

REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

TO: BRIERFIELD AND REEDLEY COMMITTEE

DATE: 5 JANUARY 2016

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ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report any new environmental blight sites and provide updates on existing sites.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That members note the report.
- (2) That members report any new environmental blight sites to the Neighbourhood Services Manager for inclusion in future reports including a contact name and contact details with a brief description of the site and problem.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To deal with environmental blight in the area.

ISSUE

1. The definition of environmental blight is:
 - Untidy/derelict piece of Council land requiring tidying up.
 - Untidy/derelict piece of unregistered land requiring tidying up.
 - Untidy/derelict piece of Council-owned or unregistered land which needs a scheme to regenerate the site (eg a former garage colony converted to a landscaped parking area).

Private pieces of land requiring tidying are best not dealt with under environmental blight as they may require enforcement. These should be reported to Planning and Building Control to be included on the Problem Buildings list for Section 215 enforcement if the problem is persistent.

2. Any new sites should be reported to Tricia Wilson or Peter Atkinson including a contact name and contact details, exact location and a brief description of the site and the problem.

3. Plans and photographs of the sites will only be included for new sites unless clarification is needed.
4. Please see table below.

Site	Owner	Issue	Area Committee Resolution	Current Position
i) Area to the rear of the police station on Colne Road, Brierfield	Mostly unregistered, partly privately owned	Overgrown with weeds and looks untidy	Most of the site is unregistered and therefore it is unclear who is responsible for the site. However, it was agreed that as work had been done on this site in the past without challenge it could be done again	A meeting was arranged with the Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator and members of the Committee in June. A report was submitted at the July meeting with options for improvements Following the site visit, funding was obtained for repairs to the wall and pavement and for provision of a bin enclosure to improve the appearance of this site as well as removal of trees, bushes and shrubs. This work has been completed. Proposed further improvements are being investigated
ii) Derelict land adjacent to 27 Railway Street, Brierfield	Unregistered	Site is derelict and overgrown	Discussions have taken place with the Friends of Brierfield Station Group with a view to the group taking over the maintenance of this derelict land. However, the Friends of Brierfield Station Group informed the Anti-social Behaviour Coordinator that they did not want to take on any extra maintenance	The Anti-social Behaviour Coordinator was working with local arts group "In-Situ" on a possible scheme for this site but it is difficult as long-term maintenance needs to be considered The Economic Development Team is trying to incorporate the site into the links to the Brierfield Mill works

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising directly from the report.

Financial: No new financial implications arise from this report. Any action proposed that has additional financial implications would be the subject of a further report. There is no specific allocation for environmental blight sites.

Legal: None arising directly from the report.

Risk Management: None arising directly from the report.

Health and Safety: These issues will be considered when the schemes are progressed.

Sustainability: This will be considered for each individual scheme. Long-term maintenance may be an issue.

Community Safety: This will be considered for each individual scheme.

Equality and Diversity: This will be considered for each individual scheme.

APPENDICES

None.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.