

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT AGENDA ITEM No. 21(a)

To: HOUSING AND SOCIAL WORK SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: PROPOSED LANE CLOSURES IN NOBLE ROAD/ WARNOCK CRESCENT, BELLSHILL
From: HEAD OF HOUSING SERVICES	
Date: 21 OCTOBER 2009	Ref: AC/AD

1. Purpose of Report / Introduction

The purpose of this report is to update committee on the signed petition received from residents living in and around Noble Road/Warnock Crescent, Bellshill requesting the closure of two public lanes.

2. Background

- 2.1. On 8 May, 2009 the Chief Executives office received a petition signed by 40 local residents living in Noble Road and Warnock Crescent, Bellshill, Bellshill.
- 2.2 The petition requested that two lanes be closed to the public. Lane number one runs parallel to the railway line starting adjacent to 51 Noble Road and running west. Lane number two is located between 28 and 30 Warnock Crescent leading to the park area and Thorndean Crescent, Bellshill.
- 2.3 The petitioners claim that these lanes have been a steady source of irritation for local residents who have been subjected to anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
- 2.4 On receipt of this petition a letter was hand delivered to 62 local residents living within this area advising them of the petition and giving them the opportunity to raise any objections or concerns they may have about the proposed closures. Eight responses were received by the local office from residents objecting to the proposed closures. The main reasons given by the residents who were objecting was that if these two lanes were closed then ultimately the traffic would move to the other lane between 12 and 13 Warnock Crescent, Bellshill. Our records show that a previous petition was received to close off this lane in October, 2004 and once again there was a petition received objecting to this lane closure as all traffic would then only have the sole use of the lane adjacent to 51 Noble Road, Bellshill.
- 2.5 All 3 ward members were also consulted regarding the potential closure of these paths. One local member has given full support to the proposals to close the two lanes.
- 2.6 The proposed closure of these lanes was also discussed with Environmental Services Grounds Maintenance and Estates who are responsible for the maintenance of the large grassed area behind Warnock Crescent, in the Milnwood Park. Environmental Services have objected to the proposed lane closure at 28 - 30 Warnock Crescent as this lane is used for vehicular access for large grass cutting machinery. In relation to the other lane at Noble Road, Environmental Services maintain the grass panel adjacent to the railway line and clear and litter pick the public pathway. This lane is well lit and maintained.

- 2.7 Due to the objections received from the eight residents and Environmental Services, consultation was made with the Planning and Transportation Department to ascertain their views and it was noted that they would support Environmental Services that the lane located between 28 and 30 Warnock Crescent would require to remain open as this is used for vehicular access for grounds maintenance. With regards to the other lane adjacent to 51 Noble Road, Bellshill it is unlikely that Planning consent would be granted due to the number of objections.

3. Proposals / Considerations

Given the objections from local residents and other Council Services, the local area housing office would be unable to support the proposed closure of both these lanes.

4. Financial / Personnel / Legal / Policy Implications

There are no financial, personnel, legal or policy implications

5. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Note the content of this report and refuse the proposal to close the two lanes based upon support from the Planning and Transportation Department and Environmental Services, and objections from local residents.



Monica Patterson
Head of Housing Services
21 September 2009

For further information on this report please contact Alison Clarke on telephone 01698 332340

Appendix 1

