

**MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2020 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

This meeting was called because a number of issues needing urgent attention had arisen

Councillors present Mr Stewart Scothern -Chairman, Mr Roland Stretch, Mr Stephen Jones,
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley, Mrs Tracey Scott

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2890 **Declaration of Interest** none

2891 **Recreation Field**

BMX style cycle track in woodland on the east side of the recreation field; a track has been developed by persons unknown without authority and permission of the council and continues to be used by young cyclists. Concerns have been raised about safety and insurance matters. A risk assessment has been carried out. The council's insurers have been contacted and it has been stated by them that the council would need to do something otherwise it would be in breach of the insurance contract and potentially would not be covered in the event of an incident. The council would need to decide whether to adopt it and make it safe, or remove it or have heras fence put in place to stop its usage. As it is on council land the council has a duty to manage the situation.

Councillors had been made aware of this information. The best and safest action was considered, however it was thought that because of the nature of the area and the damage already done it would be difficult to make the track safe if adopted and any protective barriers might be removed thus compromising safety measures and the insurance cover.

It was agreed unanimously that the track should be dismantled and the area re-instated. Lancaster City Council is to be contacted for advice and help in doing this.

Notices are to be put on the gates at the entrance to the field stating 'No cycling', as this is contrary to a byelaw.

Information is to be put out on a Slyne with Hest Facebook page and on the Council's website explaining the circumstances leading to this being done and inviting anyone to take part in a proposed consultation on what is desired on the recreation field as it is being redeveloped.

Other matters

It was noted that Duncan Ross contractors have still not returned to complete the work following the recent new drainage installations although this has been promised. A meeting has been held with a representative from BT to look at the drainage problems on the telephone exchange site with further investigation being promised but as yet no action has been taken.

Recent vandalism - two seats by the tennis courts have been badly damaged. It was agreed to obtain specifications and prices for two replacement seats.

Fallen tree branch -it was reported that a large branch had fallen from a tree at the back of the play area on the recreation field, knocking over a person. At the July meeting a tree policy was adopted and it was agreed that it would be desirable to have a tree safety inspection carried out. Arrangements to meet a person who could do this are already in place and it will be pursued with some urgency.

2892 **Foreshore**

A complaint has been received from one of the foreshore residents about an increase in overnight parking of motorhomes on the road leading to the former VVV site. There is concern about safety issues. As this land belongs to the council the Police are not able to assist in moving these vehicles on. Lancaster City Council Environmental Health Department have also been contacted for advice but are not able to give any help. The type and cost of a sign on the roadway informing that this is a private road for access only and prohibiting overnight parking is to be explored.

2893 **Manor Lane Play Area**

The council was due to meet a representative from Playdale Playgrounds to discuss the installation of another

piece of equipment in this area but because of Covid 19 restrictions he was not able to attend.
An earlier quotation for the supply of a play tractor along with surfacing is being reconsidered and the price is to be checked. Decision deferred to next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm