

Minutes of the Meeting of the Broxton Parish Council

Thursday 24 June 2021 at 7pm at Broxton Village Hall

Present were:

Cllr Wendy Adams, Cllr Andy Cousins, Cllr Lesley Holt, Cllr Vere Isham (Chair), Cllr Rachel Kesterton, Cllr Olivia Smith, and Kate Rixson (Clerk). A member of the public attended.

21/6-1 Apologies for Absence

District Councillors Maggie Sutton and Geoff Bagnall, who could not attend, were thanked for information passed on via email.

21/6-2 Declarations of interest

None.

21/6-3 Public Open Forum

The Chair welcomed Greg Page who, on behalf of the residents of Cherry Green, asked the council to intervene to stop the dumping and burning of items, such as furniture, on land bordering the common at Cherry Green. This had been going on for several years. Residents were concerned about the fire risk to adjacent houses. The planning constraints on the land and whether these were being observed were not clear. It was noted that the district council Environmental Health and Planning departments had both been made aware.

After discussion the council asked the Clerk to pursue this with the district council. The Clerk was asked to advise as soon as possible on the Parish Council's position and rights as the custodian of the common land, as this abutted the site where dumping was taking place.

Action: Clerk

21/6-4 Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings held on 6 May 2021

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the council meeting also held on 6 May 2021 had been circulated. They were approved as accurate and were signed by the Chair.

21/6-5 Decisions by the Council

21/6-5.1 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2020/21

The AGAR and supporting documents having been circulated,

21/6-5.1.1 The annual internal audit report for 2020/21 was received and noted.

21/6-5.1.2 The annual governance statement for 2020/21 was approved.

21/6-5.1.3 The accounting statements for 2020/21 were approved.

21/6-5.1.4 The certificate of exemption from external audit was approved

The AGAR for 2020/21 was duly signed and dated as required by regulations. The certificate would be submitted to the external auditor. The AGAR would be published no

later than 1 July 2021 in accordance with the regulations for the period of public access.

Action: Clerk

21/6-5.2 Planning application UTT/21/1708/OP

After discussion the council agreed to join in a letter prepared by Great Dunmow Town Council setting out objections to the application, which was for up to 1,200 dwellings to be built on land between Little Easton and Great Dunmow. **Action: Clerk**

21/6-5.3 Choice of contractor to fell tree in Cherry Green.

It was agreed to engage Acer Tree Surgery Ltd on the terms of its quotation dated 5 June 2021 to fell the tree, dispose of cordwood if necessary and grind out the stump so that the problem would not recur. **Action: Clerk**

21/6-5.4 Payments were approved as follows:

Payee and purpose	Amount £
K Rixson for Clerk's salary (net) for 34.5 hours worked in May 2021 (including tax rebate)	408.45
Subscription to Uttlesford Association of Local Councils	5.00
Garson's Group Ltd for grasscutting and weed treatment	264.00
Total payments to be authorised	677.45

21/6-5.5 Appeal for Brick End site

The planning inspectors had issued a “start” letter dated 15 June 2021 which set out a timetable for submitting comments on the appeal and stated that the matter would be decided in a hearing (not public inquiry). The council’s specialist lawyer had given advice in a meeting on 22 June 2021 and provided an estimate of costs. After discussion it was agreed that he should be instructed to prepare detailed written comments for submission on behalf of the parish. **Action: Clerk**

It was agreed that this decision should be noted on the council’s website. **Action: Clerk**

21/6-6 Date, time and location of next meeting

As government restrictions will not be lifted before the next scheduled meeting of 8 July, it was agreed to defer this until Thursday 29 July at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.