

# ***London Borough of Bexley***

## ***News Release***

**For Immediate Release**

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### **PLANS FOR WALNUT TREE ROAD, ERITH**

It's all happening in Erith this month! Along with the Erith Lighthouse summer programme, work is also underway to secure a design team to draw up plans for a new housing development on the site of the former Council depot in Walnut Tree Road. Design work for the Station forecourt and the entrance to the Pier has already started.

The decision to move forward with plans to develop the Walnut Tree Road site were agreed at last month's Public Cabinet Meeting (11 July).

Bexley's Cabinet Member for Growth and Regeneration, Cllr Linda Bailey said; "This is a very early stage of something extremely exciting for Erith. The land is currently overgrown and not used and yet it sits near the station and in the middle of a busy town, that we hope it set to become even busier. It is the ideal place for much needed houses and offers the chance to improve the surrounding public space. It is also an example of the Council looking to encourage the right kind of growth in the right places. I am really looking forward to seeing what the contractors will submit."

The former depot site land separates Walnut Tree Road from Erith Town Hall and is next to the London South East College site. Options for the site include a residential development and improved public realm.

The search for a design team for the site is due to close at the end of August. Any proposals for the site will be subject to the usual planning application process including consultations with local residents and businesses.

This new development and work to the Station forecourt and the Pier entrance are part of the Council's ambitious plans to regenerate Erith town centre. The wider programme aims to provide a mix of housing, new business premises and leisure uses set within new residential streets.

London Borough of Bexley is the driving force behind the Erith Town Centre Regeneration Programme, having successfully secured a £4.2 million repayable loan from the London Enterprise Action Partnership's Growing Places Fund and a grant of £1.96m from the Mayor's London Regeneration Fund.

Visit [www.greatererith.co.uk](http://www.greatererith.co.uk) to keep up-to-date with the latest news on the regeneration of Erith and to find out more about the Erith Lighthouse summer programme.

