

**REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER**

**TO: BRIERFIELD AND REEDLEY COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 3 JULY 2018**

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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 meet to discuss possible options if they agree to allocate funding from the Area Committee Capital Programme for capital schemes for the sites at items 4a and 4b.
- (4) If members do not support the option to fund capital schemes for the sites at items 4a and 4b, that these sites are removed from the Environmental Blight list.

### **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) Area to the rear of the police station on Colne Road, Brierfield	Mostly unregistered, partly privately owned	The site often looks untidy and neglected	Most of the site is unregistered and therefore it is unclear who is responsible for the site. However, it was agreed that as work had been done on this site in the past without challenge it could be done again	This site was included as a reserve project in the bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund The Heritage Lottery Fund bid was not successful the first time around but our Economic and Development Team resubmitted the bid in December 2017. Unfortunately, they recently heard that the bid the second time around was also unsuccessful It is evident that the site requires reasonable investment and ideas from the Town Council and the Area Committee for improvement
b) Derelict land adjacent to 27 Railway Street, Brierfield	Unregistered	Site is derelict and overgrown	No-one is responsible for regular maintenance of this land as it is unregistered and there is no budget for regular maintenance	We have tried numerous ad hoc clean-ups and art schemes on this site but nothing has been successful long term. As with the above site, it will require significant funding and ideas from the Town Council and Area Committee if it is to be improved in the future

## 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.