

## **AGENDA 12, Enc viii) Seaton Ward Summerhouse Lane Improvement Project & Installation of Additional Litter Bins on Seaton Vale**

### **Summary**

This report gives consideration to two projects, in the Seaton Ward, that will (i) improve a section of Summerhouse Lane and (ii) install two litterbins on the developing Seaton Vale housing estate.

This follows site visits with the Assets & Development Manager, Mr Robin Wallace (NCC) and Cllr. Jim Lang (representing Cllrs. Louis Brown and Glyn Davies) to look at the proposed works.

### **Summerhouse Lane**

There is an approximate 120m stretch off Paddock Wood that adjoins the path on Summerhouse Lane that is overgrown with brambles and shrubbery. Additionally, there is damage to a length of birds-mouth fencing in this area including a section that had been lost over the years. The fencing was initially installed around 20 years ago as part of a project to improve Paddock Wood. *Images are shown at the end of the document.*

Although Summerhouse Lane is owned and maintained by NCC, ward councillors wish to support a partnership approach to this project, reflecting the successful collaboration seen in previous environmental initiatives.

### **Proposed Works**

The following programme of works is suggested:

- Cut back 120 metres of overgrown brambles, grass and shrubbery to a depth of 2.5 metres from the pathway on Summerhouse Lane. NCC Local Services have agreed to carry out the works as part of their winter programme.
- Repair and replace the birds mouth fencing on this section. A single quotation has been sought from a contractor previously used by the Council to carry out the works at a cost of £850. In accordance with our Financial Regulations 5.8, as this work is below £2,000, we are required to ensure value for money and need not seek additional quotes.

### **Seaton Vale Housing Estate**

Work on the Seaton Vale housing estate began a number of years ago and is likely to have ongoing house-building works for a considerable period. The site is the largest housing development in Ashington. The estate has not been formally adopted by Northumberland County Council, but a request was made by the residents group to the Town Council, circa 2021, to install litter bins on the two main access roads on the development: Harrington Way and Slaley Drive. Four litter bins were installed by the Town Council in this area, and the County Council agreed to empty the bins, giving due consideration to the scale of the housing development. As building work has developed, there has been a further request for two additional litter bins to be situated on the main access roads.

### **Proposed Works**

- **Landowner Permission:** It would be proper to seek the landowner's permission prior to installing litter bins on land that is neither owned by the Town Council nor NCC.
- Install two standard Town Council litter bins by the Town Council NSOs. One at Harrington Way and one at Slaley Drive.
- NCC Local Services have agreed to empty the bins as part of their schedule in the area, but the area has not been adopted by NCC.

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**Conclusion and Recommendation**

Taking all the factors to account, the recommendation for the Council is to develop the two projects at the earliest opportunity.

Stephen Humphrey - Assets & Development Manager  
27 November 2024

**Photos of Summerhouse Lane**

