

**REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER**

**TO: COLNE AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 6 OCTOBER 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 note the new site at item 4(i).

### **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) Land off Varley Street, adjacent to NR Engineering	Unregistered	The strip of land is maintained by some residents but not by others and can look messy	The site was put forward by Cllr Jonathan Nixon	It was agreed that the site should be planted up using money from the Horsfield Environmental Improvement Fund from the Colne and District Area Committee Capital Programme. The cost is £1,500 to plant up the site and to weed-kill. The site would then be added to the Problem Sites list and be regularly maintained by the EAG. However, this would only be bare minimum maintenance. The Project Coordinator is looking into the cost for the gardener who will be planting up the site to continue to maintain the site on a regular basis. If the cost is low enough it can come from the Problem Sites budget. The site has been weed-killed ready for planting in the Autumn

## 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.