

3. DEPUTATIONS

3.4 CLOSURE OF SANDOWN CRESCENT ALLEYWAY

Mike Heslin was in attendance to request that the alleyway opposite his property in Sandown Crescent be closed. Mr Heslin previously made a deputation to the Board on this matter at the meeting on 30 October 2000.

Mike Heslin disputed a suggestion that the Police have not received any reports of criminal activity in the pedestrian alleyway. He provided copies of two Police incident reports from 1999 and 2000. Mr Heslin also noted that the alleyway at the other end of Sandown Crescent had been closed in 1994 following a sexual assault.

Surveys of local residents support closure of the alleyway. Of residents contacted by Mr Heslin, 40 favoured closure and only one favoured its retention (that resident is now selling the property). Twenty-one out of 27 respondents to a Council survey agreed to closure of the alleyway.

Mr Heslin emphasised that the negative impacts of the alleyway are concentrated on the properties of himself and his neighbour. He cited the lack of privacy, graffiti, damage to fencing and burglaries.

Mr Heslin indicated he was prepared to buy the land if the alleyway was closed. He does not consider that the alleyway is needed for access to schools in the area.

The Board's decision is recorded under Part B, clause 7 of this report.