

## 1. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BACKLANDS WORKING PARTY

- 1.1. Members of the Backlands Working Party have met to review the current condition of the numerous backland and former play area sites across West Swindon. The group have now identified two key projects to focus on delivery for 2019 – 20:

### *Beaulieu Close*

At the rear of the flats in Beaulieu Close a former play area has been left as a redundant space. The area is paved and broken walls to shrub beds at the side. There is often litter and broken glass strewn across the floor.

- The Project proposes; Removal of paving, repair/removal of brick walls, hire and use of digger machinery to dig out surface, resurface with top soil and grass seed costs in region of £8,000. If top soil can be recycled or used from the depot this could save funding and reduce overall cost up to £3,500.

### *Crawford Close*

This former play space is abandoned in appearance. There is no remaining value to local residents. The area is prone to litter and the perimeter walling is in disrepair.

- The Project proposes; Potentially £5000 to address pyramid and planter removals/refilling. To upgrade remaining planters, costs are in the region of £800 per planter however there is concern that roots may go deep enough that removal may disrupt underground services. Suggested that an alternative approach is taken to repair damaged brick work, improve planting and add painted pavement games to the tarmac.

- 1.2 It is the Working Party members' recommendation that two proposals listed above be allocated funding for expenditure in 2019/20 of £9,000 per project.