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| <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> Confirm Order  |                                  |
| <b>REF NO:</b> TPO 2021 no.5  | <b>CASE OFFICER</b> Hugh Coggles |
| <b>LOCATION:</b> Bullock Park. Shipdham   | <b>APPNTYPE:</b> N/A             |
| <b>APPLICANT:</b><br>Bullock Park Management Committee (W2)<br>Shipdham Parish Council (W1) | <b>POLICY:</b>                   |
|   | <b>ALLOCATION:</b> N             |
|   | <b>CONSAREA:</b> N               |
|   | <b>LB GRADE:</b> N               |
|   | <b>TPO:</b> Y                    |
| <b>PROPOSAL:</b> Not to confirm the order   |                                  |

**1. REASON FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION**

1.1 Formal Objection to serving of TPO 2021 No.5

**2. KEY ISSUES**

- 2.1 (Bullock Park Management Committee) The management group consider that they undertake appropriate and professional management of the woodland.
- 2.2 (Bullock Park Management Committee) A TPO puts an un-necessary level of bureaucracy to a volunteer-based Management Committee to have to deal with and volunteers to this committee are hard enough to find as it is to give their free time, and this may well put yet another barrier in place to stop people volunteering to run a successful recreation ground for the village of Shipdham.
- 2.3 (Shipdham Parish Council). The PC consider that they only undertake essential and appropriate work as guided by appropriately qualified professionals.
- 2.4 (Shipdham Parish Council). The TPO will cause unnecessary paperwork and delays to works that, often need urgent attention for Health & Safety reasons.
- 2.5 (Shipdham Parish Council). TPO is, in our view, excessive and premature given our, and the Bullock Park Committee's, diligence, concern and care concerning the trees under our management and control.
- 2.6 (Breckland Council). Breckland Council recognizes that both Bullock Park Management Committee and Shipdham Parish Council take professional advice and have their trees inspected by a qualified arboricultural association approved consultant on an annual basis. In doing this they are fulfilling their duty of care. BDC tree officer has noted over recent months that the quality of tree work has been very poor and that trees which appeared to be healthy have been felled. A copy of the tree survey was obtained, and it was noted that much of the pruning work and felling undertaken was contrary to the survey recommendations.
- 2.7 The standard of pruning, in some cases is extremely poor and not in accordance with current best practice or the British Standard for tree work (BS3998).

2.8 The poor and unnecessary work is harmful to both the health, appearance and long-term sustainability of trees which have been affected.

### **3. SITE AND LOCATION**

3.1 Bullock Park, Shipdham.

### **4. EIA REQUIRED**

4.1 No

### **5. RELEVANT SITE HISTORY**

5.1 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 Hugh Coggles obtains a copy of the most recent tree survey undertaken.

5.2 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, Hugh Coggles visits site to cross reference survey recommendations with actual work that has been undertaken. It is apparent that much of the work, including the felling of a mature Horse Chestnut were not recommended in the survey.

5.3 5<sup>th</sup> May Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO) assessment undertaken by HC. A score of 19 was recorded for both woodlands. Recommendation for any score of 16+ is that the tree/trees definitely warrant a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

5.4 Following the site visit and assessment, confirmation is given by the council to proceed with serving a TPO.

5.5 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 TPO is served.

5.6 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021 an objection to the TPO is received from Bullock Park Management Committee

5.7 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 an objection to the TPO is received from Shipdham Parish Council.

### **6. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

6.1 The following policies of the adopted Breckland Local Plan have been taken into consideration in the determination of this application. The provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Policy Guidance have also been taken into account, where appropriate.

ENV 06        Trees, Hedgerows and Development  
NPPF                Section        15

### **7. CONSULTATIONS**

Ward Representative – Cllr P Hewitt and Cllr L Turner

Neither Councilor supports the TPO.

### **8. REPRESENTATIONS**

8.1 A letter of objection dated 13<sup>th</sup> June received from Bullock Park Management Committee objecting to the TPO.

8.2 A letter of objection dated 15<sup>th</sup> June received from Shipdham Parish Council objecting to the TPO.

## **9. ASSESSMENT**

- 9.1 5th May the Tree Officer visited the site to view the trees and undertake a Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO) assessment. The woodlands both achieved a score of 19, this score is within the range – definitely merits TPO.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 The Local Planning Authority would like to make it clear that the Tree Preservation Order is intended to maintain the amenity afforded to the public by trees and recognizes that reasonable pruning, and sometimes felling, with consent is often necessary to achieve long term sustainability of trees. The TPO should therefore be seen as a requirement for consultation rather than a blanket prohibition.
- 10.2 The order does not prevent the owners from using a contractor of their choice. It does enable the Council to have some control over the work which is undertaken and the powers to condition that work is completed to a high standard and in accordance with current best practice.
- 10.3 Breckland Council are happy to work alongside both Bullock Park Management Group and Shipdham Parish Council to ensure ongoing best practice management of both woodlands and to ensure a speedy response to enquiries, where possible, to avoid any unnecessary delays.

## **11. RECOMMENDATION**

- 11.1 Confirm the order.

