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## **ROCHFORD HUNDRED GOLF CLUB – PROPOSED FOOTPATH DIVERSIONS**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report is to consider an application from Rochford Hundred Golf Club to divert Public Footpaths 16 and 17 and to extinguish a section of Footpath 35.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This application is made under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 and enables the Council to divert a public footpath in the interest of the landowner, providing the new route meets the following criteria:-

- The termination point of the diversion is substantially as convenient to the public as the existing route.
- The diversion is not substantially less convenient to the public in terms of increased walking distance.
- The diversion does not have a detrimental effect on the public's enjoyment of the path as a whole in relation to aesthetic matters such as views and location.

### **3 PROPOSED DIVERSION**

- 3.1 The application has been submitted on behalf of Rochford Hundred Golf Club following discussions with the Highways Authority to identify acceptable revisions to the paths to create safer routes and reduce their current impact on the use of the golf course.
- 3.2 At present footpaths 35 and 17, as shown on the appended plan, run through three fairways. Footpath 16 crosses two greens and tees. The paths in these locations have presented a potential hazard to the public as well as interference to the game when golf is in play.
- 3.3 The proposal is to extinguish a section of footpath 35 between points K and M. A new route for footpath 17 would then follow a safer course around the boundary shown by the broken black line. The termination point would remain the same as indicated by point J on the attached plan. The diversion to footpath 16 would re-position the section of path to the side of the green following natural land features, as shown on the appended plan, to the same termination point C.
- 3.4 The Highways Authority fully supports the proposed changes.

**4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The new routes will be equally convenient and reduce risk to the public.

**5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The applicant will be responsible for the costs of the Diversion Order.

**6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 In the event that the Committee supports the proposed Diversion Order, statutory consultation will be undertaken and any representations will need to be considered prior to the confirmation of the Order.

**7 RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) That, subject to Rochford Hundred Golf Club bearing the cost of any necessary accommodation works and all the Council's costs and expenses recoverable under the Local Government (Recovery of Costs for Public Path Orders) Regulations 1993 as amended, the proposal to divert footpaths 16 and 17 and part extinguishment of footpath 35, as shown on the attached plan, be approved.
- (2) That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to take all necessary steps to secure the making and confirmation of Public Path Diversion Orders to secure the above proposals under the terms of section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

Albert Bugeja

Head of Legal Services

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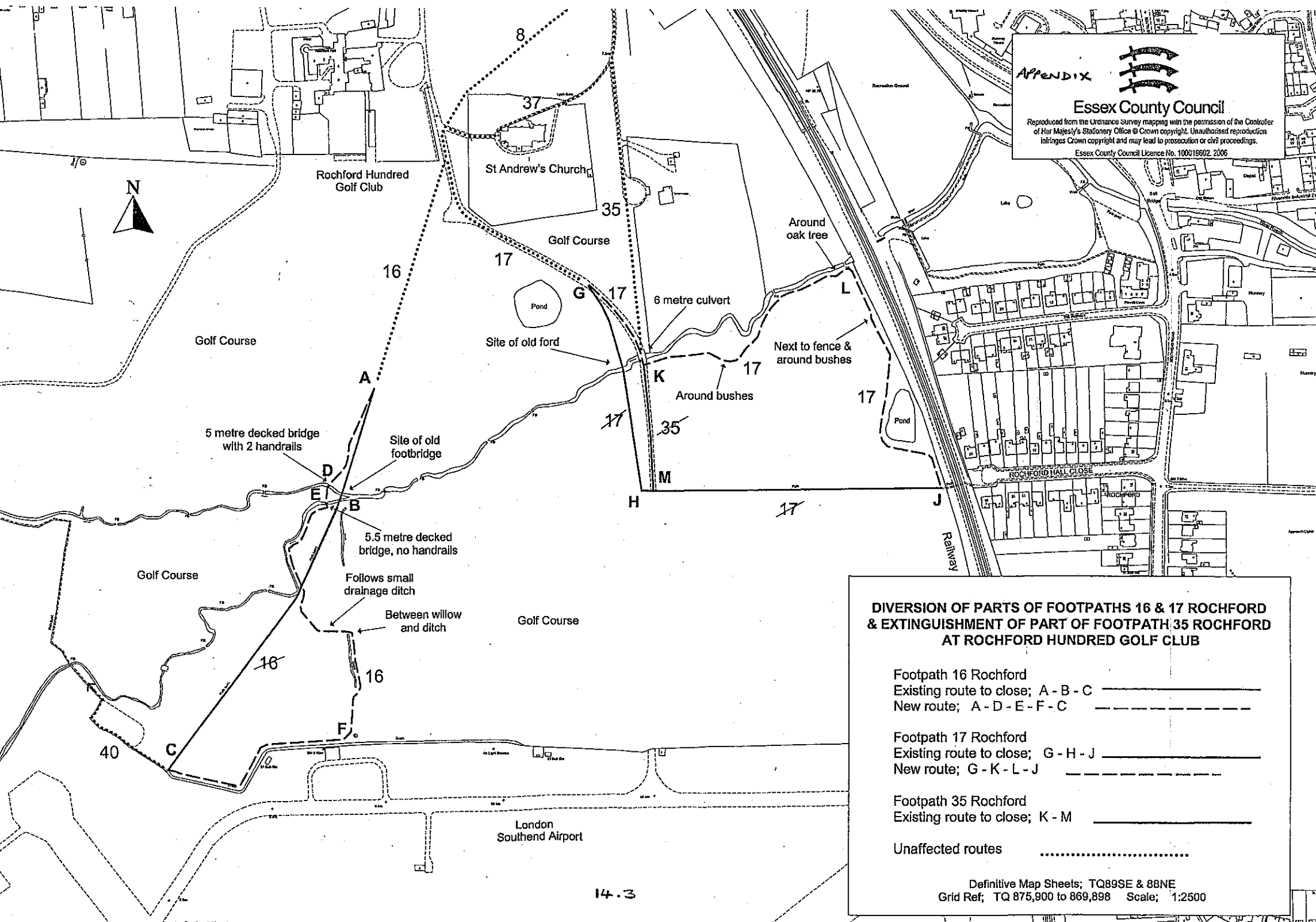
**Background Papers:-**

None

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**DIVERSION OF PARTS OF FOOTPATHS 16 & 17 ROCHFORD & EXTINGUISHMENT OF PART OF FOOTPATH 35 ROCHFORD AT ROCHFORD HUNDRED GOLF CLUB**

Footpath 16 Rochford  
 Existing route to close; A - B - C \_\_\_\_\_  
 New route; A - D - E - F - C - - - - -

Footpath 17 Rochford  
 Existing route to close; G - H - J \_\_\_\_\_  
 New route; G - K - L - J - - - - -

Footpath 35 Rochford  
 Existing route to close; K - M \_\_\_\_\_

Unaffected routes .....  
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Definitive Map Sheets; TQ89SE & 88NE  
 Grid Ref; TQ 875,900 to 869,898 Scale; 1:2500