

REPORT FROM: STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

TO: EXECUTIVE

DATE: 22nd JUNE 2017

Report Author: Hywel Lebbon
Tel No: 01282 878939
E-mail: hywellebbon@liberata.com

LAND AT ALGAR STREET, NELSON

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request the Executive to consider a request to use the land shown edged black as a community garden.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive considers a request from AGE UK to use the land to create a Community Garden.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The proposal from AGE UK would result in a benefit to the area and an overgrown area being maintained.

BACKGROUND

1. The land is a garage site with three plots adjoining Walton Lane Community Centre which is occupied by AGE UK under a Management Agreement from the Council. Plot A is occupied on a tenancy with a garage built on it, the other plots do not have garages on them and have been vacant since early 2016, but remainder of the land is unused and overgrown.
2. AGE UK have requested to enter into a licence to use the land excluding the occupied garage plot for a Community garden, for their clients and local residents to grow and share produce through the support of local businesses and organisations. This would be subject to them being able to obtain funding to carry out the work, support from volunteers and businesses to maintain the garden and Planning Permission for change of use. They have requested that the licence be at no cost to them as they are bringing an area of land into use to benefit the local area.

ISSUE

3. The land is currently unused and acceptance of the proposal, subject to AGE UK obtaining

Planning Permission would result in it being brought into use and maintained. If the proposal is accepted it is proposed that AGE UK be initially granted a short term licence.

4. The Councils Planning Section advises that the land does not have any specific planning designation, but as it is within a densely populated area they would not support residential or commercial development of the land, but would support the type of use proposed by AGE UK.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: No policy implications are considered to arise from this report.

Financial: A reduced liability for the Council, but no income would be received if the request was granted.

Legal: No legal implications are considered to arise directly from this report.

Risk Management: On occupation of the land the risks and liabilities will be reduced for the Council

Health and Safety: See Risk Management

Climate Change: No implications are considered to arise directly from this report

Community Safety: Occupation of the land will reduce the risks of trespass and fly tipping and bring it into use.

Equality and Diversity: No implications are considered to arise directly from this report

APPENDICES

Location plan

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None