

# Bolton Council

**Report to:** Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services

**Date:** 20 February 2017

**Report of:** Director of Place

**Report No:** ECMES/50/17

**Contact Officer:** Malcolm Fairhurst

**Tel No:** (01204) 336470

**Report Title:** **Petition for The Removal of Grass Verge at Rockhaven Avenue, Horwich**

**Non-Confidential:** This report does **not** contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

**Purpose:** To advise the Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services about the request to remove the grass verges at Rockhaven Avenue, Horwich

**Recommendations:** The Executive Member for Environmental Services is recommended to:

1. Note the contents of this report regarding the removal of the grass verges at Rockhaven Avenue, Horwich.
2. Authorise officers to remove the grass verges should funding become available

**Decision:**

**Background Doc(s):** Petition held on file in the Highways and Engineering Division

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leader / Executive Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monitoring Officer

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Summary:**

In July 2016 the Horwich North East Members requested the Highways and Engineering team to provide a cost estimate for surfacing some grassed areas on Rockhaven Avenue.

A cost was supplied which could not be afforded by the Area Forum and funding was not available from the Highways Capital Budget.

Subsequently a petition was received from residents requesting that the work takes place in the next financial year.

## **Background information**

1. Rockhaven Avenue is a cul de sac which serves a number of semidetached houses. None of the houses have off road parking although there are some garages separate to the houses. There is an issue with on road parking which can cause problems with access.
2. The Horwich North East members were contacted by residents regarding the problem and requested that the Highways and Engineering team to look at the possibility of converting a couple of the grassed verge areas into hard standings for parking.
3. The Highways and Engineering team carried out a feasibility study and provided a cost estimate for the works of £22,000.
4. The local Area Forum did not have the funds to cover the work and enquired as to whether the Highways capital maintenance budget could cover the costs. There would be a benefit to the Council in having the works carried out as it would reduce future maintenance costs of the grass verges. However, at the time of the request there was no funding available from the highways capital maintenance budget.
5. The Councillors duly reported this to the residents. Following this a petition was received in December 2016 stating that although the residents understood that there was currently no funding available they requested that the works are carried out in the next financial year (2017/18).

## **Financial Implications**

6. The cost of the works is £22,000. Currently there is no funding available to fully cover the cost of the proposed work.

## **Recommendation**

7. The Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services is recommended to:
  1. Note the contents of this report regarding the Rockhaven Avenue petition
  2. Authorise the work to covert the grass verges to hard standings for parking should the funding become available.
  3. Authorised Officers to reply to residents informing them of the outcome.