

REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

TO: BARROWFORD AND WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE

DATE: 30 MARCH 2017

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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 agreed to remove item 4(a) from the list as it has been referred to United Utilities.

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
a) Electricity Sub-station close to Booths Supermarket	United Utilities	Overgrown with weeds	This site was put forward by the Area Committee on 31/3/2016	The sub-station was referred to Environmental Services, which reported the issue to United Utilities
b) Piece of land at the bottom of John Street	Part of the land belongs to E H Booth & Co Limited	Site is overgrown and looks messy	Could we work with Booths to make the site look tidier?	A site visit was arranged with members where it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Services' Project Coordinator would contact Booths as there was uncertainty about how far Booths' land extended. The Project Coordinator visited Booths store and asked the manager about the land but he was not aware of the situation and said he would send an e-mail to their Estates Department. However, they did not get back to us. In the meantime the Project Coordinator did a new Land Registry search and looked at plans from the Planning Portal following advice from the Planning Department. This established that the land in question was included in the landscaping scheme. Planning will now establish if this has been carried out as per the plan and if not will ensure this happens as soon as possible

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.