

DATE: 11 October, 2012

Blockall Parking Petition

Ward(s) Darlaston South

Portfolios: Cllr T Ansell - Transport and Environment

Report:

The panel will recall at its meeting 30 August 2012, discussing the Head of Service for Engineering & Transportation's response to a petition requesting the provision of parking outside Blockall convenience store.

The panel will further recall requesting officers to investigate the practicalities, and potential cost, of providing a parking bay for two vehicles in the grass verge opposite the convenience store.

Officers have investigated the land ownership status of the grass verge and confirmed it belongs to Walsall Housing Group. Discussions have commenced with Walsall Housing Group to confirm if they would agree to their land being used for the creation of a parking bay, however these discussions have not yet concluded.

On the assumption the land would be available; officers have compiled a budget estimate for the construction of a parking bay for two vehicles. The estimated cost of the basic construction works is £12,500. However, after reviewing plans of the underground services at this location, they indicate the presence of a 12" cast iron gas main and a 160 mm water supply main within the vicinity of the proposed works.

The exact location and depth of these underground services has not been established. Further investigatory works would be required to determine their exact location as this may require them to be diverted at considerable additional cost that would likely prove cost prohibitive.

Should the cost of diverting underground services prove cost prohibitive, an alternative location slightly north of the preferred location has been identified. This would require gaining approval of the Integrated Transport Authority (Centro) to relocate the existing bus stop and incur additional costs for relocating the bus stop, moving the telegraph pole and lowering existing electricity cables, which I would estimate at approx £5,000.


Officers will continue to clarify the position of Walsall Housing Group and should this prove positive, require confirmation of a budget allocation before undertaking any further investigatory or detailed design work.

Recommendations:

That: subject to any comments members may wish to make, the report be noted.

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