

## Crane used to clear garden junkyard of old vehicles, tyres and kitchen sink

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By Tom Mack



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CLEAN-UP OPERATION: Workmen used a crane to help remove junk which piled up over a number of years in the garden of the house in Hall Road, Enderby



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#### Comments (1)

Vehicles had to be lifted out of a back garden by crane during a massive clear-up operation.

After more than a decade of problems, Blaby District Council used its powers to move in and clear up the land outside 20 Hall Walk, Enderby, which contained junk including seven derelict vehicles, more than 50 car tyres and heaps of furniture.

The work, which began on Thursday, is still going on.

The house belongs to Terence Cross, who is rarely seen at the address by neighbours and was previously prosecuted in 2003 by the council for having untidy land.

The prosecution forced him to clear the land, but the council said the problem built up again during the past 11 years.

The authority, which began action against Mr Cross again in 2012, has the power to clear the land itself under the Town and Country Planning Act.

Next door neighbour Chris Deering, 63, said: "It's been such a mess and it goes all the way around our back garden so we can see it all out the back – all the old vehicles and dozens of tyres.

"I haven't seen the man who lives there for about five months. He used to show up at 11pm or midnight and then disappear again early in the morning.

"He was a pleasant enough guy, but my mother, who owns this house, is 89 and it was really worrying her. She's delighted they're clearing it up and I think everyone in the village will be glad."

Caroline Lindsey, who lives two doors away, said: "People make comments about that house all the time. It's very unsightly.

"I've been here for 30 years and the house has been in that state for a long time. It'll be a lot nicer when it's cleared up."

The clearing-up operation is being done by Enforcement Services Ltd, supervised by Blaby District Council officers.

The council said that as well as old vehicles and tyres, they had also cleared bicycles, furniture, building materials, fridges, garage doors, gas bottles, asbestos sheeting, domestic waste and a kitchen sink.

Council cabinet member Tony Greenwood said: "Due to lack of action on Mr Cross's behalf, Blaby District Council would no longer tolerate such significant breaches of planning control."

The council says it will look to pursue Mr Cross for the costs of the clean-up.

Mr Cross was not available to comment.

Read more: <http://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/Garden-junkyard-cleared/story-20398076-detail/story.html#ixzz2pZ2ZmZeu>