

REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

TO: BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE

DATE: 7 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.
- (3) That members agree to remove item 4(i) from the list as it is on the Problem Buildings list and will be dealt with by Planning.

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) Garnett Street	Privately owned	The site is overgrown with weeds and has become an eyesore	This site has been on the Environmental Blight list before and was referred to Planning, which served a Section 215 Notice. The land was cleared at the time but has become overgrown once more	Planning permission has recently been approved. The site has been put on the Problem Building list and will be dealt with by Planning
ii) Garage site at the junction of Nora Street and Higher Causeway	Privately owned	The site is very overgrown with trees and shrubs overhanging the footway	To write to the owner asking them to cut back the trees and shrubs	The site is privately owned. The Neighbourhood Services Project Coordinator has recently written to the owner asking them to cut back the trees and shrubs

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising directly from the report.

Financial: No new financial implications arise from the recommendations in this 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.