

Following up on your e-mail below – Helen is correct that the Borough is currently looking at the issue of verge parking – both in respect of managing the damage caused and the potential for conversion to provide extra parking capacity.

There was a Motion approved by SBC Full Council on 20 February 2020 which requires the Community and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee to report to Cabinet on this subject. The motion was –

Motion - Damaged Verges and Kerbs

Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee presents a report to Cabinet on how a byelaw can be introduced that could tackle this problem. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to present a costed proposal as soon as practicably possible, and consult with local communities to identify specific areas of concern to provide a consistent targeted approach. The report should include:

- *How to apply considered enforcement to prevent kerb mounting and verge parking.*
- *Ways of recovering costs of repair.*
- *Prevent vehicles and items being placed on grass verges.*
- *Substituting grass for alternative hard-standing or re-seed.*
- *Increase signage to alert potential offending drivers.*
- *Use of verges for environmental improvement once protected.*

The Leader of the Council writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner asking for an action plan on how his officers will deal with this blight on residential areas

The Committee has set up a working group to examine this issue – and work is currently underway with them – Cllr Courtliff is Chair. We are pulling together a list of all the “hot spots” across the Borough as part of this work and I believe that Cllr Courtliff has written to all Borough Councillors and Parish Councils on this subject. I know that both Fowey and Desborough have been raised already by the Borough Councillors.

I expect that Parishes will be updated on what is recommended, directly or through the SBC Councillors in the area in due course.

I respect of your particular queries – the Highway Authority would not be expecting to agree to placing items such as boulders or low fences on highway verges due to the trip hazard they represent to pedestrians – particularly those who are blind or partially sighted – and due to the potential impact in the event of a vehicle collision. The unsuitability of these sort of measures on the highway are one of the reasons for the current review.

An option for Fowey and Desborough would be to remove the grass and provide additional parking bays – so the Parish may wish to hold-off on any actions until the Working Group has reported to Cabinet and there is a clearer view on how these issues will be addressed in future.

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