.00	£434.16	£5,384.98	£14,435.30	£22,519.76
Total	£119,938.58	£451,967.78	£1,051,168.98	£239,945.52	£262,933.27	£584,562.60	£2,710,516.73

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Agenda Item No:	8	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	

1 Purpose / Summary

1.1 At the Cabinet meeting held on 30th January 2023 Members considered a report titled “UK Shared Prosperity Fund” and agreed to recommend:

- Acceptance of UK Shared Prosperity Funding (SPF) from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority for a three-year period commencing in 2022-23 and ending in 2024-25.
- To delegate to Officers responsibility for approving and finalising entry into the CPCA’s SPF Grant Funding Agreement.
- To note that a further report will be presented to Cabinet for approval of the detailed proposals in relation to the procedures and documentation associated with the onward administration of the funding; and

1.2 At the Cabinet meeting held on 20th February 2023 Members considered a further report titled “UK Shared Prosperity Fund” and agreed to recommend:

- The legal, financial and governance arrangements in relation to the administration of Fenland District Council’s SPF allocation as set out in this report.

1.3 The purpose of this report is to determine the proposals in relation to the allocation of the funding for the SPF Investment in Business project for 2024-25.

2 Key Issues

2.1 A council cannot contract out its decision making to another body unless it is permitted by the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act.

3 Recommendations

3.1 Cabinet is requested to consider and agree the allocation of the SPF Investment in Business budget for 2024-25.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Ian Benney
Report Originator(s)	Anna Goodall, Assistant Director Simon Jackson, Economic Growth Manager
Contact Officer(s)	Simon Jackson, Economic Growth Manager
Background Papers	UK Shared Prosperity Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus)

Report:

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 The following four Fenland Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) projects were approved by the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to receive £1.112m of funding over a three-year period ending on 31st March 2025 as follows:
- Investment in Business £908k
 - Amplifying Community Arts and Culture £120k
 - Tackling ASB issues in Wisbech £34k
 - Safer Wisbech £50k
- 1.2 All four projects are currently delivering outputs and outcomes as set out the individual project Grant Funding Agreement with the CPCA. Except for the Investment in Business (liB) project, all projects have a defined and agreed three-year delivery programme. The liB project set out a detailed programme for the delivery of a business grants scheme covering the first two years of SPF and strategic aims for delivery in year three. A delivery programme has now been created for 2024-25 and is the subject of this report.
- 1.3 In 2024-25 after estimated admin and other costs as follows the liB project will have c£540k available to invest in the delivery of the project:
- SPF Funded Investment in Business Officer £50k (total cost)
 - FDC staff costs (Economic Growth Manager & Business Engagement Manager) £30k
 - Programme evaluation £15k
 - Marketing £6k
- 1.4 It is proposed that the £540k be allocated as follows:
- (a) £250k continuation of the existing SPF business grant scheme

- (b) £150k grant scheme to support business start-ups/early-stage businesses
- (c) £140k business skills for young people (16-25) – three projects:
 - i. Business training for early-stage businesses
 - ii. Running a business/entrepreneurial course for schools
 - iii. How to be business ready event(s)

- 1.5 One of the key requirements set out by DLUHC for SPF was to include significant investment in skills related projects and outcomes in year three. Our year three proposed programme reflects this requirement with its focus on business skills for young people. In addition, at the Cabinet meeting on 30th January 2023 it was agreed that a sum of c£131k from the Council’s SPF allocation be provided to the CPCA to invest in a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough People and Skills Programme in year three. This SPF will deliver:
- A refined ‘Skills Brokerage Service’ offer for businesses.
 - Further development of the ‘All-age careers service’ aspiration/offering.
 - Funding to provide paid internship opportunities.

The full CPCA report “UK SPF – Skills Projects and Succession Planning for Skills Brokerage Service” was presented to the CPCA Skills & Employment Committee Agenda Item 7 on 5th June 2023.

- 1.6 The liB project will continue to be managed by the Council’s Economic Growth Team (EGT). External support will be procured to support the delivery of the grant scheme to support business start-ups/early-stage businesses and business skills for young people. Such external support would include for example from the CPCA’s Growth Hub service which focuses on business start-ups/early-stage businesses.
- 1.7 The grant decision making process for the existing SPF business grant scheme and the proposed grant scheme to support business start-ups/early-stage businesses will continue to utilise the EGT, North Cambridgeshire Place Development Board (PDB) and the Council’s SPF Grants Team.
- 1.8 The EGT will provide the PDB with each application and supporting evidence/documentation and its recommendation as to whether to support or otherwise the application. The PDB will provide their feedback on each application to the EGT. The decision on whether to support an application will then be made by the Council’s SPF Grants Team consisting of Officers from Finance, Audit and the Economic Growth Team.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The reason for the recommendation is to gain Cabinet approval for the allocation of the SPF liB budget for 2024-25.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Engagement with partners and evaluation on current projects such as Growth Works and Growth HUB Start & Grow pilot has enabled external views and policies to be incorporated into the SPF projects.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 An alternative option would be not involving the PDB in the process. The PDB is made up of representatives from the Fenland business community will bring expertise and experience in evaluating private sector business investments and will help to ensure the most effective use of the SPF grant funding. This breadth of experience and expertise is not available within the Council. Another option might be that the final decision is taken by a member or members rather than Council officers. The final decision on grant applications is an operational rather than strategic decision. The Leader of the Council will sit on the PDB and contribute to its recommendations as to whether to support or otherwise each application.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Legal Implications

- 5.1.1 Authority has been given for Fenland District Council to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the CPCA who are passporting central government funding from DLUHC. In order now for the Council to distribute the funding to the intended recipients and in accordance with its bid, further governance is required.

- 5.1.2 In relation to the allocation of funding connected with Investment in Business, it is important for the Council to ensure that a fair and proportionate process is in place to assist with the determination of applications. The process for undertaking initial and full assessments of those applications received is as set out in this report. Recommendations will then be made by the EGT and PDB before a final decision is taken by the SPF Grants Team which will be comprised of officers who have had no prior involvement in the process, An appeal mechanism will exist where again, decisions will be taken by officers who have had no prior involvement and are of greater seniority than the original decision maker(s) seeking input from members where necessary. This is consistent with ordinary and fair decision-making processes and will be supplemented and supported with detailed information for applicants about the scheme; what the criteria are, how the decision will be made and by whom and how their data will be processed, shared and stored. Information sharing, conflict of interest and confidentiality agreements/policies will be drawn up with the PDB and each successful applicant will be required to enter into a grant funding agreement in order to receive the monies. This will ensure that the applicant understand what is expected of them upon receipt of the funding, for officers to be able to

undertake periodic reviews and ultimately for the Council to clawback the monies in the very unlikely event the need to do so arises. Decisions relating to this scheme will be published in accordance with the Council's statutory obligations and having regard to any exemptions which may exist. Subsidy control will be assessed and documented on each occasion to safeguard the Council's interests and in compliance with its obligations under the CPCA GFA.

- 5.1.3 Similar arrangements will be put in place for the distribution of the remainder of the funding however fewer formalities will be required in view of the fact that the PDB will not be involved. All decisions will be taken at officer level and recorded via a published decision notice. Again, successful recipients of the funding will be selected via fair and objective criteria and/or in compliance with the Council's Code of Procurement. Associated grant funding or service agreements will then be drawn up to formally record the arrangements and to again safeguard the Council's obligations and liabilities in further passporting the funding.

5.2 **Financial Implications**

- 5.2.1 It is currently being assumed that there will be no carry over of the liB SPF funds allocated into 2025-26. This creates a risk that some of the liB SPF funding may not be utilised. The EGT are aware of this risk and are undertaking mitigating actions. A proportion of the liB SPF has been allocated to an officer post to support applicants through the process and ensuring all relevant documentation is in place.

5.3 **Equality Implications**

- 5.3.1 All individual projects and services have been assessed to ensure equality of access, etc.

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Agenda Item No:	9	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	Rural England Prosperity Fund	

1. Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 At the Cabinet meeting held on 17th July 2023 Members considered a report titled “Rural England Shared Prosperity Fund” (now referred to as Rural England Prosperity Fund) and agreed to recommend:

That for 2023-24 the RESPF monies should be allocated exclusively for business growth purposes. The split of the 2024-25 RESPF to be allocated between business growth and community and place and will be determined at a future meeting of the Cabinet.

- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to determine the split of the 2024-25 Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) between Business Growth and Community/Place and the associated projects, processes, decision making structures and grant funding agreements.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The allocation of REPF for Fenland is £436k with £109k in 2023-24 and £327k in 2024-25. The investment priorities for REPF are Business Growth and Community/Place with the focus in 2023-24 being on Business Growth.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet is requested to consider and agree for 2024-25 that the REPF monies should be allocated equally between Business Growth and Community/Place and used as described in the report below in sections 1.8 to 1.14.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Ian Benney
Report Originator(s)	Anna Goodall, Assistant Director Simon Jackson, Economic Growth Manager
Contact Officer(s)	Simon Jackson, Economic Growth Manager Phil Hughes, Head of Leisure Services

Background Papers

Rural England Shared Prosperity Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rural-england-prosperity-fund-prospectus/rural-england-prosperity-fund-prospectus>)

Report:

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 As reported to Members on the 17th July Cabinet meeting, the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) builds on, and is complementary to, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The REPF is a top-up to the UKSPF and is available only to eligible local authorities in England.
- 1.2 The REPF objectives sit within the UKSPF investment priorities for:
- Business Growth
 - Community and Place
- 1.3 The REPF provides capital funding to:
- Support new and existing rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will be of wider benefit to the local economy. This includes farm businesses looking to diversify income streams.
 - Support new and improved community infrastructure, providing essential community services and assets for local people and businesses to benefit the local economy.
- 1.4 The Government has allocated £3.2m REPF for the four rural districts of Cambridgeshire over a two-year period commencing 2023/24. The Government allocation for Fenland is £436k with £109k in 2023/24 and £327k in 2024/25. The allocation is determined nationally by Government is based on factors developed in line with the scheme objectives including the size of rural populations.
- 1.5 The REPF in Fenland covers all the District except for Wisbech which is classed a non-rural urban location.
- 1.6 In 2023-24 the Council allocated the whole of the 2023-24 REPF of £109k to the Business Growth priority and a single project providing capital grants to rural businesses.
- 1.7 For 2024-25 it is recommended that the £327,000 be split equally between Business Growth and Community/Place with each allocated £163.5k.
- 1.8 Business Growth
- The project for 2024-25 will be the continuance of the Business Growth Grant Scheme currently being delivered in 2023-24. In consultation with the Council's Rural Executive Committee minor changes (highlighted below) have been made to the scheme's key features for 2024-25:
- A maximum grant of up to £10k per business (maximum £5k in 2023-24).

- Businesses will need to contribute a minimum of 50% towards the total cost of the project.
- Only businesses with between 2 and 20 employees will be eligible (minimum 3 employees in 2023-24).
- Only businesses located within the defined Fenland REPF area.
- Capital grants will be available for businesses to promote business growth and for the purchase of, for example, capital equipment, expansion of business premises and so on.

1.9 The criteria used in assessing applications for REPF will include:

- Projects that create and sustain rural jobs.
- The diversification of income streams.
- Certain types of rural businesses will receive priority including farming and tourism business.

1.10 The Business Grant Scheme will continue to be delivered by the Council's Economic Growth Team. The grant decision making process will be advised by the North Cambridgeshire Place Development Board (PDB). The PDB is comprised of representatives from the local business community with the Council represented by the Leader and Chief Executive and the CPCA with officer representation. The final decision on whether to support an application will be made by the Council's SPF Grants Team consisting of Officers from Finance, Audit, Communications and Economic Growth.

1.11 Community and Place

The Fund criteria are laid out within a prospectus and make it clear the interventions that Government will find acceptable for use of the REPF Communities and Place funding. These are all capital based and comprise:

- Digital infrastructure
- Investment in capacity building and infrastructure to support local community groups
- Funding for the improvement and creation of local rural green spaces
- Funding for existing institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer.
- Funding for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.
- Grants for active travel enhancements
- Grants for rural circular economy projects
- Grants to support volunteering and social action projects

The difficulty with delivering against this set of potential projects is that the funding is only for capital works – there is no revenue support to develop ongoing projects.

Recommended projects for the Communities / Place funding of £163,500

1.12 Project 1:

Funding for the improvement of green spaces and local cultural and creative activities

FDC manages and supports community cultural events throughout Fenland. An issue that hampers the viability of local events is the provision of electrical power. Running events in certain green spaces are more problematic due to a lack of electrical infrastructure.

It is recommended that the communities / place element of the REPF funds £25,000 for the development of an electrical power supply into the Furrowfields open space in Chatteris. This infrastructure will allow facilitation of community events throughout the year and ensure that events remain viable as the expensive hire of large capacity portable generators will be unnecessary in the future.

1.13 Project 2:

Funding for the improvement of green spaces and local cultural and creative activities

Another community cultural event that requires improvements in electrical power is Whittlesey's Straw Bear and the Whittlesey Festival. Whilst these take place in the town, improvements to electrical infrastructure are required in the marketplace. Again, a budget of £25,000 is required to facilitate these improvements.

These improvements will make running the events more viable due as large portable generators will no longer be needed allowing an increased number of community events to take place on the market-place.

1.14 Project 3:

Setting up community-led repair cafes / maker spaces and Men's Sheds

There is a men's shed in Wisbech, but otherwise Fenland is a 'cold spot' on a map of this sort of community led facility. Community-led repair café's do not exist in Fenland and maker spaces are not available.

This project will improve the currently empty and unused space at Station Road Cemetery Chapel in March, converting it into two spaces that can be used by different community groups throughout the week. The space is close to the town centre and local housing and sits within the most special green space in Fenland.

This project will bring the community together to improve mental and physical health and strengthen the local community in March. The prospect of a community-led repair cafe will give life to the current empty buildings. The opportunity for community group sessions using the facility as a makerspace focussing on creativity and culture, will provide a unique opportunity to residents in the town.

To renovate the inside of the two chapel buildings - that have recently been repaired externally – and to then add in equipment to allow use of the spaces as a Shed and repair-café / maker space will cover the rest of the REPF funding of £113,500.

2 CONSULTATION

2.1 Engagement with partners such as Cambridgeshire Acre, CPCA Growth Works, Growth HUB and the Start & Grow pilot has enabled external views and policies to be incorporated into the REPF Business Growth Grant scheme.

2.2 Community/Place

- The events team within Fenland Council, supported by the wider community groups that make the events happen in their community have highlighted the infrastructure required to allow these community events to continue to flourish.
- Specific consultation has not been undertaken at this point, but it is clear that Fenland is a 'cold spot' on the map in terms of community facilities such as a Men's Shed and maker spaces. Wisbech and Ramsey both have Men's Sheds set up, alongside many others surrounding Fenland. However, Wisbech is the single location within Fenland. Setting up a Shed and Maker Space / Community Led Repair Workshop in the town of March will transform a vacant community asset into a useful facility for the local community, supporting small businesses, mental health and overall community health. Shed's and maker spaces also have the opportunity to inspire young people and give them skills that are transferable into employment opportunities.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Business Growth

3.1 An alternative option would be not involving the PDB in the process. The PDB is made up of representatives from the Fenland business community will bring expertise and experience in evaluating private sector business investments and will help to ensure the most effective use of the business sector REPF grant funding. This breadth of experience and expertise is not available within the Council.

3.2 Another option might be that the final decision is taken by a member or members rather than the Council's SPF Grants Team. The final decision on grant applications is an operational rather than strategic decision. The Leader of the Council sits on the PDB and contribute to its recommendations as to whether to support or otherwise each application.

Community/Place

3.3 The option of offering small, one-off grants to local creatives has been considered. However, the Fenland Culture Fund, offering just this sort of grant has recently been launched in collaboration with Arts Council England and the Arts Fund Raising and Philanthropy organisation.

- 3.4 The other potential workstreams for this project did not appear to offer the benefits that the recommended projects do for the local community.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Legal Implications

- 4.1.1 Authority has been given for Fenland District Council to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the CPCA who are passporting REPF central government funding from DLUHC/DEFRA.

- 4.1.2 In relation to the allocation of funding connected with REPF Business Growth Grant Scheme, it is important for the Council to ensure that a fair and proportionate process is in place to assist with the determination of applications. The process for undertaking initial and full assessments of those applications received are as set out on the 17th of July Cabinet report.

4.2 Financial Implications

- 4.2.1 It is currently being assumed that there will be no carry over of the REPF funds allocated for 2024-25 into 2025-26. Project managers are aware of this risk and have undertaken mitigating actions.

4.3 Equality Implications

- 4.3.1 All projects have been assessed to ensure equality of access, etc.

5 SCHEDULES

Schedule One – REPF Business Grant Fund Scheme

Schedule Two – REPF Community/Place background information

Schedule One – REPF Business Grant Fund Scheme

1. The REPF Business Grant Fund Scheme will provide access to pump-priming grant funding in Fenland for rural businesses to enable them to drive local economic growth, productivity, R&D, energy saving, business innovation and skills development to secure access to market opportunities and boost long-term skilled employment.
2. The project will support existing rural businesses with more than 2 and fewer than 20 employees.
3. The project will be managed by the District Council's Economic Growth Team (EGT) ensuring quick mobilisation of the project. The EGT has an extensive programme of engagement with Fenland businesses including one to one support for over 40 businesses per year.
4. Rural businesses will submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) form to the EGT for consideration. Once assessed using a standardised scoring process those applicants that exceed the scoring threshold will be invited to complete the full grant application form and will receive support to complete the form from the EGT.
5. Those businesses invited to complete a Full Application Form submitted into the EGT will be assessed and scored. Each Application Form will be supported by an Officer fully funded by the UKSPF Shared Prosperity Fund who will also ensure due diligence, supporting evidence has been provided, subsidy control has been reviewed, etc.
6. The grant decision making process will be advised by the North Cambridgeshire Place Development Board (PDB). The PDB is comprised of representatives from the local business community with the Council represented by the Leader and Chief Executive. The final decision on whether to support an application will be made by the Council's SPF Grants Team consisting of Officers from Finance, Audit, Communications and Economic Growth.
7. A council cannot contract out its decision making to another body unless it is permitted by the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act. The decision on whether to support an application will be made by the Council's REPF Grants Team consisting of Officers from Finance, Audit and the Economic Growth Team. Decisions relating to the allocation of funding will be published on the Council's website in line with transparency requirements and the associated exemptions under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
8. As the PDB will have access to information about businesses that have applied for an REPF grant including potentially commercially sensitive data. The members of the PDB will be required to declare any conflicts of interest with any applicant business before the application is considered by the PDB. All applicants will be made aware of who comprises the PDB and what the application process is so that they can equally flag any potential concerns to the Council before their data is shared. The application pack will include a

privacy statement to ensure we are compliant with GDPR, transparent and how the data will be shared with others to assess and determine the application.

9. If an applicant is dissatisfied with the outcome, they can request a review of the decision. The review will be undertaken by a group of Council officers, including the Corporate Director and Chief Finance Officer (s151 officer) and the Monitoring Officer. This officer group may wish to consult with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth and Portfolio Holder for Finance on any complex decisions.
10. Grant requests up to a maximum of £10,000 will be considered. The requirement for a private sector match of at least 50% increases ownership by the applicant and increases the return on investment for the project.

Schedule Two – REPF Community/Place

Background information;

Men's Shed, Community-led repair cafes and Maker Spaces

What is a Men's Shed?

Men's Sheds (or Sheds) are similar to garden sheds – a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. The difference is that garden sheds and their activities are often solitary in nature while Men's Sheds are the opposite. They're about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge, and of course a lot of laughter.

Sheds are whatever the members (or Shedders as we call them) want them to be. Although labelled sheds, they often aren't sheds at all. They can be empty offices, portable cabin's, warehouses, garages, and in at least one case, a disused mortuary. Some Sheds are purpose built workshops, but they rarely start out that way. Many don't have premises at all in the beginning and instead form a group that meets regularly for the social connection, company and camaraderie until they can find somewhere to kit out with tools. Many Sheds get involved in community projects too – restoring village features, helping maintain parks and green spaces, and building things for schools, libraries and individuals in need.

Activities in Sheds vary greatly, but you can usually find woodworking, metalworking, repairing and restoring, electronics, model buildings or even car building in a typical Shed. Sheds typically attract older men, but many have younger members and women too. Whatever the activity, the essence of a Shed is not a building, but the connections and relationships between its members.

By now you've likely discovered that the Men's Shed concept started in Australia around 1999. It then spread to New Zealand, Ireland, the UK, Canada and, more recently, Europe and the USA with a total worldwide of around 2000 Sheds in 2020.

Sheds are mainly 'grassroots' community activities that come about in response to shared needs. These have mostly been for men to access tools, workbenches, skills and opportunities to make and mend in the company of others. Gardening, computing, electronics and other activities have been included according to members' interests. The UK Men's Sheds Association (UKMSA) regard a Shed as the group, whether or not it has a base for activity.

An alternative to grassroots, bottom-up development, is where an established organisation creates and takes full responsibility for a Shed as an additional part of its work. Occasionally, an organisation might provide one or more support functions to an independent Shed such as underwriting the finances or providing management services.

Sheds bring health benefits by encouraging physical and mental activity, and improved wellbeing by providing an enjoyable way to stay socially integrated in local

communities, by being creative, and learning or passing on skills. Whilst most Sheds are for men, about a third involve women. There are now also some all women Sheds.

Why are they needed?

For a long time research has shown the negative impact of loneliness and isolation on a person's health and wellbeing. Recently we have seen more evidence come to light that shows loneliness and isolation can be as hazardous to our health as obesity and excessive smoking. Surveys from mental health charities are finding that millions of people report feeling lonely on a daily basis.

Men typically find it more difficult to build social connections than women, and unlike women of a similar age, less older men have networks of friends and rarely share personal concerns about health and personal worries. It is not the case for all men, but for some, when retirement comes, it can feel like personal identity and purpose is lost. Men's Sheds can change all of that.

Sheds are about meeting like-minded people and having someone to share your worries with. They are about having fun, sharing skills and knowledge with like-minded people and gaining a renewed sense of purpose and belonging. As a by-product of all of that they reduce isolation and feelings of loneliness, they allow men to deal with mental health challenges more easily and remain independent, they rebuild communities and in many cases, they save men's lives.

What is a community-led repair café?

A repair café is a community initiative that bring together people with skills to repair and those who want items repaired. People are invited to bring their broken or damaged items for repair, and volunteers attempt to fix them. A repair café is a fun, social community event that values the expertise of volunteer craftspeople and helps to reduce waste and consumption. The majority of repair cafes are linked to the Repair Café Foundation. The international Repair Cafe movement kicked off in Amsterdam and now there are over a thousand Repair Cafes around the world. The Repair Café Foundation can provide a digital starter kit in return for a donation. The kit includes a manual of practical tips to assist in setting up a Repair Café, templates for posters and flyers as well as forms to cover liability and collect feedback from people who visit your Repair Café. For more information visit <https://repaircafe.org/en/>.

What is a makerspace?

Places and spaces where people come together to create and learn.

Who are makerspaces for?

Makerspaces are for everyone — kids and adults alike. They are spaces where everyone is both a learner and a teacher, contributing one another's discovery of critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving.


What makes a space a makerspace?

Makerspaces can be anything that creates a community of sharing ideas, resources and experience, and innovation.

- If all you have is cardboard, masking tape and scissors, you have a makerspace.
- Whether your space is full of tech or has no tech at all, you have a makerspace.
- Inside? Outside? It doesn't matter. Wherever you gather, you have a makerspace.
- What matters is helping people to explore themselves and to find shared interests within their community. The equipment, materials and space come second.

Creating makerspaces removes some of the barriers that exist, but ensuring the space is community led will lead to a viable long-term space.

Communities can adapt to incorporate new opportunities and technologies as they become available. This means that a makerspace can be truly accessible and exciting for everyone, helping young people learn the skills they need to be employable in the ever-changing world of work and for adults to pick up new hobbies or even retrain – all in a safe community space.

Agenda Item No:	10	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk of harm policy	

1 Purpose / Summary

1.1 To consider the adoption of a new Safeguarding Policy for Fenland District Council

2 Key Issues

2.1 It is good practice for all local authorities to have a safeguarding policy that covers children, young people and vulnerable adults.

2.2 The last policy was adopted in 2008 and is due a refresh.

2.3 A good practice version has been developed following an officer group across Cambridgeshire working with Cambridgeshire County Council safeguarding team.

2.4 Under section 11 of the 2004 Children's Act, there is provision for local children safeguarding partnerships to undertake a self-assessment audit of how organisations and services meet the standards of the safeguarding children and young people and vulnerable adults' service.

2.5 Input has been received from PCC legal team, senior manager, internal audit and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding team and integrated into the draft policy.

2.6 The policy as set out in Appendix A also forms an integral part of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation being undertaken by the Housing Options team.

2.7 A cause for concern Card has also been produced to enable front line staff e.g. refuse workers to note down any concerns whilst out of the office environment to record any safeguarding concerns.

2.8 It is good practice for the Council to adopt a safeguarding policy, the policy is replicated across East Cambs DC, Huntingdonshire DC, South Cambs DC and Fenland.

2.9 The key to its success is not just the words in the policy it is how we embed the mindset of thinking across teams, councillors, volunteers and contractors.

2.10 To help do this, the following is proposed as part of the policy's implementation:

- Policy added to the employer, Councillor volunteer and new contractor induction list;
- All existing employees, Councillors, volunteers and contractors to be made aware of the new policy;

- Marketing of safeguarding e-training module for all staff and Councillors to undertake and encouragement to volunteers and contractors to do the same.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet are recommended to adopt the Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk of harm policy

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	KEY/14SEPT23/01
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Wallwork
Report Originator(s)	Sarah Gove Phil Hughes
Contact Officer(s)	Sarah Gove - Housing & Communities Manager sgove@fenland.gov.uk Phil Hughes - Head of Leisure and Open Spaces phughes@fenland.gov.uk Dan Horn – Assistant Director dhorn@fenland.gov.uk Carol Pilson - Corporate Director cpilson@fenland.gov.uk
Background Papers	

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 It is good practice for all local authorities to have a safeguarding policy that covers children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- 1.2 The policy acts as a process and procedure to reporting any concerns through to Cambridgeshire County Council Safeguarding team who have the statutory responsibility.
- 1.3 An officer group has formed across Cambridgeshire working with Cambridgeshire County council safeguarding team exploring good practice.
- 1.4 It was felt by officers that there would be merit in adopting a single good practice template first developed by South Cambridgeshire District Council (which combined children, young people and vulnerable adults) that could be adapted to fit each local authority in Cambridgeshire. All of the Cambridgeshire districts have agreed to this with the exception of Cambridge City who preferred to develop their own version.
- 1.5 Under section 11 of the 2004 Children’s Act, there is provision for local Childrens safeguarding partnerships to undertake a self-assessment audit of how organisations and services meet the standards of the safeguarding children and young people’s and vulnerable adult's service.

- 1.6 Whilst it is not the role of the council to investigate allegations of abuse, however all employees, councillors, volunteers and voluntary service providers have a clear responsibility to take action when they suspect that a child, young person or adult at risk may be a victim of significant harm or abuse.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is good practice for the council to have a safeguarding policy to ensure FDC play a proactive role in protecting vulnerable people.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Input has been received from PCC legal Team, Senior managers, Internal Audit and Cambridge and Peterborough Safeguarding team and integrated into the draft policy.
- 3.2 The policy also forms part of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation being undertaken by the Housing Options Team.

4 IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

- 4.1 The policy has been reviewed by FDC legal team and no legal implications have arisen as a result of that review.
- 4.2 The Council's statutory duties in this area are set out in the Policy.

Financial Implications

- 4.3 Implementation can be undertaken within the approved existing budget of the Council.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 Please see Appendix B

5 SCHEDULES

Appendix A Safeguarding Policy

Appendix B Equality Impact Assessment

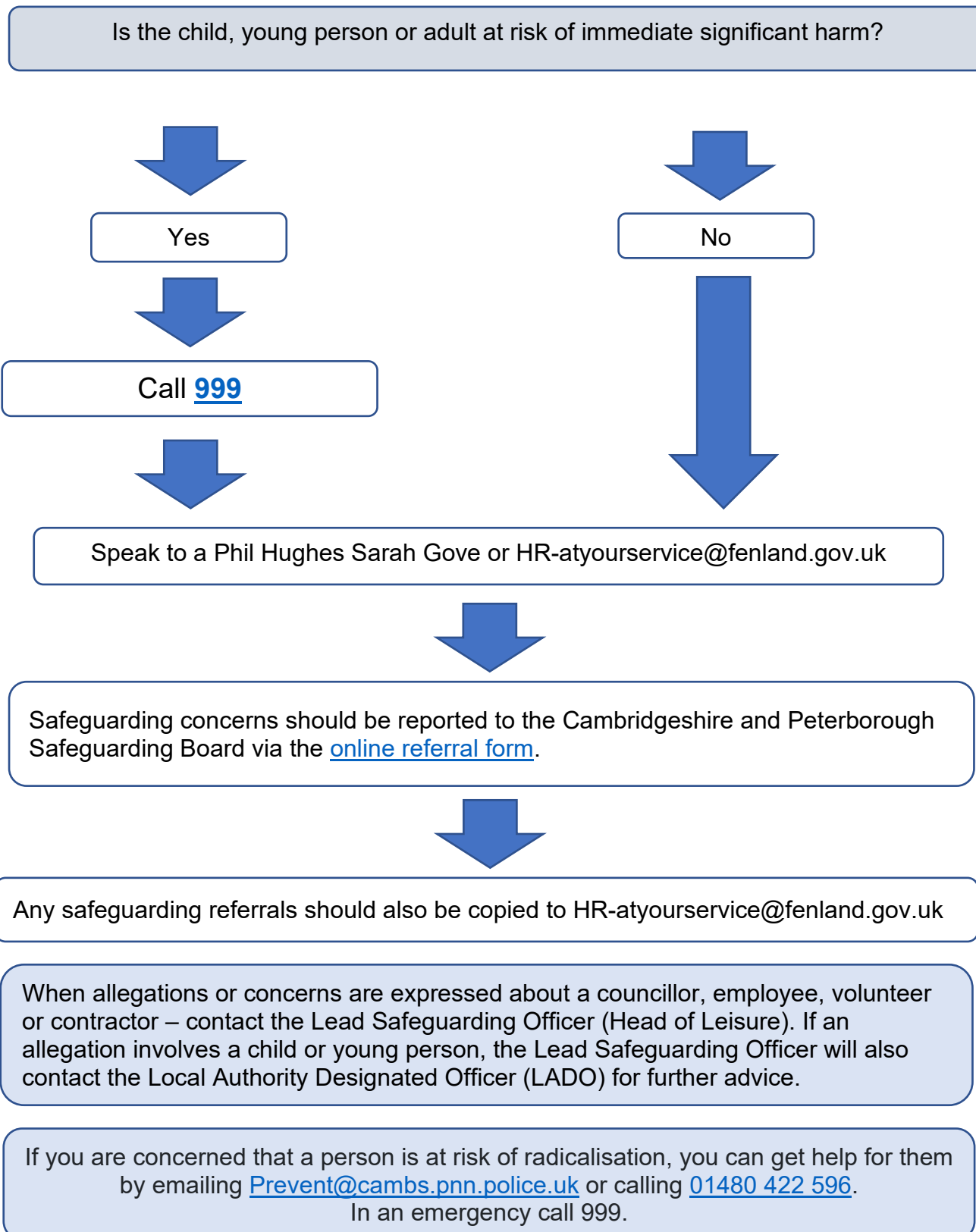
APPENDIX A
FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Safeguarding Children, Young People and
Adults at risk of harm policy**

November 2023

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Safeguarding – quick view procedure



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1. Introduction

This policy applies to all staff, councillors, volunteers and contractors within the Council. The aim of this policy is to explain the Council's Safeguarding duty - the Council has a duty to protect the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults living in Fenland

All organisations that make provision for children and adults at risk must ensure that:

- The welfare of the child or adult at risk is paramount
- All children, young people and adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse. This applies regardless of, their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin religious beliefs and/or sexual identity.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and neglect are responded to swiftly and appropriately.

We take our responsibilities seriously and expect all staff, partners and contractors to share this commitment.

Safeguarding is **everyone's** responsibility.

2. Purpose

2.1 There are two main aims of this policy:

- To protect and promote the welfare of the children, young people and adults using or receiving services provided or commissioned by Fenland District Council.
- To support the Council, its officers, councillors, contractors and volunteers in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities.

Fenland District Council is not a Children's Services Authority. It is not the role of the Council to investigate allegations of abuse. However, all employees, councillors, volunteers and contracted service providers have a clear responsibility to take action when they suspect that a child, young person or adult at risk may be a victim of significant harm or abuse.

2.2 This policy demonstrates how the Council will meet its legal obligations. It explains:

- a) What the Council will do to protect and safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of harm
- b) How people can safely voice any concerns through an established procedure
- c) That the Council will deal with all reports of abuse or potential abuse in a serious and effective manner
- d) That Members, employees, volunteers and contractors receive appropriate training
- e) That robust 'safer' recruitment procedures are in place.

It should be noted that this policy is not a stand-alone document. It should be used in conjunction with the inter-agency procedures developed by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board.

In addition, this policy also provides a framework to the Council's approach to all safeguarding matters. Additional Council policies exist and should be read in conjunction with this Safeguarding Policy. These include (but are not limited to), Domestic Abuse policies and HR Whistleblowing policy.

3. What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding means protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about working together to support children, young people and adults at risk of harm to make decisions about the risks they face in their own lives and protecting those who lack the capacity to make these decisions.

The legislation relating to the Safeguarding of Children is different from the legislation relating to the Safeguarding of Adults at risk of harm. This policy covers adults and children. For clarity, the legislation for each group is summarised separately.

4. Key Legislation: Safeguarding of Children

The key legislation underpinning the Safeguarding of children and young people is the Care Act 2014, Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. All children from 0-18 years are covered by the legislation.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 confirms that the 3 statutory safeguarding partners in relation to a local authority area are defined in the Children and Social Work Act 2017 as:

- Local Authority (Tier 1/ responsible for children's services). For Fenland this is Cambridgeshire County Council
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- Chief Officer of Police

The 3 statutory partners have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area.

The Care Act 2014 established the need to have a Safeguarding Partnership Board for children. The **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board** brings together a number of agencies across the county to ensure that there is a joined-up approach to safeguarding children and young people. Further information about the Board, including links to useful training and information, can be accessed here

<https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board>

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board recognise the importance of the lived experience of the child. Further information and Practice guidance can be accessed here.

[Lived Experience of the Child Practice Guidance – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

5. Key Legislation: Safeguarding Adults at risk

Statutory requirements regarding the Safeguarding of Adults at Risk are set out in the Care Act 2014 and supporting statutory guidance.

The term 'Adult at Risk' is a short form of the phrase 'An adult at risk of abuse or neglect.' It refers to adults who may have safeguarding needs according to the Care Act (2014). An Adult at Risk (sometimes referred to as AAR) is an adult (someone aged 18 or older) who:

- a) Has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs)
- b) Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
- c) As a result of those needs, is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

The Care Act 2014 established the need to have Safeguarding Adult Boards in each local authority area. The Act confirmed that the three statutory safeguarding partners should be;

- Local Authority (tier one authority)
- Chief Officer of Police
- Integrated Care Board.

The statutory guidance sets out the concept of Making Safeguarding Personal. This requires practitioners to find out about the lived experience of the adult.

<https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/.../lived-experience-of-the-adult>

6. Related legislation, policies and processes

6.1 Prevent

CONTEST is the UK's counter terrorism strategy. It aims to reduce the risks from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. A key part of the CONTEST strategy is the Prevent Duty.

The Prevent Duty is set out in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
The Duty requires Local Authorities, schools, colleges, universities, health bodies, prisons and probation and police to consider the need to safeguard individuals from being drawn into terrorism.

The Council must incorporate the Prevent duty into existing policies and procedures to fulfil its safeguarding responsibilities.

If you have concerns, call 999 or follow the link

<https://www.cambs.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/t/prevent/prevent/>

The council is part of a Cambridgeshire-wide Prevent Plan.

6.2 Modern Slavery (including human trafficking)

This involves the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people, who with the threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, abuse of power or deception, are exploited for the purposes of prostitution, forced labour, slavery or other similar practices. This can occur either from one country to another or even within the same country, county or town. Some victims are forced to work in places like cannabis factories, nail bars, brothels and car washes. There is no typical victim, and some victims don't understand that they have been exploited and are entitled to help and support.

Under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 the Council has a statutory duty to report and provide notification to the National Crime Agency about any potential victims of modern slavery or trafficking that we encounter.

To report concerns about modern slavery (including human trafficking) call 08000 121 700 or click on the link <https://www.cambs.police.uk/modernslavery>

6.3 Domestic abuse

The Domestic Abuse Act became law in April 2021. The act introduced a statutory definition of domestic abuse for the first time and defines it as ‘any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over, who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.’ Children who witness domestic abuse are also viewed as victims of abuse.

Domestic abuse has a devastating effect on victims, their families and the wider community and cuts across all boundaries of social group, class, age, religion, sexuality, gender and lifestyle.

The Council is currently working towards Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation (DAHA) and as a council has a Domestic Abuse Code of Practice for staff, which should be referred to for more detailed information.

6.4 Related policies

Other related policies include:

- Prevent Plan
- Modern Day Slavery Statement
- Domestic Abuse Code of Practice
- Human Resources (HR) policies, incl. Whistleblowing polic
- ASB policies, including the Community Trigger

7. Safeguarding structure

7.1 The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board consists of representatives from Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group. The Partnership Board is responsible for ensuring that children, young people and adults at risk of harm, neglect and exploitation across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and receive the help and protection that they

need. This is a combined safeguarding structure which cover the 2 local authority areas and encompasses the safeguarding of both adults and children.

They agree on ways to co-ordinate their safeguarding services, act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others and implement local and national learning from serious child safeguarding incidents.

The Executive Safeguarding Partnership Board is the overarching countywide governance board which oversees the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board.

The Safeguarding Partnership Board website is an important source of information for good practice and training. [Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

7.2 Relevant agencies

Relevant agencies are organisations and agencies who are required to work with the statutory safeguarding partners to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Fenland District Council is a relevant agency. This means the Council must:

- Fully engage with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough safeguarding arrangements
- Ensure that the organisation works in accordance with the inter-agency safeguarding procedures
- Have appropriate robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place specifically relevant to the organisation
- Ensure that the workforce is appropriately skilled to recognise and respond to safeguarding matters.

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 Council Safeguarding Leads

The Council's Safeguarding Leads are Phil Hughes (phughes@fenland.gov.uk) Sarah Gove (sgove@fenland.gov.uk) and the collective email address is HR-atyourservice@fenland.gov.uk. Any safeguarding allegations or concerns involving a member of staff should be reported to the Safeguarding Leads. If the allegation involves a child or young person, the Safeguarding Leads will contact The Integrated Front Door team or County Council Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for further advice and support as required.

8.2 Heads of Service

Heads of Service are responsible for ensuring that Service Managers, Team Managers and staff within their service areas are aware of the contents of this policy and the accompanying procedures, and that the Council's duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and adults with needs for care and support are met and effectively discharged.

8.3 Service Managers and Team Managers

Service Managers and Team Managers are responsible for complying with the requirements of this policy and accompanying procedures and for the promotion of a staff culture which recognises the rights of children, young people and adults with needs for care and support and the Council's responsibility for their safety when receiving its services.

8.4 Employees, councillors, agency staff and volunteers

All employees, councillors, volunteers and agency staff are responsible for complying with the requirements of the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. Staff should take all reasonable steps to ensure (within the context of their duties) that risks are minimised and that children, young and vulnerable people are protected, and their welfare promoted when using Council services.

8.5 Contractors

Contractors should have their own safeguarding policy or adopt the council's.

9. Reporting concerns and responding to allegations.

If you think a child or an adult is in immediate danger call 999.

9.1 Reporting concerns

All Members, employees and volunteers are responsible for carrying out their duties in a way that actively safeguards and promotes the welfare of children, young people and adults. They must also act in a way that protects them from wrongful allegations of abuse as far as possible. It is everyone's responsibility and safeguarding concerns should be reported to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Children or Adults services via the [online referral form](#).

In order to comply with auditing requirements, a copy of the referral should also be emailed to [mailto: HR-atyourservice@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:HR-atyourservice@fenland.gov.uk). However, this is for recording purposes only and the referral itself will be followed up via the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Children or Adult services via the [online referral form](#).

9.2 Categories of abuse

Abuse is a form of maltreatment that can occur in several forms which are not mutually exclusive.

For children, types of abuse include:

- Physical
- Psychological
- Sexual
- Grooming
- Child sexual exploitation
- Female genital mutilation
- Online abuse and cyberbullying
- Child trafficking and modern slavery
- Domestic abuse
- Self-neglect
- Forced marriage

Further information is available on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board website: [Child abuse – definitions and signs – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

Types of adult abuse include:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological
- Discrimination
- Exploitation, modern day slavery and human trafficking
- Financial
- Organisational
- Domestic abuse
- Neglect and acts of omission
- Female genital mutilation

Further information is available on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board website. [Abuse and Neglect – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

Even for those experienced in working with child or adult abuse it is not always easy to recognise a situation where abuse may occur or already has taken place. Whilst it is accepted that staff are not experts at such recognition, all staff have a duty to act if they have any concerns. If they are unsure, then any concerns should be discussed with either a Designated Safeguarding Officer or the Lead Safeguarding Officer. The DSO will help advise if and how to complete a referral. A list of DSOs will be kept updated on the Council's intranet.

9.3 Cause for Concern Cards

In addition, for staff and contractors who work remotely with limited access to IT, a Cause for Concern Card can be completed (although it is still possible for a concern to be raised directly with the safeguarding leads). Cause for Concern cards should

be returned to one of the Council's Safeguarding leads. The Designated Safeguarding Lead that receives the card may contact you for further information and will decide whether a safeguarding referral should be made to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Board.

All Fenland District Council concern cards and safeguarding referrals must then be copied to HR-atyourservice@fenland.gov.uk

9.4 Receiving an allegation of abuse

When a child, young person or adult makes an allegation of abuse or bullying, you should:

- Stay calm and try to get another witness if it does not compromise the situation
- If the person making the allegation does not speak in English as their first language (including if they are a user of British Sign Language), consider whether communication may be aided by accessing the Council's Interpretation and Translation services. For more information on how to access this, please visit the [Language Services intranet page](#) or contact the Equality and Diversity Manager. If you believe the person is 'at risk' of immediate significant harm, which includes situations which any Member, employee or volunteer would reasonably believe requires the emergency services, then you must contact the relevant emergency service and notify the Safeguarding Officer, Line Manager or Head of Service
- Listen carefully to what is said and allow the person to talk at their own pace, being careful not to compromise potential evidence.
- Find an appropriate opportunity to explain it is likely that information will need to be shared with other responsible people, do not promise to keep secrets
- Only ask questions for clarification, the use of open questions, for example, what, where, when, who is advisable, do not ask leading questions (that suggest certain answers as this could compromise evidence)
- Reassure the child, young person adult at risk that they have done the right thing in telling you
- Tell them what you will do next and who you will inform

- Immediately report to and inform Phil Hughes Sarah Gove or HR-atyourservice@fenland.gov.uk, Line Manager or Head of Service (as appropriate and where possible).
- As soon as you can take a note of what was said, demeanour of the complainant and who was present when the complaint was made.

9.5 Allegations involving staff, councillors, contractors, or volunteers

If a concern or allegation relates to a staff member, councillor, contractor or volunteer, this must be reported to the Lead Safeguarding Officer. In addition, if the allegation or concern involves a child or young person, the Lead Safeguarding Officers will liaise with the County Council Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for further advice by emailing LADO@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

9.6 Reporting Concerns about radicalisation

If you believe someone is at risk of radicalisation, you can help them get support and prevent them becoming involved in terrorism and potentially violent activities by raising your concerns via:

Email: Prevent@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Telephone: [01480 422 596](tel:01480422596)

Emergencies - If you suspect that someone is about to put themselves in danger by travelling to join a terrorist organisation or appears involved in plans to commit a criminal offence, please inform the police immediately by calling [999](tel:999).

9.7 Monitoring and record keeping

A record must be kept of all safeguarding concerns to comply with the Section 11 Audit requirements. Copies of all Cause for Concern cards and safeguarding referrals must be copied to HR-atyourservice@fenland.gov.uk

10. Training

The Council will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all staff, managers and elected members who are likely to come into contact with children and/or adults as a regular part of their job will be provided with appropriate training including:

- Induction
- Specific safeguarding training identified for relevant posts
- Corporate training such as Recruitment and Selection
- Specialist training such as PREVENT and Domestic Abuse awareness

All staff will be required to undergo awareness training on a regular basis. All staff are issued with a copy of this policy as part of their induction and are required to read and confirm receipt of it.

Additional training resources and good practice information is available on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership website. [Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

11. Recruitment

Fenland District Council is committed to [safer recruitment procedures](#) set out by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board.

It is the responsibility of the recruiting manager to undertake a risk assessment for the job description and person specification for those roles likely to involve regular and/or substantial unsupervised contact with children, young people or adults at risk before recruitment takes place. This will determine the safeguarding level of all roles and ensure that only appropriate individuals are selected to undertake DBS procedures.

12. Equal opportunities

As a council, we are committed to delivering services that narrow the gap in outcomes between disadvantaged groups and the wider community, and to ensuring that protected groups are included and have their voices heard. We are also obliged to comply with the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty. We believe that all people are entitled to be treated with dignity and respect and we are

determined to ensure that both our employees and everyone entitled to use our services receives fair and equitable treatment.

13. Information sharing

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Information Sharing Framework ('the Framework') is a high-level agreement between a number of public organisations in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Its aim is to facilitate more effective data sharing across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough where this is needed to improve service delivery or to enable each organisation to respond quickly to customer needs. Wherever possible, you should seek consent and be open and honest with the individual from the outset as to why, whom and what information will be shared. You should seek consent where an individual may not expect their information to be passed on. There may be some circumstances where it is not appropriate to seek consent, either because the individual cannot give consent, it is not reasonable to obtain consent, or because to gain consent would put a child or young person's safety or well-being at risk. There may be incidents where a person lacks mental capacity to consent to information sharing. A best interests decision will need to be made as to whether disclosure should be made. Further information about information sharing can be found on the [Safeguarding Board website](#).

14. Photography, film and media

The Council will take appropriate action to protect children and young people from the inappropriate use of photographic images. Some photographs taken by or on behalf of the Council will be anonymous group shots in public places. Some photographs taken by or on behalf of the Council will feature images where people can be identified through their image. Wherever a photograph is taken, and a person is able to be identified through their image, the Council will obtain photo consent before using the image in any way. For those aged under 16 years old, photo consent from a parent or guardian will be required. It should be remembered that photographs can be used as a means of identifying children and young people, especially when they are accompanied by personal information. For any event that the Council runs, the Council will communicate that a photographer will be in attendance. The Council will also ensure that, where people have a concern about

their photograph being taken, they are able to raise this concern and to take reasonable steps to avoid being photographed and still participate in the given activity or event.

15. Considerations for specific Council functions

15.1 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licensing

All new applicants for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire driver, proprietors of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle and Operator licenses will be required to pass a safeguarding course as approved by this Local Authority.

Where the Licensing Authority receives a complaint regarding the moral, physical, sexual harm or neglect of a child or vulnerable person as a consequence of the actions or inactions of a licence holder, the Licensing Service will liaise with Cambridgeshire County Council and the Police. Where necessary, they will revoke a licence, and if satisfied the driver is posing an immediate risk to public safety, the revocation will take effect immediately.

15.2 Housing Options Service

The Council's Housing Options service have a duty under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. Any person working on behalf of the Council in these services, may become aware of conditions that could have or are having an adverse impact on children. Part 1 of the Housing Act 2004 sets out that authorities must take account of the impact of health and safety hazards in housing on vulnerable occupants, including children, when deciding on the action to be taken by landlords to improve conditions. Housing authorities have an important role to play in safeguarding vulnerable young people, including young people who are pregnant or leaving care or a secure establishment.

15.3 Grant applicants

As a minimum, all organisations receiving funding from the Council will be expected to have a safeguarding policy and procedure in place (or adopt the council's version), which is understood by employees and volunteers and available to service users, irrespective of how the grant has been awarded.

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

APPENDIX B

INTRODUCTION

The Equality Act 2010 reminded all public authorities of their duty to have ‘due regard’ to the need to:

- **Eliminate unlawful discrimination**, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- **advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
- **foster good relations** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

The protected groups (previously known as equality strands) are as follows:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage and civil partnerships (eliminate unlawful discrimination only)

Other legislation and practice has determined that we extend this to cover:

- Human Rights
- Socio Economic factors

The duty reminds us of the need to analyse the effect of existing and new policies and practices on equality.

The equality analysis should be proportionate and relevant – not just a tick box exercise. In some cases the written record will be a quick set of bullet points or notes under each heading. Others will need a more detailed explanation.

However, legal case law makes it clear that we must carry out the analysis **before making the relevant policy decision**.

A meaningful equality analysis will help the Council make the best decisions or formulate a policy which best meets our customers needs.

Once a Customer Impact Assessment (replacing our existing Equality Impact Assessment) has been completed there is no need to automatically carry out a new assessment each year. A review assessment has been put in place, and can be completed if there has been no change to the original policy, the way it’s implemented and its customer impact.

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO ASSESSING EQUALITY

What is Customer Impact Assessment (CIA)?

- CIA is the act of systematically assessing the likely (or actual) effects of policies or services on people based on the following:
 - Age
 - Disability
 - Gender reassignment
 - Pregnancy and maternity
 - Race
 - Religion or belief
 - Gender
 - Sexual orientation
 - Marriage and civil partnerships
 - Human Rights
 - Socio Economic factors

This means considering the above, as set out in the table below, in relation to a policy, practice or service, before a decision is made.

PLEASE SEE EXPLANATIONS BELOW

	Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Advancing equality of opportunity between different groups	Fostering good relations between different groups
Disability			
Age			
Pregnancy/ maternity/ paternity			
Race			
Religion or belief			
Sex/ Gender			
Gender reassignment/ Transgender			
Sexual orientation			
Human Rights			
Socio Economic Factors			

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

Marriage and civil partnerships			
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- You are looking for opportunities to promote equality, and good relations between all groups as well as removing or mitigating negative or adverse impacts.
- Remember it might not be possible to remove all barriers to service or your policy or practice may have a negative impact on certain groups ... please note anything of this nature

Why is it important?

- Assessing equality issues helps us understand the needs of our customers, ensures our decisions meet those needs, and are also cost effective, and demonstratable.
- As a public authority we also have a **legal** duty to show “*due regard*” for equality in decision making and the way services are provided
- To be able us to show “*due regard*”, we need to show that consideration of [possible impact to the groups mentioned have taken place **prior** to a decision being made; that equality issues were considered, and that this consideration was rigorous, open minded, and involved thinking about the three arms of the Equality Act as part of this process, and that potential adverse impacts were either removed or reduced, and that all our decisions can be defended if challenged.
- Documenting our equality analysis enables the Council show it has had “*due regard*” for equality if decisions are challenged. If “*due regard*” for equality can not be shown, decisions may be overturned at judicial review. This could result in lost time, money and negative publicity.
- The sooner equality is considered in a process; the more efficiently that process can be carried out.

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

How can equality be assessed?

1. Gather information This can be consulting with relevant groups, using a previous EqIA as a starting point, consultations carried out by other services, details of the service 'hard to reach groups', customer satisfaction surveys, MOASIC data, consider relevance to equality



2. Assess impact Could different groups be affected differently? Is this difference positive or negative? Consider the three arms of the Equality Act in relation to all the protected groups as per the table. NOTE: The quality of the assessment will depend on the quality of the information gathered



3. Take action This could be to reduce negative or increase positive impact. Produce an action plan where appropriate; make actions SMART. Unlawful discrimination MUST be actioned immediately



4. Summarise your findings on the EqIA form. Where it is clear from initial information gathering that a policy will not have any effect on equality, this may simply be a sentence recording this; the greater the relevance to equality, the greater the level of detail required. Publish your findings



5. Monitor the on-going effects of the policy on equality. This is usually in the form of the annual review carried out in October of each year, to fit in with the service planning cycle. The Equality Act is a **continuing** duty!

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

Customer Impact Assessment

Name and brief description of policy being analysed

Briefly summarise the policy including any key information such as aims, context etc; note timescales and milestones for new policies; use plain language – NO JARGON; refer to other documents if required

The safeguarding policy and procedures incorporates a mechanism for reporting concerns to Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Safeguarding team. It is not the responsibility of the council to determine safeguarding concerns, that is the statutory responsibility of CCC.

The policy outlines the key situations that can highlight a safeguarding concern, the policy clearly incorporates a process for reporting.

Information used for customer analysis

Note relevant consultation; who took part and key findings; refer to, or attach other documents if needed; include dates where possible

The policy has been formed by joint working across Cambridgeshire – this was based on a good practice model developed by South Cambridgeshire District Council and further enhanced by Fenland District Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council Safeguarding board.

Potential cultural barriers have been addressed e.g. Female Genital Mutilation, Modern slavery under the Cambridgeshire County Council’s statutory duty along with statutory guidance and responsibility for children and adults at risk of harm.

	Could particularly benefit	Neutral	May adversely impact	Explanations	Is action possible or required?	Details of actions or explanations if actions are not possible Please note details of any actions to be placed in your Service Plan
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Women are more likely to suffer domestic abuse than men. The policy	N	
Sex	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

				is particularly concerned with safeguarding vulnerable adults whose definition includes those who are victims of domestic abuse		Children may be less able than adults to access relevant information, and take the right steps, to report and stop abuse towards themselves or others
Gender reassignment/ Transgender	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	This policy helps to safeguard adults with needs for care and support. Older people are more likely to fall into this category	N	
Disability- physical	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Age 60+	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Younger people (17-25) and children (0-16)	X			The policy helps to safeguard children. The legal definition of children includes young people aged 16-18	N	
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	

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Pregnancy, maternity and paternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Women who are pregnant or have given birth in last 26 weeks	N	
Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Socio Economic	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Multiple/ Cross Cutting	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		N	
Outcome(s) of customer analysis						
<p>a) Will the policy/ procedure impact on the whole population of Fenland and/ or identified groups within the population; negative <input type="checkbox"/> neutral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> positive <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No major change needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjust the policy <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse impact but continue <input type="checkbox"/> Stop and remove / reconsider policy <input type="checkbox"/></p>						
Arrangements for future monitoring:						
Note when analysis will be reviewed; include any equality indicators and performance against those indicators 2028						
Details of any data/ Research used (both FDC & Partners):						
Good practice has been undertaken with Cambridgeshire authorities and Cambridgeshire County Council Safeguarding Team to produce the policy						
Completed by:						
Name: Sarah Gove						
Position: Housing & Communities Manager						
Approved by (manager signature):				Date published: This should be the date the analysis was published on the intranet		

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

Details of any Committee approved by (if applicable):

Date endorsed by Members if applicable:

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Agenda Item No:	11	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	Wisbech Pavilion Lease Agreement	

1 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 To advise Cabinet of the proposed management arrangements for the new Wisbech Park Pavilion and seek authorisation to lease the facility at below market value.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 As Cabinet is aware, a new pavilion is being built in Wisbech Park. The building will consist of external public toilets, a café, a changing places toilet, office and community room. The facility is primarily funded by FDC with additional grants from CPCA and CCC as well as a changing places grant from the Department for Levelling Up.
- 2.2 Building construction is due to complete in mid-December.
- 2.3 FDC has been in discussions with Wisbech Town Council regarding the management of the new facility. It is considered that management by the local Town Council is the best option as it will provide a locally focussed approach, ensuring community needs are catered for. Other options have not been considered, as local council management offers a community focus that another partner is unlikely to offer.
- 2.4 Whilst the Town Council already provides toilets in Wisbech Park, it is anticipated that this new facility will replace the current (dated) provision, with Town Council funding the management of the new toilets.
- 2.5 Heads of Terms for a 35-year lease have been agreed. FDC will remain responsible for the asset and repairs to major items such as the roof etc, with the Town Council taking care of day-to-day management and maintenance.
- 2.6 As a community facility a lease at a peppercorn rate of £1 p.a. is the usual approach. As this is below the market rate, Cabinet is required to confirm that this arrangement is acceptable.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That Cabinet confirms that Wisbech Town Council and Fenland District Council should enter into a 35-year lease for the management of the pavilion in Wisbech Park and instructs officers to put the necessary legal agreement in place.

- 3.2 That Cabinet agrees to a lease at a rate of £1 p.a be included in the above agreement, noting that this is below market rate, but is typical of agreements for this type of community facility.

Wards Affected	Wisbech wards
Forward Plan Reference	KEY/24AUG23/05
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Peter Murphy (Portfolio Holder for Open Spaces) Cllr Ian Benny (Portfolio Holder for Assets)
Report Originator(s)	Phil Hughes phughes@fenland.gov.uk
Contact Officer(s)	Phil Hughes phughes@fenland.gov.uk Carol Pilson cpilson@fenland.gov.uk
Background Papers	16 March 2023 Cabinet Report Key Decision ref; KEY/07DEC22/01

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 Report to Cabinet highlighting the option to lease the new Wisbech Park Pavilion to Wisbech Town Council for 35 years at a peppercorn (£1 p.a.) rent. As a local asset, the Town Council is in the best position to ensure that this local asset performs for local people. This is particularly true, given the Town Council's key summer festival that runs in the park, as well as other local Members' involvement in other community event run within the park.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The intention for the management of the pavilion has always been to install a more local management team and not FDC. Wisbech Town Council was approached initially, and the Town Council has agreed to manage the pavilion.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 FDC consulted extensively with Wisbech Town Council (WTC) regarding the plans for the pavilion, including an officer attending a formal meeting of WTC to present designs.
- 3.2 As construction commenced, talks between the two Councils have continued regarding management of the facility, culminating in WTC making a formal decision to take on the management of the Pavilion, subject to FDC's Cabinet approval.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Whilst Wisbech Town Council (WTC) has agreed to manage the facility on a peppercorn lease basis, FDC did have the option to engage more widely and see if a third-party, commercial business would be interested in the opportunity to manage the pavilion. Whilst it is considered that the local Town Council managing the facility would be in the best interest of the local community, that is not to say that a third party will not be involved. WTC will manage the facility but intends to sub-contract the café operation to a third-party firm that is experienced in providing this service to the community. This mixed approach to the management of the pavilion should give the local community the best of both worlds in terms of a commercial café operation, with a community focussed town council running the building.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Legal Implications

- 5.2 This is a Council-to-Council agreement, governed by a lease. The legal implications of this approach have been considered, with third-party specialist legal advice sought in terms of the application of the Public Procurement Regulations.

- 5.3 FDC is able to either lease the pavilion to the Town Council or let a contract as a concession contract under the Concession Contracts Regulation 2016. The current threshold for services concessions is £5,336,937 so this facility will fall considerably below this value. This means that the Regulations don't apply and FDC is approaching this as a lease arrangement.

5.4 Financial Implications

- 5.5 By leasing the facility to the town council at a peppercorn rent, FDC is potentially foregoing the opportunity of a lease at a commercial rate with a third-party business.
- 5.6 However, it is considered that because this is a new venture, the number of businesses who would take the risk of running the pavilion, including the public toilets, from scratch would be limited. Any arrangement with a third-party business would likely be at a negligible rental value to mitigate the risk of the business start-up.
- 5.7 The approach of a peppercorn rental to WTC is unlikely to be much different to any commercial arrangement that FDC could negotiate but does mitigate the cost to FDC in terms of renter turnover and finding new businesses to take over the sub-let café.

5.8 Equality Implications

- 5.9 N/A

6 SCHEDULES

- 6.1 Heads of Terms

Heads of Terms: 11 October 2023

Version 4

These Heads of Terms are subject to contract

Property Address	New Build - Pavilion Building, Wisbech Park, Park Road, Wisbech. Being part of the land registered under freehold title number CB335221 .
Demise	Area/Scale Plan (to be provided), Pavilion to be outlined in red and FDC land outlined in blue. Right of access over paths in brown. The Pavilion Building and its curtilage only. Reference to the planning permission plans attached. For avoidance of doubt, the paths and grassed area around the pavilion will remain under FDC responsibility.
Landlord	Name of Organisation: Fenland District Council Fenland Hall County Road March PE15 8NQ. Main contact: Bill Tilah, Principal Estates Surveyor. E-mail: btilah@fenland.gov.uk Mobile: 07935014469.
Landlord's Solicitor	Name of Organisation: Legal Services, Peterborough City Council, Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG DX 12310 Peterborough 1 E-mail: TBC Telephone: TBC Mobile: TBC.
Tenant	Name of Organisation: Wisbech Town Council Town Hall 1 North Brink Wisbech PE13 1JR. Contact name: Terry Jordan, PSLCC, Town Clerk.

	Tel: 01945 461333 . E-mail: clerk@wisbechtowncouncil.org.uk			
Tenant's Solicitor	Name of Organisation: Please confirm details if using solicitor Contact name: Address: Email: Telephone: Mobile:			
Rent	£1 per annum exclusive of VAT. A peppercorn.			
Rent Free Period	N/A.			
Type of agreement	Long Lease.			
Landlord's/Tenant's Initial Works	Landlord to build premises and handover to Tenant upon completion.			
Lease length and start date	35 years. Start date from satisfactory handover on completed building.			
Break Clauses or renewal rights	Tenant break option every six months after the lease completion date (with six months prior written notice), within the first three years of the lease. Thereafter, twelve months prior written notice, actionable annually on the anniversary date of lease completion.			
1954 Act Protection	Licence to be contracted out of the Landlord and Tenants Act 1954.			
Rights reserved	Landlord's right to enter property, for the purposes of repairing and maintaining the external parts of the premises. With reasonable prior notice.			
Rent Reviews	N/A.			
Assignment/Subletting		Prohibited	Permitted with Landlord's consent	Permitted Without Landlord's consent
	Assignment of whole	X		
	Sub-lease of whole	x		
	Sub-lease part		x	
	Concession	X		
	Group Sharing	X		
Services and service charge	N/A.			
Repairing Obligations	Tenant - Internal repair and maintenance only. - To include the roller shutters (as these are designed into the lintel area of the buildings and tenant has main control			

	<p>over operation</p> <p>Landlord – external repair and maintenance only, for the fabric of the building. For the avoidance of doubt, this is covering the replacement and structural issues related to the roof / windows and doors,. But not the day-to-day maintenance (such as cleaning / graffiti removal, gutter and downpipe clearance, repair of damage caused by tenant or permitted users of the premises). Matters covered by the building insurance such as storm damage / flood / earthquake etc excluded from tenants responsibility</p>			
Schedule of Condition	FDC to prepare and provide an internal photographic record of condition, on handover for agreement before lease completion.			
Alterations		Prohibited	Permitted with Landlord's consent	Permitted Without Landlord's consent
	External	x		
	External Structural	x		
	Internal Structural		x	
	Internal non-structural			x
Permitted Use	Use of the Property for a community hub, meeting room, café and public toilets.			
Hours	Tenant to make reasonable efforts to keep the Pavilion open during "usual" business hours.			
Insurance	<p>Landlord to insure the building.</p> <p>Tenant to hold contents and public liability insurance (for a minimum sum of £5,000,000).</p>			
Dilapidations	Return the property in no worse condition than taken, allowing for fair wear and tear. Use of the agreed internal photographic schedule of condition for reference.			
Rates and Utilities	Tenant is responsible for all rates and utilities costs associated with the premises.			
Costs	The Landlord will pay all costs associated with implementing this agreement. If the tenant chooses to use a solicitor, associated costs should be fair and reasonably incurred.			
Conditions	<p>FDC to provide all relevant statutory testing and certification documents at time of handover.</p> <p>FDC to provide copies of any warranties applicable to the building and its fixtures and fittings.</p>			

Other	<p>The sub-let is envisaged as being the café and office elements of the building.</p> <p>The Tenant of the Pavilion to operate appropriate advertising and fair contracting processes in relation to sub-letting of any elements of the building.</p>
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Agenda Item No:	12	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	20 November 2023	
Report Title:	Wisbech High Street Update	

1 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 To provide Cabinet with a monthly update regarding ongoing work related to 24 High Street, Wisbech.

2 Key Issues

24 High Street Construction Progress

- 2.1 Etec continues the construction work on 24 High Street with works remaining below street level.
- 2.2 Underpinning is completed and piling works have commenced. Piling works are expected to use a screw auger approach which should mean less noise disruption on the site, as well as significantly less vibration caused to adjoining properties. Laser monitoring systems are in place to any movement of adjacent buildings due to 24 High Street construction works.
- 2.3 The expectation is to get above ground early in 2024. Work is on time and on track in terms of cost.

11-12 High Street

- 2.4 Regrettably the consultant developing the Options Report for 11-12 High Street was required at a public enquiry, so the anticipated time that the Options Report will be completed has slipped back. December Cabinet should receive the options report regarding this space on the High Street.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That Cabinet notes the current position in relation to the 24 High Street construction project in Wisbech High Street and notes information regarding the property at 11-12 High Street.

Wards Affected	Medworth Ward	
Forward Plan Reference	KEY21APR22/01	
Portfolio Holders	Cllr Chris Seaton Cllr Ian Benney Cllr Chris Boden	Portfolio Holder for Social Mobility and Heritage Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance

Report Originator	Phil Hughes	Head of Service
Contact Officers	Paul Medd Peter Catchpole Mark Greenwood	Chief Executive Corporate Director and S151 Officer Head of Property, assets and Major Projects

**DRAFT 6 MONTH CABINET FORWARD PLAN –
Updated 09 November 2023**



(For any queries, please refer to the published forward plan)

CABINET

CABINET DATE	ITEMS	LEAD PORTFOLIO HOLDER
18 Dec 2023	1. Draft Business Plan 2024/25	Cllr Boden
	2. Draft Budget & Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25	Cllr Boden
	3. Treasury Management Strategy Statement & Annual Investment Strategy Mid-Year review 2023/24	Cllr Boden
	4. Fenland Transport Strategy	Cllr Seaton
	5. Constitutional Amendments	Cllr Boden
	6. Civil Parking Enforcement Update	Cllr French
	7. Quay repairs for Wisbech Port	Cllr Boden Cllr Benney
	8. Open Spaces – Play Area Refurbishment	Cllr Boden Cllr Murphy
	9. Cabinet Draft Forward Plan	Cllr Boden
	10. Wisbech High Street Update (confidential)	Cllr Seaton Cllr Hoy Cllr Tierney
22 Jan 2024	1. Fees and Charges 2024/25	Cllr Boden
	2. Investment Board Update	Cllr Boden Cllr Benney Cllr Tierney
	3. RECAP Partnership Waste Strategy Review	Cllr Tierney Cllr Murphy
	4. Sport England Swimming Pool Support Fund	Cllr Boden Cllr Miscandlon
	5. Sport England Swimming Pool Support Fund – Capital Bid	Cllr Boden Cllr Miscandlon
	6. Leisure Facility Strategy – Initial Assessment Phase	Cllr Miscandlon
	7. Climate Change Action Plan Update	Cllr Tierney
	8. Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund	Cllr Boden
	9. Accommodation Review	Cllr Boden
	10. Cabinet Draft Forward Plan	Cllr Boden
	11. Wisbech High Street Update (confidential) (TBC)	Cllr Seaton Cllr Hoy Cllr Tierney

CABINET DATE	ITEMS	LEAD PORTFOLIO HOLDER
26 Feb 2024	1. Business Plan 2024/25	Cllr Boden
	2. Budget & Mid Term Financial Strategy	Cllr Boden
	3. Grounds Maintenance Contract – Future Options	Cllr Murphy
	4. Cabinet Draft Forward Plan	Cllr Boden
	5. Wisbech High Street Update (confidential) (TBC)	Cllr Seaton Cllr Hoy Cllr Tierney
18 Mar 2024	1. Investment Board Update & review of the Commercial & Investment Strategy	Cllr Boden Cllr Benney Cllr Tierney
	2. Leisure Facility Strategy	Cllr Miscandlon
	3. Cabinet Draft Forward Plan	Cllr Boden
	4. Wisbech High Street Update (confidential) (TBC)	Cllr Seaton Cllr Hoy Cllr Tierney
22 Apr 2024	1. Cabinet Draft Forward Plan	Cllr Boden
	2. Wisbech High Street Update (confidential) (TBC)	Cllr Seaton Cllr Hoy Cllr Tierney
TBC May 2024	1. Cabinet Draft Forward Plan	Cllr Boden
	2. Wisbech High Street Update (confidential) (TBC)	Cllr Seaton Cllr Hoy Cllr Tierney

TBC = To be confirmed

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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