

REPORT OF: HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

TO: BRIERFIELD AND REEDLEY COMMITTEE

DATE: 3RD JULY, 2018

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PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTION ARISING FROM BRIERFIELD & REEDLEY COMMITTEE ON 5TH JUNE, 2018

1. Public Question Time

A local resident reported that a car washing business had been operating on Commercial Street, Brierfield. Power washing was carried out against the back gates of number 20 upwards which caused water and spray to enter the yards. There had been up to 12 vehicles at a time blocking the alleyway.

The resident stated that the situation had been assessed by the Council's Planning Enforcement Officer and it was understood that legal proceedings were pending. A progress update was requested.

It was agreed that the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager and/or the Head of Legal Services be requested to submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee providing an update on proceedings.

To be considered at agenda item 7(a).

2. Community Safety Issues and Police Matters

(1) A resident of Heyhead Street, Brierfield reported problems with joyriders, gatherings of youths and suspected drug related activity in the local area. It was stated that, on a recent occasion the criminal activity and anti-social behaviour had stopped when the police arrived which meant that, due to limited powers, the youths could not be moved on. This was a cause for concern. (2) Residents from the Massey Street area of Brierfield also attended to repeat the concerns raised at the last meeting regarding serious anti-social behaviour issues in the vicinity of the play area and nearby streets.

As agreed at the last meeting, members of the Committee had met with the local police and a course of action had been agreed. Announcements had also been made at the mosque. However, it was reported that the problems had escalated since then.

Due to the age of the people involved safeguarding issues were also highlighted.

A discussion was held with regard to both these issues which included talks on dispersal orders; bodycams; the lack of police resources; and the prospect of setting up a taskforce.

As a result the Committee agreed to write to -

- Andrew Stephenson MP to request that he lobby Parliament for further police funding.
- All appropriate senior police officers to request that a taskforce be set up to tackle the anti-social behaviour problems in Brierfield.
- (3) A report was made of theft; damage; dumped rubbish; and evidence of drug use in the rear yard of the Burconel Centre, back Richard Street, Brierfield. It was unclear how people had gained access to the site, which was surrounded by an 8ft fence.

The concerns of the Committee have been raised with the MP, Police and Crime Commissioner and appropriate senior officers.

A recent Council visit to the exterior of the site has shown little evidence of anyone being able to get in, of any rubbish or of any break-ins.

PCSOs have previously dealt with some of the issues.

3. The following issues were raised by members of the Committee in public question time, therefore not recorded in the minutes, but included in the action sheet:

It was reported that the former Mansfield School Site and The Housing Pendle (Together Housing) site opposite (O'Hagan Court) were overgrown.

Members asked that Lancashire County Council and Together Housing be asked to tidy their respective sites.

Requests made.