

# BROXTON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

## Notes of informal meeting with John Salt (Fire Service) at Sandstone Inn Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

### Present:

Kathryn Borman, John Salt & Ann Wright (Clerk)

### Purpose of Meeting: To discuss holding Bonfire & Fireworks at Sandstone Inn

The following were discussed/raised:

- There would need to be adequate fire extinguishers and fire blankets on site.
- Fireworks should have explosive rating of 1.4 (shown on stickers on box/fireworks) if the display is being done by volunteers noting 1.3 is what professionals would use.
- HSE provide risk assessment templates which can be used.
- It was stated the bonfire could not be on the car park due to the proximity of the gas tank.
- The bonfire could be held on the field noting that the fire will radiate heat up to 30m away, there should be no foliage/trees within 10m of the fire and the grass will need to be mown.
- The positioning of the bonfire and fireworks will need to take into account wind direction on the night so as not to smoke across the road. A control measure for the risk assessment will be distance from the road.
- It was discussed if the bonfire is on the field attendees would not be allowed on the field and would watch from the car park behind the fence which will need to be made more visible.
- There is need for some lighting for the attendees to be safe.
- Wood burned on the fire must be dry to prevent 'black' smoke which is contrary to the clean air act. It is also important that only enough wood is put in the fire for the period of the event so the fire is not left burning.
- 999 must be rung before the fire is lit to say that a bonfire is being lit and the location using what3words and the expected time it will go on until, they must also be rung when the fire is extinguished or smoldering.

In discussion with Mr Salt it was noted that it is not impossible for a safe bonfire/fireworks to be held and that community groups should not be put off running such events as long as adequate risk assessments and control measures are in place.

Ann Wright