

3. PETITIONS

3.2 ODIE PLACE ALLEYWAY

A petition has been received from residents in the Odie Place area proposing the closure of the alleyway through to Pages Road.

A letter from Raymond Bearman referring the petition reads as follows:

“I wish to ask the Board to consider closing the alleyway which runs alongside my property. My neighbour, Vanessa McGeoch, who lives at 15 Odie Place, and I have had constant problems over many years from people congregating in the alleyway, using it as access to our properties to commit burglaries and there is also a constant problem with graffiti on the fences. I have called the Police on several occasions when trouble occurs. I have written to the Council and the Mayor to ask for some action and nothing has happened, so I am asking the Board to take the necessary steps to have the alleyway closed.

The alleyway is quite short and is only used by people to catch the bus on Pages Road or to get to MacKenzies Hotel and back. There was a block of shops on Pages Road some time ago with a dairy, hamburger bar and service station, but these have been demolished and we feel that the alleyway no longer serves the original purpose it was made for. There is a good bus service on Kerrs Road now to take people into the city and it is not much further to walk along Wildwood Avenue to use that service. The land at the back of the alleyway is an empty block of Council land, which is currently for sale, and if houses were to be built there, it would make a much more secluded area to create even more trouble than happens already. At least now there is clear visibility from Odie Place through to Pages Road, but if houses were built around on all sides and the alleyway turns to the left, no one could see along the whole length and there would be more privacy for people to congregate and access the neighbouring houses.

I would like to appear at the next Board meeting to talk more fully about the problems I and my neighbour are experiencing.”

The petition contains 16 signatures in total. The prayers of the petition follows:

“Petition for the closure of the Odie Place Accessway due to the amounts of graffiti and ongoing vandalism and criminal behaviour.”

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: That the Board request a report from the City Streets Unit on the Odie Place alleyway.