

**OVERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF EXTRA ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING
(held remotely)
22nd APRIL 2021 (at 18.00hrs)**

PRESENT: Cllr Ashton (Vice Chair), Cllr Copeman (Chairman), Cllr Herbert, Cllr Kellaway, Cllr Lynch, Cllr Pugh and Cllr Walker

County Councillor McCusker
Clerk

1. 4754. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received

Cllr Alstead, Cllr Roberts and Cllr Whittaker

Not present: Cllr Hellingman

2. 4755. TO DISCLOSE PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING – none disclosed.

3. 4756. COMMENTS & QUERIES FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING

The Chair advised those present that a meeting had taken place in the afternoon between some members of the Community Council and the Arborologist from Wrexham County Borough Council, Jon Brewin.

*Whilst Jon Brewin was supportive of bike trails as a form of outdoor activity for young people, the current site of the bike track may cause harm to the trees (all with TPOs – Tree Preservation Orders) due to the **increased** occupancy and usage of the area, compaction of the soil, which may damage the rooting system and affect the **trees'** ability to obtain oxygen, water and nutrients. Therefore, the track would have to be reinstated and an alternative site found.*

James Jones and Joanne Smith, parents of two boys who use the bike trail, thanked the council for inviting them to join the meeting. They explained how a group of boys had come together to 'reinstate' an old bike track and how much they had got out of designing, making and using the track.

They both appreciated the council's position regarding the trees, but hoped an alternative site could be found and the young people could be involved in creating a new track.

The Chair thanked both parents and stressed that members fully understood the need to encourage and support input from young people in looking at the feasibility of another site.

4. 4757. TO CONSIDER THE UNOFFICIAL BIKE TRACK WHICH HAS BEEN BUILT IN THE MILLENNIUM MEADOW

Options members to consider:

- a) Support the bike track in its current location – adding the bike track to the insurance policy; improving the management and maintenance of the trees and surrounding area.
- b) Not supporting the bike track, distancing responsibility for it to be used (through Social Media, Website, Overton Oracle and notice in vicinity of the track.
- c) Consider relocating site to a more suitable area.

Due to the meeting with WCBC, only option C could be considered. It was suggested a Working Party could be formed to look at the feasibility of an alternative site.

Resolution: Members agreed to set up a Working Party, James Jones and Joanne Smith, were invited to join as well. Cllr Walker will lead the Working Party and notes will be forwarded to Full Council for discussion agreement and approval.

Action: The soil recently dug out will have to be reinstated as soon as possible.

5. 4758. FIRST MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY

Cllr Walker will forward possible dates and times to the Working Party

The Chair closed the meeting at 18.43 hrs.