

# Petitions Committee

11 September 2015

**Time** 10.00 am **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** n/a

**Venue** Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

## Membership

**Chair** Cllr Greg Brackenridge (Lab)

**Vice-chair** Cllr Val Evans (Lab)

### Labour

Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal

Cllr Judith Rowley

Cllr Daniel Warren

### Conservative

Cllr Arun Photay

Quorum for this meeting is two Councillors.

## Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

**Contact** Laura Gilyead

**Tel/Email** 01902 553219 or [laura.gilyead@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:laura.gilyead@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

**Address** Democratic Support, Civic Centre, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, St Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

# Agenda

## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

- 1            **Apologies for absence**
- 2            **Declarations of interest**
- 3            **Minutes of previous meeting** (Pages 3 - 4)  
[To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as a correct record.]
- 4            **Matters arising**  
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes.]
- 5            **Schedule of petitions** (Pages 5 - 10)  
[To review the outstanding petitions.]

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 6            **Curzon Street, Blakenhall - parking issues** (Pages 11 - 18)  
[To endorse a review of signage in the area.]
- 7            **Malins Road, Parkfield - parking issues** (Pages 19 - 32)  
[To endorse the proposed action in the area.]
- 8            **Composite update report of various petitions** (Pages 33 - 52)  
[To note the actions taken and endorse the proposals.]
- 9            **Petition for Removal of Park from Dukes Park Estate - Progress Update**  
(Pages 53 - 66)  
[To note the actions taken and agree a preferred outcome.]

# Petitions Committee

## Minutes - 26 June 2015

### Attendance

#### Members of the Petitions Committee

Cllr Greg Brackenridge (Chair)  
Cllr Val Evans (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr Daniel Warren

#### Councillors in attendance

Cllr Malcolm Gwinnett

#### Employees

Laura Gilyead  
Chris Jones  
Dave Millington  
Steve Woodward

Graduate Management Trainee  
Senior Development Officer  
Compliance Manager  
Head of Service Public Realm

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## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

The Chair thanked the previous chair and vice-chair for leading the Petitions Committee in the last municipal year.

1    **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal and Councillor Steve Evans in his capacity as Cabinet Member for City Economy.

2    **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3    **Minutes of previous meeting**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2015 be approved as a true record.

4    **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

5    **Schedule of outstanding petitions**

Resolved:

That the following petitions be closed:

1. Prosser Street Cul-de-Sac Parking
2. Closure of the Old Tree Nursery for Adults with Learning Disabilities
3. Various Issues from Householders Lanesfield mainly Mount Road

6    **Fencing off Woodcross open space**

Councillor Gwinnett apologised for this petition and explained that it had political motivation from Mr Tom Stokes. Cllr Gwinnett agreed with the information presented in the report and explained that negotiations were underway regarding Woodcross Nursing Home. Cllr Gwinnett explained that when this is presented to the Planning Committee, money from the section 106 funding will be sought to develop the open space at Woodcross. He explained that he had discussed this with residents who were happy with this way forward.

Steve Woodward, Head of Service, Public Realm, explained that the area is an open space not a park and the Council does not have the necessary funding to put fencing around the open space. He reported that fencing off the area would not guarantee a reduction in anti-social behaviour. The committee was made aware that if funding becomes available, the Council would consult with residents as to how to spend at the Woodcross open space.

Resolved:

1. That the decision by Public Realm not to extend the fencing around the perimeter of Woodcross open space be supported.
2. That concerned residents be advised to make contact with the Police and Wolverhampton's Anti-Social Behaviour Team to report any issues raised or identified on the Woodcross open space and, if appropriate, the Police and Wolverhampton's Anti-social Behaviour Team exercise their powers to obtain identities of, and disperse groups of, individuals that are causing nuisance or offending behaviour.

**Schedule of Petitions**

Agenda Item No: **5**

<b>Date Petition received</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>		<b>Petition No.</b>
25 October 2012	Blockage of Turning Circle at Dunkley Street		107-12
<b>Service Group</b>	<b>Area of City (Ward)</b>	<b>Councillors notified</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
Education and Enterprise	St Peter's	Councillors Bilson, Lawrence, Moran, T Singh	Gwyn James, 01902 555755
<b>Action Taken/Outcomes</b>			
<p>The Service Group has been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner attended the Committee on 15 February 2013.</p> <p>The Committee supported the actions proposed to provide a No Waiting at Any Time Restriction at Dunkley Street. The proposal would be considered by the Transportation and Highways Management Board and if approved the restrictions would be formally advertised.</p> <p>The proposed "No Waiting at any Time" restrictions were approved for statutory consultation on 19 March 2012 and consultation was currently programmed to commence on 27 June 2013.</p> <p>Following the consultation period objections had been received from the shopkeepers to the proposed lines. A meeting would be held with the Refuse Vehicle Operatives to talk through the turning heads.</p> <p>12.12.13 Meeting with refuse collection vehicle to be undertaken early January.</p> <p>18.03.14 Further consultation required with both the refuse collectors and the shop owners in the vicinity. Exploring the possible reduction of parking to allow for easier access to the site.</p> <p>An update report will be presented on 6 November 2015.</p>			

<b>Date Petition received</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>		<b>Petition No.</b>
15 July 2013	Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent		121-13
<b>Service Group</b>	<b>Area of City (Ward)</b>	<b>Councillors notified</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
Education and Enterprise	Bushbury South and Low Hill	Councillors Samuels, Bilson, O'Neill and Sweet	Jo Mason, 01902 552950
<b>Action Taken/Outcomes</b>			
<p>The Service Group has been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner attended the Committee on 18 October 2013.</p>			

The Committee agreed to adjourn consideration of the petition in order for consideration to be given to the wider issues raised including anti-social behaviour and enforcement of tenancy conditions.

The Committee revisited the petition at their next meeting on 22 November 2013 when both representatives from the Police and Wolverhampton Homes were in attendance to try to resolve the problems encountered.

21.03.14 The Committee supported the actions proposed for Wolverhampton Homes, the Police and the City Council in consultation with the Legal Officer to work together to draw up a protocol about encroachment of the highway and enforcement actions to be taken to address this with report back to the Committee on progress in September 2014.

12.12.14 The Committee was informed about a Public Space Protection Order which will be put in place on Broome Road.

An update report will be presented on 11 September 2015.

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
30 September 2014	Safety Barrier on Wobaston Road			133-14
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Education and Enterprise	Bushbury North	Councillors Bilson, Angus, Warren and Dehar	Ian Hipkiss, 01902 554241	
Action Taken/Outcomes				
<p>The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The lead petitioner attended the committee meeting on 24 October 2014.</p> <p>24.10.14 The committee supported the design of a bund at Wobaston Road. It was noted that the junction with Patshull Avenue would be controlled by signal controlled crossing.</p> <p>An update report will be presented on 6 November 2015.</p>				

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
17 October 2014	Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School			135-14
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Education and Enterprise	Spring Vale	Councillors Darke, Gwinnett, Kaur and Whitehouse	Tom Knott, 01902 551469	
Action Taken/Outcomes				
The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary				

investigations.

12.12.14 The Committee supported the undertaking of identified actions to mitigate the impact of the expansion on Manor Primary School and the local community.

An update report will be presented on 11 September 2015.

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
23 October 2014	Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road			136-14
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Education and Enterprise	Bushbury North	Councillors Bilson, Angus, Warren and Dehar	Gwyn James, 01902 555755	

**Action Taken/Outcomes**

The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.

12.12.14 The Committee supported the inclusion of a new pedestrian crossing facility in Rushall Road in future works programmes, should this type of facility be shown to be justified in accordance with the approved criteria.

An update report will be presented on 11 September 2015.

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
4 November 2014	Lollipop Person on Ettingshall Road			E14 – 14-15A
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Education and Enterprise	Spring Vale	Councillors Bilson, Gwinnett, Kaur and Whitehouse	Denise Eccleston, 01902 550301	

**Action Taken/Outcomes**

The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.

12.12.14 The Committee supported the action taken in regard to the School Crossing on Ettingshall Road at Foster Avenue.

An update report will be presented on 11 September 2015.

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
9 December 2014	Open Ground Rear of 36-62 Inkerman Street, Heath Town			138-14
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Education and Enterprise	Heath Town	Councillors Bilson, J Jaspal, M Jaspal, Siarkiewicz	Sangita Kaur, 01902 553362	

<b>Action Taken/Outcomes</b>
<p>The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The lead petitioner attended the committee meeting on 13 March 2015.</p> <p>13.03.15 The committee supported the on-going discussions regarding the improvements to the existing Multi Use Games Area on the Heath Town estate. They supported the inclusion of the ground to the rear of 36-62 Inkerman Street for redevelopment in the Heath Town Regeneration Project subject to the outcome of site surveys and further consultation.</p> <p>An update report will be presented on 6 November 2015.</p>

<b>Date Petition received</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>			<b>Petition No.</b>
30 January 2015	Remove the Park from Dukes Park Estate			140-15
<b>Service Group</b>	<b>Area of City (Ward)</b>	<b>Councillors notified</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	
Place	Bilston East	Councillors Samuels, Gibson, Simkins and Turner	Karen Samuels, 01902 551341	

<b>Action Taken/Outcomes</b>
<p>The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>24.04.15 The committee supported the recommendations in the report and asked that test purchasing be carried out at the local off-licences. They asked that the park be cleaned including removal of graffiti and a plan be developed for a multi-agency working group with residents.</p> <p>An update report will be presented on 11 September 2015.</p>

<b>Date Petition received</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>			<b>Petition No.</b>
3 February 2015	Woodcross Park Extension of Railings			141-15
<b>Service Group</b>	<b>Area of City (Ward)</b>	<b>Councillors notified</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	
Place	Spring Vale	Councillors S Evans, Gwinnett, Kaur and Whitehouse	Steve Woodward, 01902 554260	

<b>Action Taken/Outcomes</b>
<p>The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>26.06.15 The committee supported the recommendation to not extend the fencing around the perimeter of Woodcross open space.</p> <p>It is recommended that this petition be closed.</p>

<b>Date Petition</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>	<b>Petition</b>
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received				No.
27 March 2015	Fair Stall Rents 2015			143-15
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Place	n/a	Councillor Reynolds	Chris Huddart, 01902 556788	
Action Taken/Outcomes				
The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.				
The lead petitioner has requested that this petition be put on hold.				

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
31 March 2015	Curzon Street Parking Issues			144-15
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Place	Blakenhall	Councillors Bilson, John Rowley, Judith Rowley and Bagri	Nick Broomhall, 01902 555723	
Action Taken/Outcomes				
The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.				
A report will be presented on 11 September 2015.				

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
31 March 2015	Parking restrictions relating to Malins Road and Greenly Road			145-15
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Place	Blakenhall	Councillors Bilson, John Rowley, Judith Rowley and Bagri	Nick Broomhall, 01902 555723	
Action Taken/Outcomes				
The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.				
A report will be presented on 11 September 2015.				

Date Petition received	Issue Raised			Petition No.
16 June 2015	Removal of Gym and Benches on Lincoln Green Island			146-15
Service Group	Area of City (Ward)	Councillors notified	Contact Officer	
Place	Bushbury North	Councillors Bilson, Angus, Warren and Dehar	Dave Millington, 01902 556104	
Action Taken/Outcomes				
The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.				

A report will be presented on 8 January 2016.

<b>Date Petition received</b>	<b>Issue Raised</b>		<b>Petition No.</b>
25 June 2015	Parking in Stanley Road Bushbury		147-15
<b>Service Group</b>	<b>Area of City (Ward)</b>	<b>Councillors notified</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
Place	Bushbury South and Low Hill	Councillors Bilson, O'Neill and Sweet	Nick Broomhall, 01902 555723
<b>Action Taken/Outcomes</b>			
The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.			
A report will be presented on 6 November 2016.			

# Petitions Committee

11 September 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Curzon Street, Blakenhall – parking issues	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Peter Bilson, City Assets	
<b>Wards affected</b>	Blakenhall	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Nick Edwards, City Assets	
<b>Originating service</b>	Transportation	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Gwyn James	Transportation Manager
	Tel	01902 555755
	Email	Gwyn.james@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	n/a	

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## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Committee is recommended to endorse a review of signage to the shoppers' car parks in the Blakenhall area.

## Recommendations for noting:

The Committee is asked to note:

1. The concerns of residents regarding parking problems in Curzon Street.
2. The historic lack of support for residents' parking schemes during previous consultations.
3. The intention not to undertake a consultation for a residents' parking scheme in Blakenhall at this time.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To consider a petition relating parking issues being experienced by residents of Curzon Street, Blakenhall, as detailed below.

## **2.0 Details of the petition**

- 2.1 In March 2015, a 45 signature petition was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council highlighting parking difficulties being experienced by residents of Curzon Street due to the parking demands associated with local businesses and community facilities.
- 2.2 The petition states that residents of Curzon Street are having difficulty parking their vehicles in front of their properties due to the parking demands of local businesses and community facilities. The petition suggests that the issues are as a result of the parking demands related to the redevelopment of Blakenhall Shopping Centre, the conversion of the former Vono unit to Pure Gym (located on Birmingham Road) and a dental surgery located at the corner of Curzon Street and Dudley Road.

## **3.0 Background**

- 3.1 Following receipt of the petition, officers from the Traffic and Road Safety section of the Council have investigated the residents' concerns and request for a residents' parking scheme and their findings are reported as follows:
- 3.2 Planning consent for the redevelopment of the Blakenhall Shopping Centre was approved at Planning Committee as part of the wider mixed use development of Blakenhall Gardens on 4 February 2011. The proposal redevelopment included two car parks accessed off Barcroft Road and Brodie Close with a total capacity of 97 spaces.
- 3.3 Planning consent for conversion of the former Vono Bed Centre to use as a gym was granted on 1 March 2012. The gym car park has a total capacity of 83 parking spaces.
- 3.4 Planning approval for conversion of the former residential dwelling at 158 Dudley Road to a dental surgery was granted on 22 May 1991. The dental practice has a small gated car park to the rear.
- 3.5 Historically, Curzon Street was a residential street linking Dudley Road with Birmingham Road; however, at some time in the past, access to and from Birmingham Road was stopped up to prevent through traffic. Consequently, Curzon Street is a no through road accessed from Dudley Street. The residential properties on Curzon Street are exclusively terraced properties with no off-street parking provision. Residents are therefore reliant upon on-street parking.
- 3.6 Curzon Street is situated in the heart of the busy commercial centre of Blakenhall, where parking demands are naturally high. The turning head at the Birmingham Road end of Curzon Street and the junction of Curzon Street/Dudley Road are protected by "No

Waiting at Any Time” traffic regulation orders to prevent inappropriate parking. There are no parking restrictions on the remainder of Curzon Street.

- 3.7 A major highway improvement scheme was implemented along the Dudley Road corridor in 2006, which addressed road safety concerns, traffic congestion issues, provided improved on-street parking facilities and enhanced the street scene.

#### **4.0 Residents’ parking scheme considerations**

- 4.1 The criteria for setting up and administering residents’ parking schemes were approved by Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 4 November 2008. The report set out the following criteria for introduction of residents’ parking schemes:

- schemes should be cost neutral
- a standard annual charge of £40.00 per permit
- 60% of residences must respond to the consultation
- 85% of responders must be in favour of the proposals

- 4.2 In 2012, the Council invested significant resources in consulting with residents in 19 locations across the City where the streets were subject to extensive parking by shoppers, commuters or attendees of events, to ascertain whether they would support a residents’ parking scheme. The results from all 19 consultations fell well short of the criteria required to implement a scheme and showed that there was little support for residents’ parking schemes of this nature. It seems the main problem is that people are unwilling to pay the £40 annual fee.

- 4.3 In order to avoid further abortive consultation costs and having regard to on-going budgetary constraints, no further consultation exercises have been undertaken since 2012.

- 4.4 The requirement for residents’ parking schemes to be cost neutral and the substantial set up costs of such a scheme (including legal fees, advertising and employee time) mean that it would not be cost effective to consider the introduction of a residents’ parking scheme for Curzon Street in isolation. Any consultation would therefore have to include a number of streets in the Blakenhall area and would almost certainly give a negative result.

- 4.5 In view of the likely outcome of a consultation exercise and the abortive costs that would be incurred, it is not proposed to undertake such an exercise at this time.

- 4.6 It should be noted that any other form of parking restrictions in Curzon Street would be inappropriate as the restrictions would apply to residents as well as the general public.

#### **5.0 Shoppers’ car parks**

- 5.1 The Blakenhall Shopping Centre car parks are accessed off Barcroft Road and Brodie Close and are not visible from Dudley Road. A review of signage in the locality has

revealed that there may be an opportunity to increase the use of these car parks by introducing additional signage to the car parks from Dudley Road. This might help to reduce the level of on-street parking in Curzon Street.

- 5.2 It is therefore proposed that the Traffic and Road Safety team will conduct a full review and commission new signage as soon as resources allow.

## **6.0 Financial implications**

- 6.1 There are no immediate financial implications to this report. Any possible signage improvements would be funded from the Transportation Capital Programme.

[JB/28082015/H]

## **7.0 Legal implications**

- 7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

[RB/28082015/O]

## **8.0 Equalities implications**

- 8.1 This report has no equalities implications.

## **9.0 Environmental implications**

- 9.1 This report has no environmental implications.

## **10.0 Human resources implications**

- 10.1 This report has no human resources implications.

## **11.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 11.1 This report has no corporate landlord implications.

## **12.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 12.1 None

Received:  
31 March 2015

**Wolverhampton**  
City Council



**PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	144-15
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Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee, please refer to the guidance leaflet **Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme and the Guidance Notes at the back of this form.**

<b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
GURMEJ SINGH and <del>JASDEV</del> SINGH
<b>2. PETITION TITLE</b>
CURZON STREET PARKING ISSUES
<b>3. PETITION TEXT</b>
Those cars of nat Curzon St residents should be fined
<b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b>
NO ACTION TAKEN BEFORE PETITION
<b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>
Most residents of Curzon St are having to face parking issues due to the recently opened shops, Supermarkets and gym at rear.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)	
Name	GUJANET SINGH
Address	2 CURZON STREET W-TON BLAKENHALL WV2 3DT
Telephone nos.	Home: Mobile
E-mail address	gjs1969@gmail.com
No. of petition signatures	45
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
Signature ... Date ..30/3/15.....	
Completed forms should be returned to— Democratic Support Section Delivery Directorate Wolverhampton City Council St Peter's Square Wolverhampton WV1 1SH  Email: democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk Tel: 01902 550181	



## PUBLIC PETITION

(NOTE: In accordance with the Petitions Scheme, the petition will be published on the City Council's Website. Names and addresses will be included, but signatures will be removed)

### PETITION TEXT

(Please state clearly and concisely what action you want the Council to take. Submit additional sheets as required)

We would like the council to sort out this parking issue which most Curzon Street Residents have to face by either :

- \* Putting "residential ~~area~~ parking ~~area~~ only" Those cars parked that do not belong to the residents of Curzon St should be fined.
- \* Or all the residents of Curzon St should be given parking badges to display whilst parked those cars without these badges should be fined.

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# Petitions Committee

11 September 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Malins Road, Parkfield – parking issues	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Peter Bilson, City Assets	
<b>Wards affected</b>	Blakenhall	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Nick Edwards, City Assets	
<b>Originating service</b>	Transportation	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Gwyn James	Transportation Manager
	Tel	01902 555755
	Email	Gwyn.james@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	n/a	

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## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Committee is recommended to

1. Endorse the proposed action to proceed to formal advertising of parking restrictions in Malins Road.
2. Endorse the proposed action to review the access arrangements for St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy if and when the former Parkfield High School site becomes available for disposal.

## Recommendations for noting:

The Committee is asked to note

1. The comments provided in response to the various issues raised by the petitioners.
2. The actions taken since receipt of the petition.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To report the receipt of a petition raising a number of issues relating to Malins Road, Parkfield, as detailed below.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 In April 2015, an informal consultation exercise was undertaken to seek the views of residents on proposed waiting restrictions in Malins Road and Greenly Road. The waiting restrictions were proposed in response to concerns raised by the head teacher of St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy regarding the safety of children on their way to and from school and the manner in which parents park their vehicles in the narrow cul-de-sac where the school is located.
- 2.2 In response to the consultation letter a 64 signature petition was received, objecting to the proposed waiting restrictions and demanding changes to the school access arrangements or relocation/closure of the school.

## **3.0 Details of the petition**

- 3.1 The key points of the petition are:
1. Objection to the proposed parking restrictions in Malins Road and Greenly Road.
  2. That the main entrance for St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy should be relocated to the old Parkfield High School site situated off Wolverhampton Road East, or
  3. That the school should be relocated, or
  4. That the school should be closed due to the inconvenience to residents and the unsuitability of the narrow road.
- 3.2 Following receipt of the petition, employees from relevant sections of the Council have investigated the key points raised and their findings/actions are reported as follows.
- 3.3 The school entrance off Malins Road is the only vehicle access to the school and is also the main pedestrian access. There is an alternative pedestrian access at the rear of the school but it is via an unsurfaced track that is in poor condition and is privately owned, with no formal public right of way so its use cannot be guaranteed.
- 3.4 The parking restrictions that have been proposed for Malins Road and Greenly Road have been drawn up in response to on-going concerns from the head teacher of the school about the safety of children on their journey to and from school. At present there are no parking restrictions in Malins Road other than the school zigzag markings outside the school entrance at the head of the cul-de-sac. A large number of vehicles park in Malins Road at the beginning and end of the school day and due to the narrow width of the road most vehicles park half on and half off the pavement, often blocking the footpath completely and forcing parents/carers and children to walk in the road. Complaints have

also been received from residents about the way in which parents park and the persistent blocking of driveways.

- 3.5 The proposed waiting restrictions in Malins Road, as shown on the plan at Appendix A, have been designed to keep one side of the road completely clear of parked vehicles thus enabling pedestrians to walk safely along the pavement free from obstruction. The proposed restrictions would also help prevent cars from blocking driveways. The restrictions would be timed to coincide with school start and finish times (8.00 am – 9.30 am and 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm) allowing residents to park overnight or during the middle part of the day.
- 3.6 All households along Malins Road have access to their own off road parking. A length of Malins Road will also remain available for parking of vehicles at any time, on one side only.
- 3.7 Vehicles regularly park at the junction of Malins Road and Greenly Road, obstructing visibility. The proposed waiting restrictions at this location would be double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) and would help maintain visibility at the junction.
- 3.8 The possibility of providing an alternative access to St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy through the old Parkfield High School site has been explored. The site has recently been leased to a newly established Free School, The Sikh School, for the forthcoming academic year 2015/16. The school will initially be at this site for one academic year although this may be extended whilst the school makes arrangements to move to its permanent site. It is not possible to pursue an alternative access while The Sikh School is occupying the site.
- 3.9 There are currently no firm plans for the long term use of the former Parkfield High School site. Any new access to St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy through this site would result in a significant land take and consequent reduction in the value of the site if it were to be sold off. Construction of a new access road would also be a substantial cost and currently no budget is available for this work to take place. However there may be an opportunity to revisit the provision of alternative access arrangements for St Teresa's as part of any proposed future development, if and when the site is declared surplus to requirements
- 3.10 St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy recently converted to become an academy. This means that the school is outside the control of the Council. Any decision to relocate or close the school is not one which the Council is able to make. If the academy were to propose closure the Council, which has responsibility for the provision of school places, would be likely to object due to the current pressures on school places across the City.
- 3.11 A proposal has been put to the school to convert part of its playground into a pick up/drop off point for parents and carers travelling by car. Unfortunately the Academy Trust that runs the school was unable to agree to this proposal due to the small size of the playground and safety concerns about managing traffic within the school grounds.

#### **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 There are no immediate financial implications to this report. Any provision of future Traffic Regulation Orders would be met from existing transportation budgets subject to Cabinet approval.

[JB/28082015/H]

#### **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 The Council, as a local traffic authority under the Traffic Management Act 2004, has general duties to manage the road network, otherwise there are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

[RB/28082015/P]

#### **6.0 Equalities implications**

- 6.1 This report has no equalities implications.

#### **7.0 Environmental implications**

- 7.1 This report has no environmental implications.

#### **8.0 Human resources implications**

- 8.1 This report has no human resources implications.

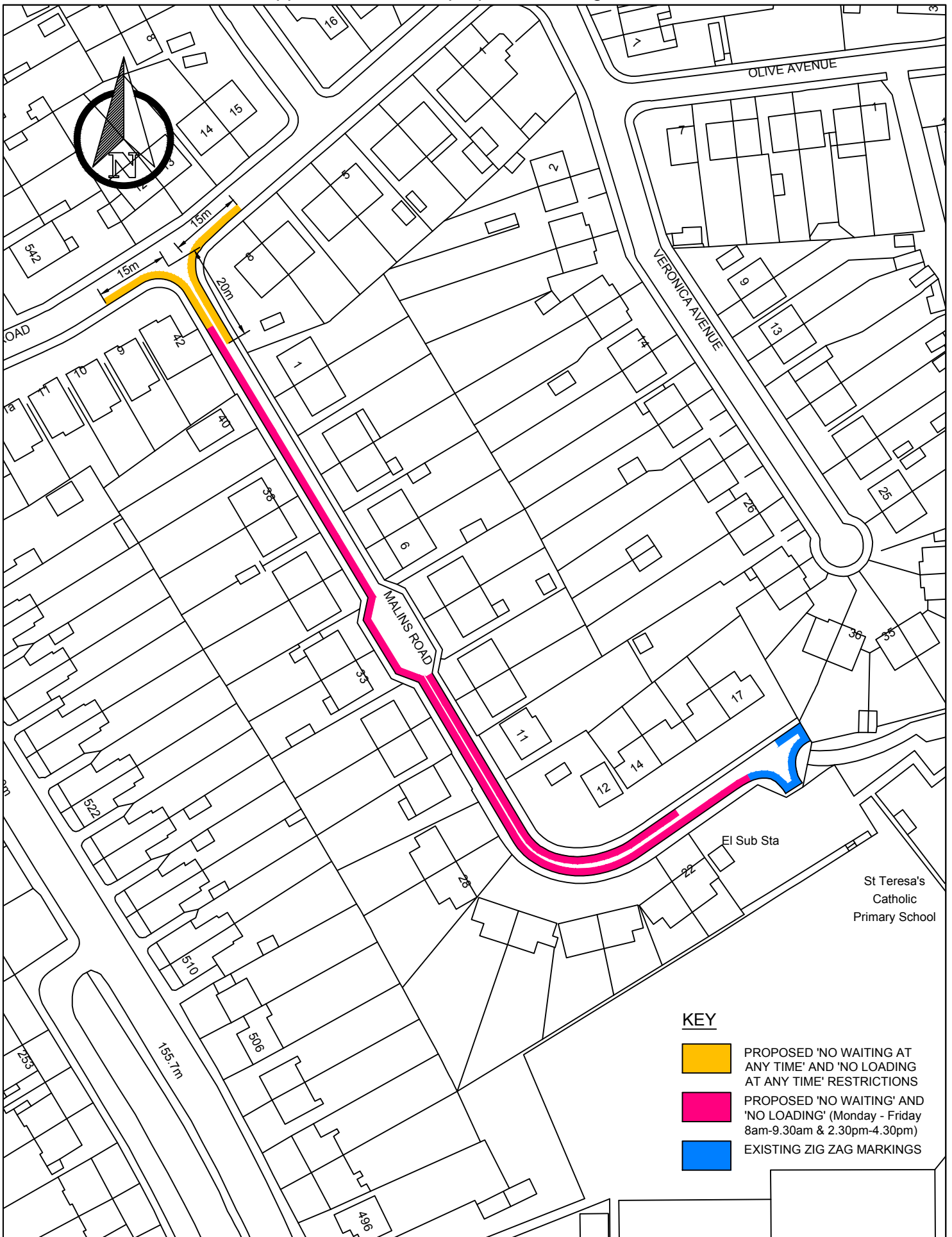
#### **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 9.1 There are no immediate corporate landlord issues. Any future proposal to create a new access to St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy might have corporate landlord implications that would have to be considered at the time.

#### **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 10.1 None.

Appendix A: Plan of proposed waiting restrictions



**KEY**

- PROPOSED 'NO WAITING AT ANY TIME' AND 'NO LOADING AT ANY TIME' RESTRICTIONS
- PROPOSED 'NO WAITING' AND 'NO LOADING' (Monday - Friday 8am-9.30am & 2.30pm-4.30pm)
- EXISTING ZIG ZAG MARKINGS

Wolverhampton City Council  
 Regeneration & Environment,  
 Transportation Services,  
 Heantun House,  
 Salop Street,  
 Wolverhampton WV3 0SQ.

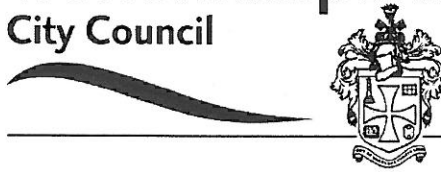
**Malins Road  
 Proposed Waiting Restrictions  
 Page 23**

Date 10/03/15  
 Scale 1:1000  
 Drwg. No. T4/M1

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# Wolverhampton City Council



## PUBLIC PETITION

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	145-15
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Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee, please refer to the guidance leaflet **Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme** and the **Guidance Notes** at the back of this form.

<b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
MR HARGINDER LAL MEHMI
<b>2. PETITION TITLE</b>
PARKING RESTRICTIONS RELATING TO MALINS ROAD AND GREENLY ROAD.
<b>3. PETITION TEXT</b>
NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROPOSAL TO PLACE PARKING RESTRICTIONS AND RED AND YELLOW LINES ALONG MALINS ROAD AND GREENLY ROAD.
<b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b>
SPOKE TO MP PAT MCGADDEN, BUT STILL AWAITING RESPONSE SPOKE TO Cllr JOHN ROWLEY AND HARBANS SAGRI AND THEIR RESPONSE WAS TO ARRANGE A MEETING IN ST. TEREZAS SCHOOL. SPOKE TO PAUL LEVER AND REJECTED PROPOSAL WAS TO STILL GO AHEAD WITH PROPOSAL. WRITTEN TO BISHOP CLEARY TO LET HIM KNOW WHAT WE WERE DOING.
<b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>
PLEASE SEE ANNEX A ATTACHED.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)	
Name	MR H.L. MEITMI
Address	SCREENLY ROAD PARKFIELDS WOLVERHAMPTON WV11 6AL .
Telephone nos.	
E-mail address	
No. of petition signatures	64
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
YES	YES.
NO	
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
Signature	.....
Date	30/4/15.....
<p>Completed forms should be returned to—                      Democratic Support Section                      Delivery Directorate                      Wolverhampton City Council                      St Peter's Square                      Wolverhampton                      WV1 1SH</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk">democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>                      Tel: 01902 550181</p>	

## PUBLIC PETITION

(NOTE: In accordance with the Petitions Scheme, the petition will be published on the City Council's Website. Names and addresses will be included, but signatures will be removed)

### PETITION TEXT

- d)
- To relocate the entrance to St Teresa's School via alternative route. Therefore, closing the gate at Malins Road altogether and to be used for emergency vehicles only. Malins Road, as you know, is far too narrow to service a school and is totally unsuitable for regular amounts of vehicular traffic. **(The old Parkfield school would be an ideal solution as parents can park there and take a short walk to St Teresa's school across the field. This would have excellent safety for the children and vehicles and would not cause a public nuisance and liability); or**
  - To Relocate the school; or
  - To close the school altogether due to inconvenience to residents and the unsuitability of the narrow road.

These are the demands from us the residents of Greenly Road and Malins Road.

## PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Wolverhampton City Council are proposing to place parking restrictions along the entire length of Malins Road and Greenly Road for the periods 8 am to 9.30 am and 2.30 to 4.30 Monday to Friday and to include painting yellow and red lines throughout most of Malins Road leading onto Greenly Road. The purpose of these lines according to the Council is to 'improve safety for pedestrians' and to 'help improve visibility for vehicles entering and exiting the narrow cul-de-sac'.

**Permitting the council to carry out this work will have a severe and detrimental impact in our area.** Some of the major issues we believe will be encountered are as follows:

- It will cause major parking problems for residents, their visitors and any others who attend on business e.g. builders, plumbers, electricians, delivery vans or engineers etc.
- We have a community of elderly people who require home help from health care workers. These health care workers work hard enough without having to have the extra stress of finding another street to park in to see their clients and possibly having to carry equipment for their work. Carers will also not be able to park outside homes where their clients are wheelchair bound and therefore there will be a loss of quality of life for clients as they would be unable to go outside the home.
- If people are not able to park in Malins Road they will park in Greenly Road and or in Beaconsfield Avenue thus causing further problems for residents in Greenly Road and Beaconsfield Road. Greenly Road already has problems with parking when children are going to and from St Teresa's Primary School. Cars are parked across driveways which cause a nuisance for the residents.
- 'Pedestrian safety' is not an issue as the Council states as there are pavements either side of the road and parents and children would stay on one side of the road or the other without the need to cross the road at all whilst travelling through this area.

- Evidence also shows that there have been no accidents in these roads involving pedestrians or for that matter vehicles. Therefore there is no requirement for traffic management in these two roads.
- Research shows that in Holland when traffic management was removed in towns, traffic flow was actually safer as cars and pedestrians had to take more care as no one had a right of way. Care had to be taken when pulling out into a road or crossing the street and this meant accidents were reduced to virtually nil. This demonstrates we need less traffic management not more!
- If this plan goes ahead, the local authority will not be able to effectively police the red and yellow lines as at the moment people ignore the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school. They continue to park in the turning circle causing chaos and there is no patrol to move them on or fine them. I have been made aware by Paul Lever and Councillor Rowley that the authorities do not have the resources to patrol the area on a regular basis – so what is the point of the red and yellow lines? It only penalises and causes further stress for the residents!
- Our homes will lose their value and visitors will not be able to park outside our houses; therefore making it difficult to sell our property at its true market value. Buyers want access to parking when considering a house purchase!

I have been informed by some residents of Malins Road that it was initially promised by the Council before the school was built, that Malins Road would not be used to service the school. Now it is evident that this promise has not been kept! Therefore the council should return to their original plan and give the school access from another route and not make the residents suffer.

I have spoken to the highways department and expressed my concerns regarding this proposal. I have told them that I am strongly against this proposal as it is going to have a serious detrimental impact on the neighbourhood. I have asked the Council to reconsider giving the school access via the back of the old Parkfields School. There is adequate parking and easy access can be gained from there to enter St Teresa's Primary School.

Mr Lever  
Heantun House  
Salop Street  
Wolverhampton  
WV3 0SQ

MP Pat McFadden  
Crescent House  
Broad Street  
Bilston  
WV14 0BZ

Councillor Harbans  
Bagri  
49 Rosemary  
Crescent West  
Goldthorn Park  
WV4 5AP

Councillor John  
Rowley  
28 Dudley Walk  
Goldthorn Park  
WV4 5HD

Dear Mr Lever, Mr Pat McFadden, Councillor Harbans Bagri and Councillor John Rowley,

This petition is in response to your letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015 regarding your proposal to place parking restrictions and red and yellow lines along Malins Road and leading onto Greenly Road. We the residents of Malins Road and Greenly Road have signed this petition as we strongly reject your proposal. It has been brought to our attention that before the school was built it was clearly stated by your department to all residence of Greenly Road and Malins Road that Malins Road was not going to be used for the service route to St Teresa's School. However after the school was built your department failed to keep its promise. We the residents have now had enough and state one of the following demands to be put in force.

- To relocate the entrance to St Teresa's School via alternative route. Therefore, closing the gate at Malins Road altogether and to be used for emergency vehicles only. Malins Road, as you know, is far too narrow to service a school and is totally unsuitable for regular amounts of vehicular traffic. **(The old Parkfield school would be an ideal solution as parents can park there and take a short walk to St Teresa's school across the field. This would have excellent safety for the children and vehicles and would not cause a public nuisance and liability); or**
- To Relocate the school; or
- To close the school altogether due to inconvenience to residents and the unsuitability of the narrow road.

These are the demands from us the residents of Greenly Road and Malins Road.

To

The city council of Wolverhampton

Proposed waiting restrictions Malins road&greenly road

We the residents of above area oppose the council;s point of view considering the waiting restrictions on the malins road .we strongly recommend to the council the access to the SCHOOL should be given via the back of old parkfields school this was real plan when school was built.we are sending a copy to mr paul lever (transport department

2\_pat MCFADDEN

3 JOHN ROWLEY

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# Petitions Committee

11 September 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Composite update report of various petitions	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Peter Bilson City Assets  Councillor Claire Darke Education  Councillor Sandra Samuels Public Health and Wellbeing	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Nick Edwards, City Assets  Julien Kramer, Education  Ros Jervis, Public Health and Wellbeing	
<b>Originating service</b>	City Assets  Education  Public Health	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Laura Gilyead Tel Email	Graduate Management Trainee 01902 553219 Laura.gilyead@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	n/a	

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## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Committee is recommended to note the actions taken regarding the following petitions and endorse any proposals.

- Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent petition
- Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School petition
- Lollipop Person on Ettingshall Road petition
- Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road petition

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report gives an update on various petitions which have been submitted to the Council. These petitions have been presented to the Petitions Committee previously where an update report was requested.
- 1.2 This report updates the Committee on the following petitions:

Petition title	Dates previously presented	Lead Employee
Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent	18 October 2013 22 November 2013 21 March 2014 12 December 2014	Joanne Mason, Manager – Wolverhampton Anti-Social Behaviour Team
Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School	12 December 2014	Tom Knott, School Organisation Manager
Lollipop Person on Ettingshall Road	12 December 2014	Denise Eccleston, Parking Services Manager
Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road	12 December 2014	Gwyn James, Transportation Manager

## 2.0 Progress

### 2.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent

#### Background

- 2.1.1 In July 2013, a 55 signature petition was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council by Hawksford Crescent Tenants and Residents Association. This petition was subject to hearings and discussions at Petitions Committee on 18 October 2013, 22 November 2013, 21 March 2014 and 12 December 2014. The recommendation from these meetings was that Wolverhampton Homes, the Police and the City Council work together to try and provide a solution to the problems.
- 2.1.2 At the Committee hearing on 12 December 2014, the Anti-Social Behaviour Team Leader briefed Councillors on new legislation that had come into force on 20 October 2014 – the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ('the Act'). Section 59 of the Act gives councils the power to make Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) which are intended to deal with anti-social behaviour and nuisance in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area. At the meeting, Councillors resolved that employees should explore the feasibility of introducing a PSPO in Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent.
- 2.1.3 It is felt that the PSPO will help to address the residents' concerns about road safety in Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent as outlined in their petition. The PSPO will also address the associated anti-social behaviour and nuisance that has been evidenced by

officers from Wolverhampton Anti-social Behaviour Team over a 12 month period that includes fly tipping, littering and uncontrolled dogs.

- 2.1.4 Furthermore, it is felt that a PSPO will be effective as immediate fixed penalty notices can be issued to those breaching the terms of the order. The level of penalty was agreed at £80 by Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 30 June 2015. This penalty is in line with what it is expected other neighbouring authorities will set in due course. Until now, such expedient action has not been possible in such situations using any previous legislation.

### **Consultation**

- 2.1.5 Before making a PSPO, councils must consult with the local police. Formal consultation with West Midlands Police on this matter was held on 10 March 2015.
- 2.1.6 The Act also stipulates that councils must consult with the local community on any proposed PSPO. Officers from the Anti-social Behaviour Team have spent much time consulting with residents explaining the reason why a PSPO was being considered and explaining how it would affect them.
- 2.1.7 During the consultation, 500 letters were hand-delivered to the houses within the proposed zone. Of the people spoken to who live in Broome Road/the lower end of Hawksford Crescent, only two of those residents from a traveller background said they were against the proposed PSPO. Whilst some residents were ambivalent, many others from a traveller background said they were in favour of a PSPO to address the nuisance associated with repeat unauthorised encampments.
- 2.1.8 Furthermore, following advice from Legal Services, the Gypsy Council was written to explaining why the PSPO was being proposed. All residents were supplied with written contact details for the Gypsy Council but, to date, there has been no response or challenge.

### **Progress**

- 2.1.9 Consequently, on 20 July 2015 an Individual Executive Decision Notice was signed by Councillor Sandra Samuels, Cabinet Member for Well Being, and Linda Sanders, Strategic Director – People, authorising the PSPO.

- 2.1.10 The prohibitions of the PSPO are as follows:

“Everyone is prohibited from the following activities in any public area within the zone:

- A. Parking a caravan, or being in any caravan
- B. Fly-tipping or littering
- C. Allowing a dog belonging to you or your family to be outside of your control, or outside of your home without a lead.”

- 2.1.11 In order to avoid displacement, nearby streets will be included in the PSPO zone. A map outlining the PSPO zone can be found in Appendix 1.

2.1.12 Anyone who lives in or regularly works or visits the area can appeal a PSPO in the High Court within six weeks of issue (date of issue is 20 July 2015). The PSPO has been publicised locally through leafleting of every household. The six week period ended on 28 August 2015 and no legal challenges were made against the PSPO. Therefore, the PSPO came into force on 1 September 2015. The PSPO will remain in place for three years and can be renewed as necessary. Signage was erected in the affected area during week beginning 30 August 2015.

2.1.13 The management of the PSPO will rest with the Anti-social Behaviour Team in partnership with Environmental Health and West Midlands Police.

## 2.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School

2.2.1 On 12 December 2014, the Petitions Committee considered the petition received by the Council on 17 October 2014 entitled 'Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School'. The Petitions Committee resolved that the undertaking of the identified actions to mitigate the impact of the expansion on Manor Primary School and the local community be supported.

2.2.2 The table below provides a status update with regard to the aforementioned mitigation strategies.

Issue	Mitigation Strategy Status
<p>Parking issues and traffic congestion in the vicinity of the school</p>	<p>During the development of the expansion scheme, representatives from Education worked closely with representatives from Transportation to consider potential mitigation strategies.</p> <p>The capital investment scheme to support the School's expansion provides additional staff car parking, located to the rear of the school with access from the A4123 Birmingham New Road.</p> <p>In addition, step and sloped access is being provided to both sides of the school which should help to reduce congestion on the site and a further meeting is scheduled to assess the location of the controlled crossing point in light of the altered access points and to consider the feasibility of building the kerbs out to make the crossing point more visible to both pedestrians and vehicles.</p> <p>A £1.5 Million road improvement scheme has recently been announced which will improve pedestrian and cycle facilities in the vicinity of the school. Work will be undertaken to reduce traffic congestion and address road safety concerns at the A4123 Birmingham New Road/Shaw Road junction. Work will commence during the current financial year with completion anticipated by Summer 2016.</p> <p>Expanding schools are prioritised for visits from the Council's Parking</p>

	<p>Services Enforcement Vehicle; this year to date, seven Parking Controlled Notices have been served in Ettingshall Road on the school's 'Keep Clear' markings.</p>
<p>Road safety and the absence of a school crossing patrol</p>	<p>The School Crossing Patrol Service is a non-statutory function and responsibility for ensuring the safety of children travelling to and from school is a parental one. However, in the first instance and in response to concerns raised by parents and residents, the Council deployed a Civil Enforcement Officer to Ettingshall Road to provide School Crossing Patrol provision.</p> <p>An annual priority assessment regarding the provision of a School Crossing Patrol was carried out on Wednesday 13 May 2015. This assessment identified the site as a lower level priority according to road safety counts. However, as Manor Primary School is part of the Council's 2015 Primary School Expansion Programme it has been determined that it will be provided with its own Static Patrol with increased priority arrangements. As such, cover will be provided by a Mobile Patrol if the Static Officer is unable to work for any reason.</p> <p>The Council's Road Safety Team has undertaken a review to assess the potential need for traffic calming measures and speed restrictions. Ettingshall Road is a Local Distributor Road; as such, options for the introduction of traffic calming measures are restricted due to its importance within the road network. The Road Safety Team will continue to monitor this site as the School expands and if appropriate will seek to introduce further parking restrictions in areas where they are required.</p> <p>In addition, an aspiration to prioritise expanding schools for road safety education is being investigated by Council representatives.</p>
<p>A risk of compromising the quality of teaching and learning at the school and the resultant impact on standards</p>	<p>Manor Primary is an outstanding school, with excellent levels of attainment, which has Teaching School Status and as such it is well placed to respond effectively to the expansion scheme.</p> <p>On 9 October 2014, Wolverhampton's Schools' Forum agreed to the establishment of a Growth Fund to support the needs of pupils in expanding schools. The Growth Fund ensures that expanding schools receive an additional revenue funding allocation. To date all 2015 Reception places at Manor Primary School have been allocated and it is estimated that the School will benefit from an additional allocation of approximately £90,000 to support the needs of the additional pupils.</p>
<p>Pressure on existing school facilities and</p>	<p>The Service Manager for Capital and Assets has worked closely with architects and the School to develop a £3.7 Million capital investment scheme to ensure that the additional accommodation meets the needs of</p>

concerns relating to the practicality of delivering a scheme on the site	pupils and staff and to minimise disruption. The contractor (J Harper and Sons Limited) has commenced delivery of the scheme.
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### **2.3 Lollipop Person on Ettingshall Road**

2.3.1 The Council has consistently provided a School Crossing Patrol Warden to this site despite safety ratio counts still setting it as a low priority site – 66 of 100. As Manor Primary School is part of the primary school expansion programme, it will now be provided with its own static patrol with increased priority arrangements. This means that cover will be provided by a mobile patrol if the new static officer is off sick or unable to work for any reason.

### **2.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

2.4.1 Pedestrian and vehicle surveys have been undertaken on two occasions in order to assess the viability of a pedestrian crossing at this location. The second survey was commissioned because of concern that bad weather on the date of the original survey might have made the results unrepresentative, particularly in terms of pedestrian numbers.

2.4.2 Analysis of the results has shown that the location does not meet the Council's criteria for a formal pedestrian crossing (e.g. a zebra or puffin crossing).

2.4.3 After further discussion with ward councillors, officers have undertaken to investigate whether there might be other measures that could be introduced to make it easier and safer for residents to cross the road. Such measures might include additional signing, road markings, central refuge(s) or dropped kerbs. Any such measures will, if feasible, be introduced at the earliest possible opportunity.

### **3.0 Financial implications**

#### **3.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent**

3.1.1 Any costs associated with signage and replacement signage will be funded by Wolverhampton Homes.

3.1.2 It is expected that the cost of environmental clear-ups of domestic refuse will be reduced considerably as the unauthorised encampments are controlled and prevented. However, it is not possible to quantify this at this stage.

#### **3.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School**

3.2.1 The resources required for the expansion of the school buildings £3.7 million has been identified as part of the Primary School Expansion Programme. The on-going revenue cost implications of the expansion will be met from the City's Dedicated Schools Grant allocation.

### **3.3 Lollipop Person on Etingshall Road**

3.3.1 The cost of any measure put in place will be met from the approved School Crossing patrol budgets.

### **3.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

3.4.1 The cost of any measures put in place will be met by the Transportation Capital Programme.

[MH/02092015/K]

## **4.0 Legal implications**

### **4.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent**

4.1.1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") came into effect on 20 October 2014.

4.1.2 Section 59 of the Act gives local authorities the power to make PSPOs which are intended to deal with ASB and nuisance in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area.

4.1.3 As outlined in 2.7, before making a PSPO, councils must consult with the local police (section 72(3) and 72(4) of the Act). Formal consultation with West Midlands Police on this matter was held on 10 March 2015.

4.1.4 As outlined in 2.8 above, the Act also stipulates that councils must consult with the local community on any proposed PSPO. Extensive consultation has been carried out with residents in Broome Road, Hawksford Crescent and surrounding areas as well as Ward Councillors. The overwhelming majority of those spoken to are in favour of a PSPO in the affected area. The Gypsy Council has also been written to regarding the proposal but, to date, no response has been received. All Ward Councillors are in support of the proposal.

4.1.5 Anyone who lives in or regularly works or visits the area can appeal a PSPO in the High Court within six weeks of issue. As outlined in 2.14 above, the PSPO has been publicised locally. Signage will not be erected until after the six week 'challenge' period.

### **4.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School**

4.2.1 Under sections 13 and 14 of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Education Acts 2006 and 2011), a local education authority has a general statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available to meet the needs of the population in its area.

### **4.3 Lollipop Person on Etingshall Road**

4.3.1 There are no legal implications.

### **4.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

4.4.1 There are no legal implications.

[AS/28022015/W]

## **5.0 Equalities implications**

### **5.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent**

5.1.1 A full equalities' impact assessment has been carried out. There is no evidence to suggest that the proposal may be directly or indirectly discriminatory, although the PSPO may affect travelling families more than other people. Any impact upon a person with protected characteristics defined under the Equalities Act, in this case those with gypsy or traveller heritage, has been balanced with the impact upon the majority of residents, including settled traveller families, of the nuisance illegally parked caravans cause.

5.1.2 A great deal of effort has been afforded to work with the Council tenants of travelling family origin. Extra rear yard space was created behind six foot fences for several residents around fifteen years ago to accommodate visiting relatives of Council tenants; this is a unique provision. This provision will continue to exist outside of the remit of the PSPO.

5.1.3 The PSPO will affect travelling families who have no link to this area but who choose to use the residential street as a transit point. The PSPO will also affect any individual in respect of fly tipping and controlling dogs.

5.1.4 Consultation has been carried out in the affected area and the overwhelming majority of those spoken to, many of whom are from a traveller background, are in favour of a PSPO in the affected area.

5.1.5 The Gypsy Council has also been formally contacted but has not responded.

5.1.6 Monitoring will be carried out by visits to the area by ASB Team and Environmental Health staff and police officers.



- 5.1.7 Regular monitoring will be carried out in respect of fixed penalty notices issued for breach of order with further work on awareness raising carried out where possible.
- 5.1.8 The Council is required to assess the need for gypsy and traveller pitch provision within the city and a joint Black Country Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment was conducted in 2011. The results of the assessment were included within the Black Country Core Strategy. The Black Country Core Strategy identified a shortfall of 36 permanent gypsy and traveller pitches and recommended a transit site for the Black Country of 12-15 pitches.
- 5.1.9 Since 2011, a further three gypsy and traveller pitches have been provided and a further 14 have planning permission but have not yet been constructed. A location for a transit site has not been found but is subject to a review of the Black Country Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment during 2015.
- 5.1.10 Any additional impact upon gypsy and traveller families as a result of the PSPO will be included within the review of the Black Country Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

## **5.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School**

- 5.2.1 An initial screening has been completed with regard to the 2015 Primary School Expansion Programme.

## **5.3 Lollipop Person on Ettingshall Road**

- 5.3.1 There are no equality implications.

## **5.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

- 5.4.1 Any measures put in place would particularly benefit people with mobility issues.

## **6.0 Environmental implications**

### **6.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent**

- 6.1.1 Unauthorised encampments always result in considerable environmental damage, with domestic refuse, including discarded gas bottles, left on adjacent land. The PSPO will control unauthorised encampments and improve the local environment considerably, reducing the need of repeat clear-ups.

### **6.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School**

- 6.2.1 There are no environmental implications.

### **6.3 Lollipop Person on Ettingshall Road**

6.3.1 There are no environmental implications.

#### **6.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

6.4.1 There are no environmental implications.

#### **7.0 Human resources implications**

##### **7.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent**

7.1.1 There are no human resource implications.

##### **7.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School**

7.2.1 There are no human resource implications.

##### **7.3 Lollipop Person on Etingshall Road**

7.3.1 There are no human resource implications.

##### **7.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

7.4.1 There are no human resource implications.

#### **8.0 Corporate landlord implications**

##### **8.1 Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent**

8.1.1 There are no corporate landlord implications.

##### **8.2 Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School**

8.2.1 There are no corporate landlord implications.

##### **8.3 Lollipop Person on Etingshall Road**

8.3.1 There are no corporate landlord implications.

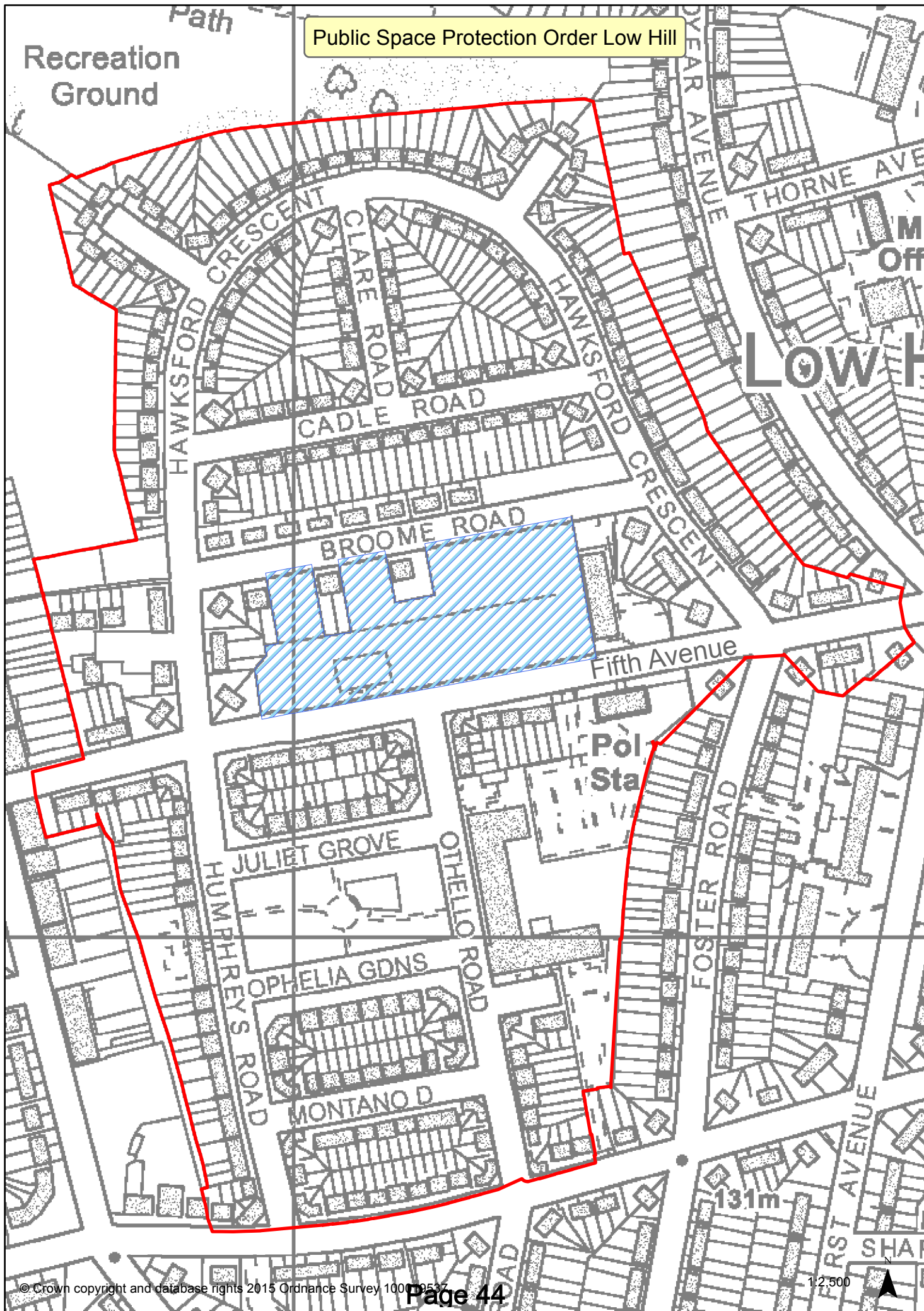
##### **8.4 Pedestrian Crossing on Rushall Road**

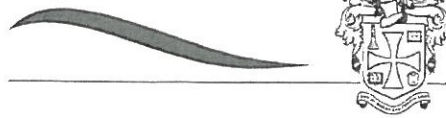
8.4.1 There are no corporate landlord implications.

#### **9.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 9.1 Petitions Committee, 22 November 2013, Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent – Road Safety Concerns
- 9.2 Petitions Committee, 21 March 2014, Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent – Road Safety Concerns
- 9.3 Petitions Committee, 12 December 2014, Update on work in response to petition against the parking of caravans and large vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent
- 9.4 Petitions Committee, 12 December 2015, Petition 135-14 – Opposing Increase in Standard Number at Manor Primary School
- 9.5 Petitions Committee, 12 December 2015, School Crossing Patrol – Ettingshall Road
- 9.6 Petitions Committee, 12 December 2015, Rushall Road, request for pedestrian crossing

Public Space Protection Order Low Hill





12 JUL 2013

**PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only)  
PUBLIC PETITION NO.

121113

Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet **Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme** and the **Guidance Notes** at the back of this form.

**1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER**  
(If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)

HAWKSFORD RESIDENTS & TENANTS ASSOC.

**2. PETITION TITLE**

PARKING OF CARAVANS + LARGE VANS PROHIBITION ORDER

**3. PETITION TEXT**

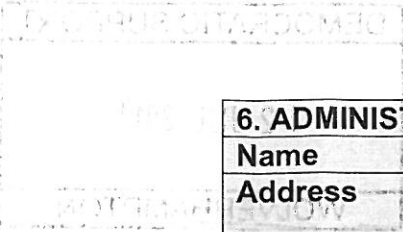
We, the undersigned, would like W. ton City Council to make a permanent Traffic Order during 2013 to Prohibit the Parking of Caravans and "Transit. Van" style Vehicles on Broome Rd + Hawksford Cres. low Hill W. ton. The Traffic Order will apply 24hrs a day, 365 days a year.

**4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION**

Over the last 25 plus years we have appealed on numerous occasions for help with this problem, as many can vouch, including Cllrs. We hope this will finally alleviate the problem.

**5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

We have asked for help from all depts. for over 25 years. Perhaps this will help us + save W. C. C. money. (A Map is enclosed)



<b>6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)</b>	
Name	MRS JANET KENNY
Address	73 HAWKSFORD CREES, WOLVERHAMPTON WV10 9SW
Telephone nos.	Home: Mobile:
E-mail address	
No. of petition signatures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
Signature .....	
Date 10th July 2013.	
<p>Completed forms should be returned to—          Democratic Support          Governance Services          Delivery Directorate          Wolverhampton City Council          St Peter's Square          Wolverhampton          WV1 1SH</p> <p>Email: liz.kiely@wolverhampton.gov.uk          Tel: 01902 555045          Fax: 01902 554006</p>	

**PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	135-14
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Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet **Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme and the Guidance Notes at the back of this form.**

<p><b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)</p> <p>David Coles Chair of Manor Primary</p>
<p><b>2. PETITION TITLE</b></p> <p>Opposing increase in standard number at Manor Primary</p>
<p><b>3. PETITION TEXT</b></p> <p>Petition reflects strength of feeling from parents and immediate community against the HA increasing standard number at Manor Primary</p>
<p><b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b></p> <p>HA attended governors meetings. HA going through consultation process. Parents requested governors organise petition that will reflect strength of feeling in community against this proposal.</p>
<p><b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b></p> <p>Parents at School Academy meeting requested governors organise this petition.</p>

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)	
Name	DAVID CONES
Address	
Telephone nos.	Home: Mobile:
E-mail address	manorprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk
No. of petition signatures	<del>5</del> 408
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
Signature	.....
Date	10.10.14
Completed forms should be returned to— Democratic Support Governance Services Delivery Directorate Wolverhampton City Council St Peter's Square Wolverhampton WV1 1SH  Email: liz.kiely@wolverhampton.gov.uk Tel: 01902 555045 Fax: 01902 554006	



04 NOV 2014

WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton  
City Council



**PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only)

PUBLIC PETITION NO. E14-14-15A

Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme and the Guidance Notes at the back of this form.

1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER  
(If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)

MR MANE AUCU

2. PETITION TITLE

Lollipop person (Ettingshall road)

3. PETITION TEXT

Lollipop person to be re-introduced to give additional assistance to ALL School children & other pedestrians whilst crossing Ettingshall Road to Manor Primary School (previously done). Also Traffic Calming/Speed reduction measures required on same road (i.e. speed humps, additional school signs, limited weight restrictions), to stop Heavy Goods Vehicles and other traffic users speeding above limits whilst School children crossing road. Also, traffic is constantly using road to by-pass extremely busy Birmingham New Road traffic (all the time)? - short cut route?

4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION

Emailed/been in contact with Malcolm Gwinnett, Chris Barker, Police Sergeant Simon Bott (4349), MP Pat McFadden, BBC Radio Live, Councillor/Mayor (Michael Heap) and Manor Primary School. Advised them of problems, but told no funding available. However, had meeting with Sergeant Simon Bott & Malcolm Gwinnet recently, Malcolm said the would put this to the Committee/Board of the Council and try to push to get this temporary sorted, as no money available until January 2015? Waiting for an update from Malcolm Gwinnet

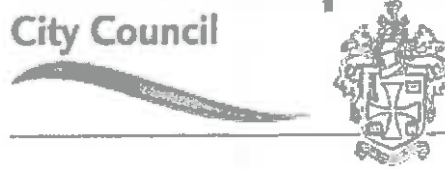
5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION

(SEE ABOVE)

<b>6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Mr M Allen
<b>Address</b>	37 Hinchliffe Avenue Coseley Bilston WV14 9PQ
<b>Telephone nos.</b>	<b>Home:</b> <b>Mobile</b>
<b>E-mail address</b>	
<b>No. of petition signatures</b>	138 + 15 E-Petitions
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span><del>YES</del></span> <span><input checked="" type="radio"/> NO</span> </div>	
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
<b>Signature</b> ..... <b>Date</b> ..... 03/11/14 .....	
Completed forms should be returned to— Democratic Support Section Delivery Directorate Wolverhampton City Council St Peter's Square Wolverhampton WV1 1SH  <a href="mailto:democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Email: democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01902 550181	

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

**Wolverhampton**  
City Council



DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT

23 OCT 2014

WOLVERHAMPTON

## **PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only)  
PUBLIC PETITION NO.

136-14

Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet **Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme** and the **Guidance Notes at the back of this form.**

<b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
Mrs Sheila Redmond
<b>2. PETITION TITLE</b>
Petition for a pedestrian crossing on Rushall Road, Bushbury.
<b>3. PETITION TEXT</b>
We, the undersigned, call on Wolverhampton City Council to install a suitable pedestrian crossing on Rushall Road, Bushbury.
The opening of the supermarket and post office has led to a sizeable increase in traffic volume (including large delivery vehicles) and pedestrians crossing the road to reach the shops. Local residents are frightened for their safety when attempting to cross Rushall Road.
We request that any traffic/pedestrian footfall assessment takes into account the demographics of the local area and those using the shops – this includes young school children and older, disabled people (noting the nearby location of Broadway Gardens Very Sheltered Housing Scheme).
<b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b>
This has been an ongoing issue of concern for many years. Residents have raised the issue with the management at Broadway Gardens, with previous councillors, and more recently with Councillor Angus and Emma Reynolds MP. No steps have yet been taken to improve safety for pedestrians wishing to cross Rushall Road.
<b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>

See 'petition text'.

It should be noted that a significant proportion of residents at Broadway Gardens Very Sheltered Housing Scheme are in their eighties and nineties (and the average age is increasing each year) and many have serious disabilities. However, residents are encouraged to live supported, independent lives and this involves them popping to the local shop and post office for essential daily items. Many residents cross with the support of walking aids and/or wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Rushall Road is a critical crossing point for residents from Broadway Gardens and the Northwood Park estate to access the supermarket and post office on the former site of the Staffordshire Volunteer public house. It also serves a crossing point for parents and young children to access local schools. <sup>A</sup> 65

Since the development of the former pub site into a thriving local supermarket and post office, residents are faced with crossing a stretch of road which requires them to 'watch' multiple busy junctions. Anecdotal evidence suggests that traffic volume and speeds have both increased over recent years.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)	
Name	Mrs Sheila Redmond
Address	19 Broadway Gardens Bushbury Wolverhampton WV10 8EA
Telephone nos.	Home: Mobile: N/A
E-mail address	N/A
No. of petition signatures	53 52
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
YES <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
Signature ....	
Date ..... 14-10-14	
Completed forms should be returned to— Democratic Support	

# Petitions Committee

11 September 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Petition for Removal of Park from Dukes Park Estate – Progress Update	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Sandra Samuels Health & Well Being	
<b>Wards affected</b>	Bilston East	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Ros Jervis, Wellbeing	
<b>Originating service</b>	Community Safety	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Karen Samuels	Head of Community Safety
	Tel	01902 551341
	Email	Karen.samuels@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	n/a	

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## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the progress of actions undertaken since the Petitions Committee meeting on 24 April 2015.
2. Agree a preferred outcome from the following options:
  - a. The play equipment is retained in its current state and any reports of crime or ASB are responded to and managed via PACT. This would retain the play area for local use within the community.
  - b. Barratt Homes is asked to remove large play equipment, which is replaced with toddler equipment to encourage family use and make it less appealing for youths to gather. This would retain the play area for local use within the community.
  - c. Barratt Homes is asked to remove park equipment and undertake remedial works to grass the area. A green open space will be retained for community use.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To receive an update on actions agreed at Petitions Committee on 24 April 2015.
- 1.2 To agree a preferred outcome from the petition received 30 January 2015 requesting removal of the play area at Dukes Park estate located in the Bilston East ward, in light of the update received.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 A petition was received by the Council on 30 January 2015, containing 85 signatures from residents of the Duke Park estate and the surrounding area seeking removal of the play area housed within the centre of the estate. The geographic location of the park in relation to the estate is attached at Appendix A. The request was centred on a history of anti-social behaviour (ASB) experienced by residents since the construction of the park early in 2014.
- 2.2 The park was constructed as part of the Barratt Homes housing development and was included as a condition of planning requirements. The park remains in Barratt Homes ownership, however, as part of the S106 agreement, an arrangement is in place for Public Realm to undertake maintenance of the site following the Council's adoption of the location (usually involving the highway, lighting and open spaces) which is expected in the summer 2016. The Council has received a financial sum to contribute towards park inspections, maintenance and repairs covering the ten year period following adoption. This payment is referred to as a 'commuted sum'. Beyond this period, the Council will be expected to absorb any on-going maintenance and repair costs to the park.
- 2.3 The petition states that at the time of purchasing their properties, residents were informed by sales representatives of Barratt Homes that the play area would consist of toddler play equipment and that plans showing the content and layout of the park were not readily accessible or known to residents.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 24 April 2015, Petitions Committee received confirmation that the residents' concerns regarding incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) had been substantiated by Police and other local partners called on to respond to calls for service. Between January 2014 to the end February 2015:
  - A total of 58 Police logs were received covering the period.
  - The reports were consistent in their content, with offenders reported as being groups of young people; behaviour included shouting, use of abusive and racist language, vandalism, arson (including a burnt out vehicle), racing of motor vehicles, graffiti, fighting and intimidation.
  - The nuisance was regular and sometimes continued late into the night/early morning.
  - Police resources were deployed on receipt of complaints; it's understood that one arrest has been made.

- 2.5 The issues had been raised at Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings in November 2014 and 9 March 2015, and brought to the attention of ward councillors. The multi-agency response included an increased Police patrol strategy including use of the ASB van and an increased Police presence in the vicinity; removal of the large swing which seemed a particular attraction for the youths by Barratt Homes; deployment of a domehawk camera to provide a deterrent to ASB and to aid the identification of youths who may be involved; consideration of a Section 35 dispersal order; youths in the local area being signposted to the weekly Kicks session held in Bilston on a Wednesday evening; contact made with Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council to agree a joint response to the ASB where youths are believed to reside in the Sandwell area; trenches had been dug by Barratt Homes in an attempt to prevent vehicles driving over the grassed areas.
- 2.6 Despite partner efforts to resolve the issues, the lead petitioner, maintained that the ASB was continuing and that residents were seeking complete removal of the park, not modification of the play equipment. At that point, there had been no successful dialogue with Barratt Homes.
- 2.7 Ward Councillors voiced objections to removal of the play equipment given the levels of need and deprivation in the ward and requested an increase in the multi-agency effort to resolve the ASB before any decision is made to remove the play equipment.

### 3.0 Update - Petitions Committee Recommendations

On 24 April 2015, the following recommendations were agreed by Petitions Committee. Updates against each are detailed below:

- 3.1 Data is sourced to clarify level usage of the play equipment during the day.

**Update:** Confirming levels of use has been problematic. Anecdotally, the lead petitioner has indicated that residents do not use the site, and on each occasion that ASB officers, Police, Public Realm have visited the site (between core hours of 9am – 4pm Mon- Fri), it has not been in use. Young families have been seen using the park on three occasions by the Neighbourhood Safety Coordinator which has also been captured on the domehawk camera.

- 3.2 All households on the new estate and local ward councillors are asked by letter to state their preference for retaining the existing play equipment, modifying the existing facility to a toddler play area or complete removal of the play area with remedial works carried out.

**Update:** Letters were hand delivered to all 262 households on the Dukes Park estate on 8 May 2015. Responses are summarised below:

Option 1: Retain the play area as it is now – 15 residents indicated their preference for this option.

Option 2: Remove the large play equipment and replace it with equipment designed for pre-school age children – 11 residents indicated their preference for this option.

Option 3: Remove all the play equipment (and the fence and the hard standing) and grass the site over – 46 residents indicated their preference for this option.

3.3 Public Health is consulted on the possible outcomes detailed in this report.

**Update:** Public Health has confirmed that it would not be in support of removal of this provision mainly due to the health issues associated with Bilston East. For reception year and year six, obesity rates for school years 2009/10 to 2013/14 for Bilston East, where Dukes Park is located are 14.8% and 29.8% respectively. These rates are significantly higher than the national and local averages, and in the case of year six this is the worst ward in Wolverhampton. Obesity is a key priority for Public Health with one of the objectives being to create a less obesogenic environment. Provision of such as play areas are a key resource that can help to off-set the obesogenic environment.

3.4 Neighbourhood Tasking is asked to consider any additional action that can be taken to identify perpetrators of ASB to ensure all options for multi-agency enforcement action have been exhausted.

**Update:** A number of multi-agency meetings have been held to consider all available options of prevention and enforcement and an action plan agreed to supplement the work done to date. A summary is provided below:

- Regular uniformed patrols have taken place by neighbourhood officers including mobile/cycle and foot.
- The situation has previously been discussed at PACT; however, no residents from Dukes Park estate were in attendance at PACT meetings held on 11 May or 20 July. Police reports were received of approximately 100 youths congregating in the area from neighbouring Tipton.
- Meetings have been held with partners and representatives of local residents and issues discussed.
- Police have met with bordering neighbourhood Policing team at Princes End to make them aware of issues and support was offered.
- Staff observations of young people coming onto and exiting the park suggest mixed use from those residing in the immediate vicinity and from other areas.
- Local schools (RSA and South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy) have been approached and talks given to students. Schools made aware of issues.
- Domehawk CCTV camera remains in situ.
- Regular contact made with residents by way of reassurance visits, follow up calls to complainants and monitoring Facebook pages.
- There have been six young people identified causing ASB on the park; all issued warning letters by the ASB unit as they had not had previous involvement with Police.
- Police have met with youth worker and carried out joint patrols at the park; liaised with local young people with a view to diverting them to activities on offer over the summer break; further update from youth workers as follows: Provision for Outreach youth provision (11 years plus) based in Bradley. The project will run for four weeks during the summer holidays, on Wednesdays and Thursdays between



3 pm and 5 pm, team based outside the old Rocketpool youth centre. The proposed dates to work with the youth are 29 and 30 of July, 12 and 13 of August, 19 and 20 of August and 26 and 27 of August. Activities will be based around football and light sporting activities with the emphasis on social education.

- There have been ten incident logs recorded since 27 April that can be linked to the park; there have however been a handful of reports via Facebook and local residents telling officers on patrol after incidents have occurred. There have also been two recorded crimes of criminal damage.
- Trading Standards have indicated that they have not any complaints from residents about under-age sales or received any credible intelligence to undertaken test purchasing in the locality.

3.5 Adoption of the play area does not take place until the above has been clarified.

**Update:** Barratt Homes have been notified of this position. They have indicated their keenness to progress adoption of the park and are seeking legal advice regarding their position. They have also indicated a willingness to start discussions with the council to seek an amicable solution depending on Petition Committee's recommendations.

3.6 The offensive graffiti is to be removed and the site cleaned immediately and Barratt's recharged if necessary.

**Update:** This was actioned speedily by Public Realm. The majority of the graffiti was removed on the day of Petitions Committee's request with the remainder removed within three days. The Play area and the adjacent green area which was heavily littered were cleansed the day after Petitions Committee. Public Realm has maintained a watching brief on the park, with monthly visits carried out. All litter cleaning and repairs have been reported promptly to Barratt Homes for action. Public Realm Services have also assisted Barratt Homes in carrying out repairs to the play surface in the play area following vandalism through one of its specialist contractors, the cost of which has been met by Barratt Homes; furthermore the location has been litter picked by Council staff on a number occasions following concerns from local residents about glass and general litter accumulating on the site.

#### **4.0 Summary of Considerations**

4.1 The children's play area was a requirement for the estate being granted planning consent.

4.2 Concern has been raised about the potential loss of the equipment by ward Councillors and Public Health due to long standing issues with child obesity in the area.

4.3 Anecdotal evidence suggests the play area is not regularly used by local children

4.4 The Lead Petitioner has indicated that although the frequency of incidents has reduced, the ASB is continuing, with youths congregating on the site until early hours in the morning; and maintains that the park should be removed. On-going reports of damage

and litter at the site support these reports; damage to play equipment and littering continues to be reported to Barratt Homes, identified following monthly visits carried out at the site by Public Realm staff and reports received from local councillors.

- 4.5 The multi-agency response to address ASB has been prompt; however the resources currently allocated to respond to calls for service are not sustainable. Proportionate enforcement action has been taken against young people identified of having involvement in ASB and liaison with schools and services in Sandwell have been held.
- 4.6 There are cost implications of removing the equipment and undertaking remedial landscaping works; these are estimated at approximately £30,000.
- 4.7 The play area is included in scheduled area-wide proposals for Council adoption from summer 2016. Steps to progress this have been halted until the outcome from Petitions Committee is known.

## **5.0 Recommendation**

- 5.1 Petitions Committee, at its meeting on 24 April 2015 considered the following three outcomes in response to the petition seeking removal of the play area at Dukes Park estate. In light of the updates received in this report, recommendations are now sought from Petitions Committee regards its preferred outcome.
- 5.2 Outcome One - The play equipment is retained in its current state and any reports of crime or ASB are responded to and managed via PACT. This would retain the play area for local use within the community.

### Implications:

- There is a risk that the park will continue to be a draw for local youths from Dukes Park and neighbouring estates with residents continuing to experience ASB.
  - Targeted Police and partner resources to respond to the associated problems may not be sustainable over the medium/long term.
  - If ASB continues, the park may not be well used by families due to the nuisance associated with it.
  - There may be longer-term maintenance and repair costs to the Council beyond the ten year use of the commuted sum if ASB continues.
  - Petitioners have indicated they would be dissatisfied with this outcome.
- 5.3 Outcome Two – Barratt Homes to be asked to remove large play equipment, which is replaced with toddler equipment to encourage family use and make it less appealing for youths to gather. This would retain the play area for local use within the community.
- ### Implications:
- There is the risk that the park will continue to attract nuisance youths even if smaller-age play equipment is installed.
  - Targeted Police and partner resources to respond to the associated problems may not be sustainable over the medium/long term.

- If ASB continues, the park may not be well used by families due to the nuisance associated with it.
- There may be longer-term maintenance and repair costs to the Council beyond the ten year use of the commuted sum if ASB continues.
- Petitioners have indicated they would be dissatisfied with this outcome.

5.4 Outcome Three – Barratt Homes is asked to remove park equipment and undertake remedial works to grass the area. A green open space will be retained for community use.

Implications:

- There remains a risk that ASB will continue, although this risk is reduced if there is no seating area included in any remedial works.
- Police and partner responses to tackle ASB in the vicinity continue, but the site would no longer need to be addressed as a hotspot location.
- If Barratt Homes remove the equipment, the commuted sum paid to the Council would be returned to Barratt Homes.
- Discussions would need to be held between Barratt Homes and the City Council to agree how this could be taken forward and cost for removal covered.
- There would be a reduced longer-term cost to the Council of maintaining the grassed area.
- Petitioners would be satisfied with this outcome.

## 6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 A financial payment of £71,494 was received by the Council from Barratt Homes as part of the S106 planning requirement.

This funding has been set aside to be drawn down following the Council's adoption of the location to cover a ten year period of costs associated with repairing and maintaining the large play area. Following this period, on-going repair and maintenance costs would be absorbed by the Council.

6.3 The Council's Planning Department have suggested that if the existing large play area is removed then the financial payment of £71,494 should be re-paid back to the developer Barratt Homes.

6.4 If option one to retain the play area as it is now is selected there are no cost implications attached. If option two is selected there is a cost implication attached to the removal of the current large play equipment and the replacement cost of the new pre-school play equipment, it is estimated to be in the region of £16,000. If option three is selected to remove the play equipment and grass over the area then there is a cost implication estimated to be in the region of £30,000.

6.5 Once a preferred option is selected negotiations will need to take place with the developer Barratt Homes to see if they are prepared to contribute towards any cost implications that may arise as a result of the decision. If the developer refuses to contribute towards any costs associated with the decision then the pressure will fall upon

the Council, for which there is currently no budgetary provision within the Public Realm Service.

[NM/11082015/V]

## **7.0 Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report. Further consideration may need to be given to variation of the S106 agreement as part of any decision on the future of the site.

[LD/11082015/A]

## **8.0 Equalities Implications**

8.1 Removal of the play equipment would have implications for children living in the area. The policy that enabled provision of play equipment is in Wolverhampton's Development Plan which was subject to a full equality analysis.

## **9.0 Environmental implications**

9.1 The proposals contained in this report would remove local play facilities installed as part of the residential development; however the open space housing the park would be retained for the benefit of local residents in Bilston East.

## **10.0 Human resources implications**

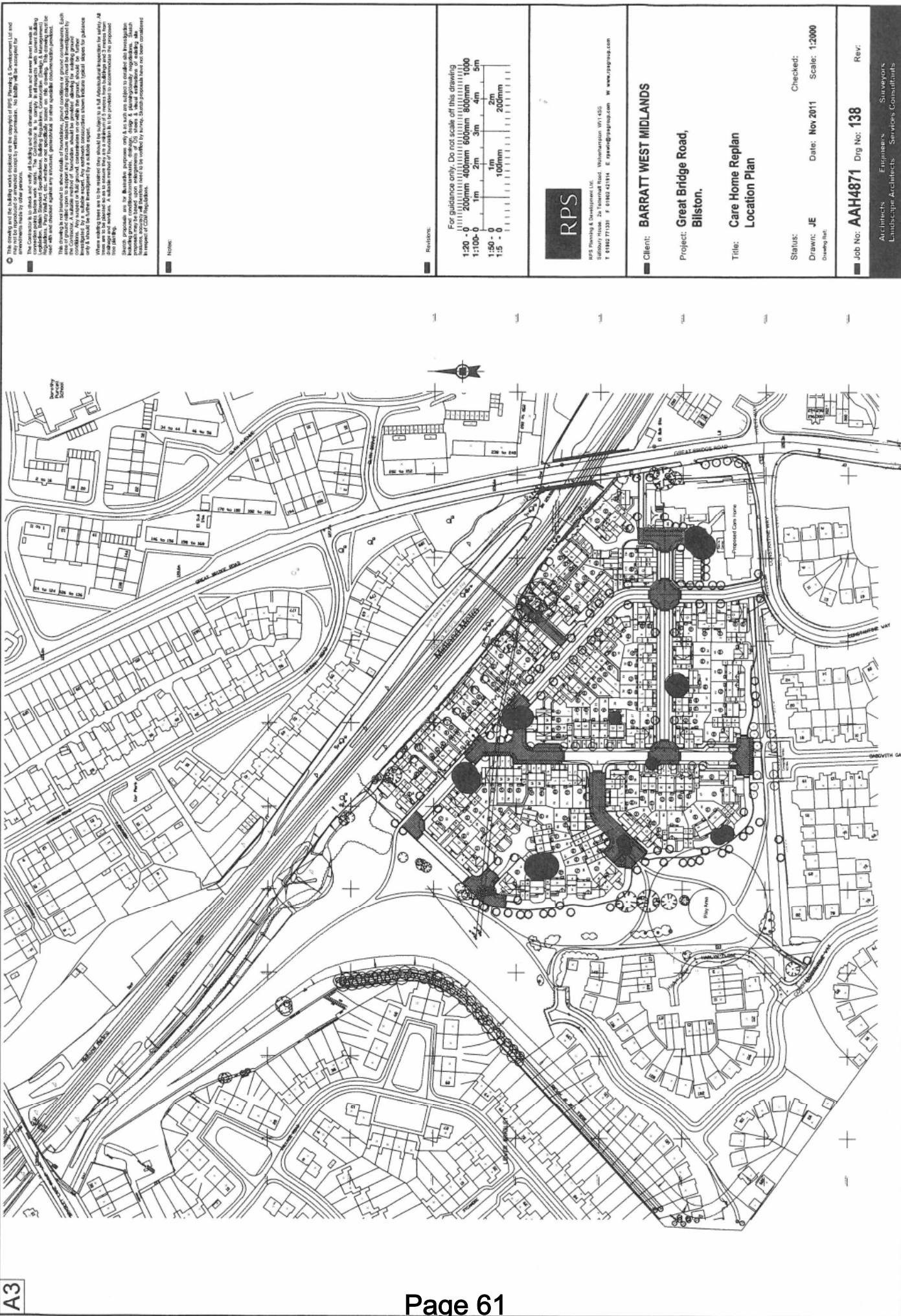
10.1 There are no human resource implications relating to this report.

## **11.0 Corporate landlord implications**

11.1 The preferred recommendation outlined within this report, would remove the risk of the Council being liable for the longer term repairs and maintenance of the play equipment, and would reduce the longer-term cost of maintaining the grassed area.

## **12.0 Schedule of background papers.**

Petitions Committee, 24 April 2015, Petition – Removal of Park from Dukes Park Estate



**NOTE:**

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**REVISIONS:**

For guidance only. Do not scale off this drawing

1:20	0	1m	2m	3m	4m	5m
1:100	0	200mm	400mm	600mm	800mm	1000
1:50	0	1m	2m	3m	4m	5m
	0	100mm	200mm			

**RPS**

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**Client:** BARRATT WEST MIDLANDS

**Project:** Great Bridge Road, Bliston.

**Title:** Care Home Replan Location Plan

**Status:** Checked: [ ]

**Drawn:** JE Date: Nov 2011 Scale: 1:2000

**Drawn by:** [ ]

**Job No:** AAH4871 **Dwg No:** 138 **Rev:** [ ]

Architects Engineers Surveyors  
 Landscape Architects Services Consultants

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Wolverhampton  
City Council



DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT

30 JAN 2015

WOLVERHAMPTON

## PUBLIC PETITION

(For official use only)  
PUBLIC PETITION NO.

140-15

Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme and the Guidance Notes at the back of this form.

<b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
<i>Dukes Park Neighbourhood Watch.</i>
<b>2. PETITION TITLE</b>
<i>Remove The Park from the Dukes Park Estate.</i>
<b>3. PETITION TEXT</b>
<i>The above mentioned wish for the council to remove the park from the Dukes Park Estate, Bilston due to it being a hot spot for Anti Social Behaviour and Criminal Activity.</i>
<b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b>
<i>Residents have worked with Police, numerous Non Crime ASB numbers have been given. however the problem is still ongoing. Residents have raised with both Salfords and Wolverhampton Council however neither party will take responsibility.</i>
<b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)	
Name	<i>Matthew Williams</i>
Address	<i>11 Cranbeck Gardens Bilston WV14 8GL</i>
Telephone nos.	Home: Mobile:
E-mail address	
No. of petition signatures	85
<b>STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:</b> Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<b>SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:</b> When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.	
Signature .....	
Date <i>19/11/2014</i> .....	
Completed forms should be returned to— Democratic Support Governance Services Delivery Directorate Wolverhampton City Council St Peter's Square Wolverhampton WV1 1SH  Email: <a href="mailto:democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk">democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01902 550181	



## 5. Petition Background Information

The factual background and information as to why the removal of the park is necessary is as follows:

The park in question was constructed early in 2014. Since before it was made open to the public and whilst still surrounded by Harris fencing it became an area which attracted antisocial behaviour and acts of criminality, namely extensive damage to the fencing surrounding the park. These matters were all reported to the police, however the incidents of antisocial behaviour and criminality increased throughout the year both in frequency and severity.

Throughout the year residents of Dukes Park have had to endure the following:

- 1) Criminal damage caused to the park, this has included the protective flooring being ripped up and having to be replaced, youths smashing play equipment with a golf club, extensive graffiti and most disturbingly sexual imagery drawn over the play equipment and fencing. This is still to be removed even though it has been reported to police. All these matters have been reported to the police and have been constant throughout the year. Photographic evidence available.
- 2) Arson, youths have been reported setting fire to trees on the walkway by the park. Also the bin on the play area has been set on fire on several occasions.
- 3) Further criminal damage to signage which have been ripped from the ground and was found next to the park. Also criminal damage to the benches that have recently been fitted.
- 4) Pornographic imagery in the form of drawings on the pathway leading to the park. Residents went out and cleaned this away due to its nature.
- 5) Theft, a sales sign was stolen from a property. Youths were then encountered with said sign over the park after been observed by residents hitting each other with it.
- 6) The park has become a meeting ground for large groups which causes harassment, alarm and distress to residents due to the screaming, swearing and behaviour of these youths. This constitutes a criminal offence under the public order act. The youths have also been on the park as late as 02.30 am, taking into consideration that family housing is only a few metres away from the park makes this completely unacceptable.
- 7) Public place violence, groups of youths have been reported fighting over the park.
- 8) Public place underage drinking, the park has become a meeting ground for youths drinking alcohol. Smashed alcohol bottles along with empty cider and vodka bottles and empty beer cans have all been found in and around the play area.
- 9) The park has also become a meeting ground for youths on scrambler and quad bikes, these have been observed by residents racing around the park area when young children and toddlers were using the park, again this matter was reported to police. Photographs of these offenders have been posted on the neighbourhood watch Facebook page.
- 10) A number of cars and mopeds have driven onto the park to deposit friends at the play area. Recently a moped has driven onto the park with no lights almost knocking over one of the residents and their daughter.
- 11) A car has been driven onto the park area and set on fire. Details have been provided to the police and council as yet this car has not been removed. Youths have since been spotted jumping up and down on the burnt out vehicle.

Other issues of note are as follows:

- 1) Numerous residents both of Dukes Park and the neighbouring estate will state that they were informed by sales representatives of Barratt homes that there would only be one or

two pieces of toddler only equipment. Most notably were told there would be "one or two springy chickens....." This was a lie.

- 2) Plans were not made readily available to residents. Therefore residents were not given an opportunity to make any lawful objections to the structure and its site, therefore leaving residents to question the legality of the process.
- 3) The park has equipment in it which has actively attracted youths gathering, swearing and acting in antisocial manner. Most notably a large bucket swing, residents have regularly reported to the police, large groups all on this piece of equipment screaming and swearing loudly. This piece of equipment has already been damaged and broken once, instead of replacing it with an actual piece of toddler equipment a new bucket swing was fitted in spite of residents making both Wolverhampton council and Barratt homes aware of the issues and its distressing effect on residents.
- 4) On liaising with residents on the neighbouring estate, we have been informed that a play area had to be removed from their estate due to antisocial behaviour. It is therefore baffling as to why a park was built on Dukes Park.
- 5) Residents have made numerous attempts and pleas with both Wolverhampton council and Barratt homes regarding the issue of the park and have received no assistance. Wolverhampton council's response has always been that it is unadopted land and not their responsibility. However, Barratt homes have stated that the park was built on Wolverhampton council's insistence and that planning permission approval depended on the park being built. If this is true then the council must take responsibility for the distress caused to residents.

The facts of the matter are simply the park has attracted criminality and antisocial behaviour which were not present prior to its construction.

The park is noted to be for toddlers however the simple fact is it is not used by toddlers as residents are too intimidated to take young children over there. It is controlled by youths, a group of whom commit criminal and antisocial acts which is evidenced through photographs and will be attested to by residents.

Residents have liaised with the local Neighbourhood Police who have now installed a dome hawk CCTV camera however this has not acted as a deterrent to the youths and a number of the incidents noted above have occurred since the camera was fitted. Unfortunately we have also been informed that the quality of picture from the dome hawk camera is poor therefore it has not assisted in identifying the people who are involved in the incidents. The police do not have sufficient resources to patrol the park constantly.

The only relief residents have is when the weather deters these groups from congregating.

Due to the above the 85 residents who have signed the attached petition demand the park is removed with immediate effect. There is, in our opinion no justification for the council to insist it remain after all the harassment it has caused.