

DEPARTMENT OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

ORIGINATING SECTION: Planning.

REPORT TO: Planning & Highways Committee 21st December 2017.

TITLE: Petition regarding Full Planning Application (Retrospective) for Retention of alley gates at Underpass on Laburnum Road - rear to 248 Whalley New Road and ahead of 166 Laburnum Road Blackburn

(Application Ref: 10/17/1271)

Applicant: Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Ward: Bastwell

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| Councillor Parwaiz Akhtar | |
| Councillor Iftakhar Hussain | |
| Councillor Shaukat Hussain | |

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the receipt of two petitions relating to the above planning application – one in support of the scheme, and one opposing it.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND DETAILS

- 2.1 A planning application for the above development was received on 5th October 2015.
- 2.2 Planning permission for the installation of alley gates to the railway underpass between Whalley New Road and Laburnum Road was originally granted by the Planning and Highways Committee on 29th May 2015. Permission was granted for a period of two years in order that the effect of the development upon the amenities of the neighbouring area could be assessed during this period, and that any future application can be decided on this assessment.
- 2.3 The planning permission was granted on the basis that the installation and operation of the alley gates at Laburnum Road railway bridge would be subject to the implementation of the document 'Management Plan for Laburnum Road Gating' marked amended version received on 15th April 2015. This document required the alley gates to be open during the day time to allow for access from the residential area on and adjacent to Laburnum Road to the businesses along Whalley New Road and the school on Cedar Street.
- 2.4 This current application is retrospective in that the gates have been retained beyond their expiry date, and that they are now kept locked on a permanent

basis. Supporting evidence from the Community Safety Team is currently being assessed.

2.5 The petition received in support of this application to retain the gates on a permanent basis, contains 97 signatures. The reasons given for supporting the retention of the gates can be summarised as follows:

➤ 2.6 Reasons:

- Drug use, selling and distribution.
- Consumption of alcohol at the site.
- Dumping of food and drink waste and fly tipping.
- Harassment of residents through loitering outside houses, bad language, loud music and threatening behaviour.
- Vandalism, graffiti and burglary.
- High speed driving.

2.7 The petition received objecting to the proposal to retain the gates contains 53 signatures. The reasons given for objecting to the proposals can be summarised as follows:

➤ 2.8 Reasons:

- Access needed to schools, shops and mosques.

2.9 A recommendation has yet to be made on the application. The planning application will be presented to the 18th January 2018 Committee for determination.

3.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee note both petitions.

4.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

4.1 Planning application 10/17/1271 contains details of the application and the petitions.

5.0 **CONTACT OFFICER** –

5.1 John Wilson – extension 5142.

6.0 **DATE PREPARED** –

6.1 29th November 2017