



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Walton is "Open for Business": ALDI Confirm Multi-million Pound Investment Plans**

ALDI has confirmed they wish to open a store in Walton on the Naze and create new jobs for local people. The popular food retailer plans to consult with Walton residents before submitting a planning application soon.

The planned site is on Kirby Road beside the former Martello Caravan Park, next to where Tesco had been planning to open. ALDI has confirmed they have no plans for the proposed Tesco site.

The modern and sustainable ALDI store alone will represent a multi-million pound development investment in Walton and helps regeneration of part of a key regeneration area. The new ALDI is less than half the size of the approved Tesco unit and has a sales area of 1,254 sq and 102 free parking spaces. The new store will also create 40-50 new local jobs.

Walton and Frinton currently lack a major supermarket and many people have to travel to Clacton, Harwich and even Colchester to do their weekly shop. The proposed new ALDI will provide people with more discount shopping choice in an easily accessible location, making it easier to save on shopping and journey times.

ALDI Property Director, Adam Ward, said:

*"We have been keen to open a neighbourhood store in Walton for some time and are delighted to confirm our plans for an award-winning ALDI. We know many residents have to travel to do their weekly shopping, including to visit their nearest ALDI, and by opening our doors in Walton I hope will make it easier for people to shop and save and, of course, enjoy our award winning offer!"*

*We are aware of recent announcements regarding Tesco on the neighbouring site, although this has absolutely no bearing on us. Our neighbourhood store is an entirely different offer and it has always been our intention to invest in Walton, regardless of whether or not there is another foodstore on the neighbouring site.*

*People may be aware of our own commitment to investing in the UK in the next few years. In Tendring alone, people will have seen how quickly we built our Clacton store, which I hope gives certainty about our commitment to investing in Walton and delivering this exciting scheme*



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Stephen Sibley of Martello Land & Properties Ltd. commented:

*"ALDI's confirmation they are coming to Walton is excellent. After the recent Tesco news, we have been contacted by a number of local people who are understandably interested and concerned about future investment in the town. ALDI are one of the UK's fastest growing retailers and the fact such a prestigious and award winning Company is committed to the site sends a clear message that Walton is open for business".*

ALDI now plan to distribute an information leaflet to around 4,000 local addresses to let people know about the plans and encourage them to share their views.

ALDI plan to submit a planning application to Tendring District Council next month and if there is public support for the proposed new Walton store, ALDI are committed to opening in 2016.

The new Walton store is part of ALDI's a nationwide investment, which will see ALDI more than double its employee numbers in the UK as it opens over 550 new stores between now and 2022. This includes plans to create at least one apprenticeship position per store, per year.

MP Real Estate acted for Aldi.

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### **For more information, please contact:**

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