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Peterlee sculpture to stay open

The upper level of Victor Pasmore's 20ft high concrete sculpture in Peterlee is to remain open.

Easington Housing Committee has decided not to spend £1,500 to remove the staircase leading to the upper level or apply special paint to deter vandals from meeting at the structure.

Despite a request from Coun. Mrs Joan Maslin, the committee has also refused to pay for outside television aerials for residents who claim the sculpture creates interference on their television reception.

The committee was told all residents living near the pavilion at Oakerside Drive have piped television into their homes and only two people who use aerials instead have complained about poor reception.

However, Coun. Mrs Maslin warned the committee neither she nor residents would let the issue drop.

"I can tell you now that in five months time when the Council's decision on demolition can be discussed again I'll be proposing we blow it up.

"And I'll keep on proposing that motion every six months until this Council agrees to demolish the pavilion," she added.