PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 19th OCTOBER 2021

REPORT ON LAND AT 14 LAMBOURNE AVENUE

BACKGROUND

During the summer I received some calls from a resident who lives opposite number 14 Lambourne Avenue about a piece of land between 14 and 16 Lambourne Avenue that had become very overgrown and was encroaching on to the pavement. He and other residents had been trying to find out who owned the piece but were not having much luck.

I was able to establish that the piece of land belonged to the owner of no. 14 Lambourne Avenue. The house was owned by a couple in Watford. But the tenant did not have an address, so we went through the letting agent to make contact.

The landlord eventually phoned the parish council.

PROGRESS

I was able to speak to the landlord and point out that as it was his land it was his responsibility to maintain it, which he finally accepted. He was under the impression that it was down to the local authority.

I obtained two quotes for clearing the site that I passed to the landlord but they were too much for him and so he said he would organise something himself.

Eventually, over one weekend he had the area cleared, so the pavement was now not obstructed, and the area looked more presentable.

CURRENT SITUATION

The area still needs some work to keep it under control, but the landlord isn't keen to continue to maintain it especially as he is based in Watford and is open to the idea of the parish council purchasing the land.

WHAT NEXT

The parish council needs to consider whether it wishes to open discussions about acquiring the land or not. The area of land is small and there is no building potential. It will remain an area that will need to be maintained.

There is the option of creating a wild meadow garden effect and, maybe, have a bench positioned there.

Below are some before and after photographs.