

REPORT FROM: HEAD OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

TO: WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE

DATE: 3 SEPTEMBER 2024

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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 consider whether to remove item 4(b) from the list as the issue has been dealt with.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) 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 (tricia.wilson@pendle.gov.uk) 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 for progress made on West Craven environmental blight sites.

Site	Owner	Issue	Area Committee Resolution	Current Position
a) West Close Road Lorry Park	Pendle Council	Site added to Environmental Blight list for monitoring purposes in January 2020	Site to be monitored due to fly-tipping	<p>Operational Services continues to monitor the site with regular inspections and clearance when necessary</p> <p>Burnley Recycling Centre was recently contacted, as advised by LCC Highways, to enquire about the possibility of erecting a fence at the Barnoldswick site to prevent fly-tipping. However, LCC has so far stated that as there is already a fence around the whole site it is unlikely that they would be willing to erect another fence around third-party land</p> <p>At the June meeting it was reported that the new drain installed by LCC at the corner of West Close Lorry Park was blocked and that fly-tipping continued at the lorry park outside the gates of the household waste recycling centre. Members asked that Operational Services requests permission to allow PBC to erect cameras and signage at the recycling centre overlooking the lorry park and to remove any fly-tipping when the site is re-opened each week</p> <p>Operational Services reported that cameras were installed on two occasions. Due to limited numbers, a camera has not been kept on site for long periods but on the days that the camera was on site, no incidents were recorded. Cameras have so far been installed on the 30.07.2024 and removed on 02.08.2024 with no evidence found and again on 05.08.2024 to 07.08.2024 with no evidence found. The dates coincide with the days when the site is closed</p> <p>Operational Services is in contact with LCC and arrangements are in place for HWRC staff to clear the fly-tipping outside the site. However, PBC enforcement staff have asked that the site supervisor leave any items that are fly-tipped in place so that they can search for evidence</p> <p>PBC officers have built a good relationship with the HWRC leads and they are working well together to address the past problems of fly-</p>

				<p>tipping here. The site is physically visited on Thursday and Friday every week, and officers have reported no fly-tipping issues on recent visits</p> <p>The Operational Services Manager raised the issue of flooding with the HWRC officers, and they have undertaken further investigation works and reported that they intend to undertake some remedial actions on the drainage in the near future</p>
b) Clayton Street, Barnoldswick	Pendle Council	New site added September 2023	To look into the possibility of replacing the fence at the back of the parking area at Clayton Street, Barnoldswick	<p>Fence completed in March 2024</p> <p>At the June meeting, members noted that there were two enquiries from residents of No 1 and No 3 into the possibility of purchasing the land behind their properties. Engineers to discuss this with PBC Property Services and Barnoldswick Town Council as owners of the land</p>

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising directly from the report.

Financial: No new financial implications arise from the recommendations in this report. There is no budget allocation specifically for environmental blight sites and therefore any financial implication needs to be met from existing resources.

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.