

REPORT FROM: HEAD OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

TO: NELSON, BRIERFIELD AND REEDLEY COMMITTEE

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BRUNSWICK STREET PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Members on the Brunswick Street public realm scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the report and follow-up.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To alleviate problems with parking and abandoned vehicles at Brunswick Street, Nelson.

ISSUE

1. At the September 2023 meeting it was reported that there were issues with parked cars and abandoned vehicles on the triangular piece of land off Brunswick Street, Nelson, adjacent to number 44.
2. The problem was referred to the Community Protection Coordinator who issued a Community Protection Warning to the garage owner. However, the problem continued.
3. In November, Engineering staff met with councillors on site to consider two options:

Option 1 – installation of bollards; and
Option 2 – installation of bow-top fencing along the edge of the triangular piece of land to prevent cars parking all over the site.
4. Members felt that more could be done to improve the site adjacent to number 44 and asked that we consider a larger scheme, perhaps including benches and planters and removing the car parking spaces.
5. Engineers met again with councillors on site in December 2023 to discuss a possible larger scheme, but they were happy with the suggestion of bow-top fencing around the whole of the

triangular piece of land with the car parking spaces fenced off. Funding for the bow-top fencing was approved from the area committee budget.

6. However, Engineers noticed that the larger site between Brunswick Street and Railway Street was included in Lancashire County Council's (LCCs) Safer, Greener, Healthier Streets (SGHS) scheme and asked if LCC could include the triangular piece of land within their overall scheme for the site. LCC agreed to this. The SGHS scheme is with funding from the Levelling Up Fund (LUF).
7. As LCC agreed to include the triangular piece of land within the overall proposals for the site, the bow-top fencing was put on hold at the end of the financial year (March 2024) and the funding for the bow-top fencing was removed from the area committee budget.
8. LCC put the SGHS designs online for public consultation mid-July. Engineers agreed to meet with councillors to discuss the proposals for the wider Railway Street/Brunswick Street site including the site adjacent to number 44. The site meeting was held on 1 August 2024.
9. This was after the site had been cleared of abandoned cars by the police following work done with our Community Protection Coordinator.
10. Councillors liked the SGHS proposals for the whole site. However, seeing as work is not due to start on the SGHS scheme until 2025 and there was clearly still an issue with cars parking all over the triangular piece of land adjacent to number 44, they agreed that they would like the bow-top fencing to be installed prior to the rest of the SGHS scheme going ahead.
11. Our Engineers will revise the bow-top fencing drawing to match the SGHS designs and will approach contractors for quotations as soon as possible. The area committee reinstated the funding for the bow-top fencing at the last meeting.
12. The four car parking spaces will be fenced off but there will be the option of opening these up at a later stage if the problem of abandoned vehicles is resolved in the future.
13. The SGHS scheme along with other SGHS schemes for Brierfield and Colne was available to view and comment on at a drop-in session at Nelson Library on 28 August 2024. The drawings can still be viewed here (comments can no longer be made): [Nelson, Pendle - Safer, Greener, Healthier Streets project - Lancashire County Council - Citizen Space](#)
14. At the site meeting, councillors asked about the car park adjacent to the garage. Councillors felt that the car park was not being used properly with cars parked haphazardly, blocking other cars in and sometimes blocking the road. They asked if we could investigate whether the garage is in breach of its lease agreement.
15. A request was made for cycle storage to be included on the Railway Street/Brunswick Street wider scheme, on behalf of a local Asian women's cycle group because residents struggled with storage space for bikes in/at their homes. Engineers have asked LCC if cycle storage could be included in the wider scheme.
16. Councillors also suggested that the nursery and/or Marsden Heights be approached to find out if they might help maintain the site once the SGHS improvements are finished. There may be the possibility of the school and/or nursery setting up projects for wildflower planting or to generally take an interest and local pride in the site which might help deter others from misusing the site in the future.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising from this report.

Financial: Funding for the bow-top fencing was approved at the last meeting from the Area Committee Budget. Funding for the wider SGHS scheme will come from LUF.

Legal: The land belongs to Pendle Council and so no permissions are required.

Risk Management: None arising from this report.

Health and Safety: The SGHS scheme will vastly improve the site and will make it feel safer for residents and for the Nursery.

Climate Change: None arising from this report.

Community Safety: Introducing bow-top fencing to the site will prevent cars parking on the site, which will improve safety for people accessing the site, especially parents and children attending the neighbouring Nursery.

Equality and Diversity: None arising from this report.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Proposal showing the Safer, Greener, Healthier Streets scheme by LCC.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS: None.

KEY

- Proposed White Road Markings
- Proposed Yellow Road Markings
- Proposed Buff Tactile Paving
- Proposed Red Tactile Paving
- Proposed Kerb
- Proposed Footway
- Proposed Trees
- Proposed Bench
- Proposed Sign
- Proposed Shelter
- Proposed Raised Table
- Existing Footway
- Existing Carriageway
- Existing Road Markings
- Existing Green Space
- Buildings
- Retail/Commercial Buildings
- Civic Buildings

DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

