

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 22nd April, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs L Kershaw (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)

Mesdames H Sephton; D Trippier and J Witter

Messrs P Bannister; C Pickering and K Wareing

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr S Trippier (Chairman); Mrs N M Goodier and Mr R Iddon.

Five members of the Press and Public were present.

MINUTES

57/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 25th March, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Footway Lighting This Parish had not been successful in the allocation of finance for additional footway lighting.

2. LAP&TC - West Lancashire Area Committee Mrs L Kershaw reported on the meeting held on the 12th April, 1996. The Police gave a presentation on the new Ringmaster Scheme which was computer based and would be used to send vital information to relevant sections of the community. It was hoped to use the system to provide direct contact with the 230 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in the Division.

Unfortunately, only one telephone line was available at the present time and it was hoped to increase this to 4 lines. Additional finance was required to enable the extra lines to be provided.

The Police had offered to attend Parish Council meetings to explain the scheme to individual Councils.

It was agreed that the Vice-Chairman of the Council would contact the Police to arrange for a visit to a future meeting of this Council.

3. Resident of Guide Road A further letter had been received from this resident asking that more information be made available on the Notice Boards about Members of the Council. The resident also indicated that the litter he had previously reported as being in Guide Road was still there.

It was agreed that the Clerk be requested to respond to the effect that, following the forthcoming election, a list of Councillors would be placed on the Notice Boards but the Council could not guarantee how long the notices would remain. It was also agreed that the lengthsman be requested to investigate the litter in Guide Road but that the resident be informed that the Council is only responsible for the carriageway and footway with the hedge and ditch the responsibility of others.

4. Bus Shelter - Station Road/Moss Lane Payment had been claimed from the Insurance Company and the Clerk had asked about the damaged concrete bollard.

5. Resident of Station Road A copy of the current years' budget had been sent.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Committee Agendas There were no items affecting this Parish.

b. Other Matters

1. Financial Information A copy of the District Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 1996/97 had been received.

2. Parish Council Elections A list of nominations had been received and was read to the meeting. There were 11 nominations which alleviated the need for an election.

3. West Lancs. Rights of Way and Access Forum The next meeting would be held on the 20th May, 1996 at 7.30pm and suggestions for items would be welcomed. No items were suggested.

4. Meeting with Parish Council Clerks This would now be held after the forthcoming elections.

5. Members' Briefing Bulletin A copy of the latest bulletin for District Councillors' had been received.

2. Other Matters

a. John Moores University, Liverpool Details of a Conference on 'Ponds, Partnership and Practice' had been received together with the latest edition of the 'Pond Life Project' newsletter.

b. National Society of Allotments & Leisure The Society were organising a survey and had requested and been given details of the Clerk.

c. Lancashire Rural Action Three copies of the latest network newsletter had been received.

d. Mr R Iddon Mr Iddon had advised the Clerk that he was not standing for election in May and was also resigning from the Governing Body of Tarleton County School.

e. Resident of Moss Lane A resident of Moss Lane had asked about road safety at the junction of Station Road/Hesketh Lane/Moss Lane/Mill Lane. The Clerk had responded by outlining the recent proposals of the County Surveyor.

f. Lancashire Constabulary A copy of the Divisional Policing Plan had been received and the Divisional Commander had re-inforced his commitment to providing effective, efficient and high profile community policing in the parish during the coming year.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

58/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a. Andrew Coxhead - Work at Allotments | £ 35.25 |
| b. David Halstead - Work to hedge at Centenary Sports Ground | £ 120.00 |

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a. West Lancashire District Council - | |
| 1. 'B' Scheme Grant 1995/96 | £2938.10 |
| 2. Precept - First payment | £7500.00 |
| 3. Concurrent expenditure - First payment | £2355.74 |
| 4. Street cleaning - Balance for 1995/96 | £ 877.50 |
| b. Mr B Watkinson - Allotment Rent | £ 24.00 |

3. Other Matters

NSPCC The Society had requested a donation and suggested a sum of £20.

59/96 RESOLVED:- That consideration of the request be deferred until the new Council considers all such requests later in the year.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The owners of two shops situated at the junction of Station Road and Moss Lane asked about the proposals for waiting restrictions at that junction. The Chairman and Clerk indicated that the proposal had been put forward by the County Surveyor and had the support of the Police. The Parish Council had been consulted but they did not know if the County Surveyor would be consulting the owners of individual premises. A copy of the plan was passed to the two gentlemen who were advised to write direct to the County Surveyor to let him know their views and concerns.

Councillor Miss Draper asked about the item to be taken after the exclusion of the press and public and the Clerk indicated that the item was dealing with legal matters and advice.

Mr Hodge asked what was happening about Mr Wignall on the site adjacent to the Centenary Sports Field and the Clerk replied that it was a matter for the District Council.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

60/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/0231 Display illuminated fascia and projecting signs, Hesketh Bank Post Office, 56 Shore Road (Delegated to Director)

b. No 08/96/0236 Greenhouse cover to container storage area, Briarcroft Nurseries, 115 Moss Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

c. No 08/96/0251 Siting of temporary portable building for office use and provision of car parking spaces, Rear of 410 Moss Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

d. No 08/96/0283 Conversion of barn to dwelling, Nook Farm, Chapel Road (To Development & Planning Committee)

e. No 08/96/0316 Outline - Detached dwelling, Nook Farm, Chapel Road (To Development & Planning Committee)

f. No 08/96/0312 Detached two car garage/workshop, 54 Newarth Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

g. No 08/96/0321 Single storey extension to existing offices to provide restrooms/w.c's, store and workshop. Provision of new pitched roof to replace existing flat roof, 390 Moss Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

2. Development & Planning Committee - 25th April, 1996

The following items were noted:-

a. Application No 08/96/0042 Conversion of barn/stable to dwelling, Willow Fields Livery Centre, Cabin Road (Recommendation - Granted subject to occupation conditions)

b. Approved since last meeting

1. No 08/96/0394 Reserved matters, Landscaping, Hesketh Lodge, Dib Road

2. No 08/96/0031 Two storey rear extension and attached car port at side, 64 Moss Lane

3. Other Matters

a. Appeal It was noted that an appeal had been made in respect of the following application which had been refused by the Development & Planning Committee:-

No 08/94/0670 Outline - Agricultural Workers' Dwelling, Land adjacent to Long Acres, Guide Road

b. Notification of Applications to Parish Councils
It was noted that an amended system had been introduced, for a trial period of 12 months, following consultation with Parish Councils.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Parking Restrictions The Divisional Police Commander at Skelmersdale supported the Parish Council's request for restrictions at Station Road/Chapel Road and on the Brow of Station Road Bridge.

The Clerk undertook to ask the County Surveyor if he would be notifying the owners of premises affected by the restrictions.

2. Other Matters

a. Bus Shelter Grants 1996/97 The County Council would not be making bus shelter grants in 1996/97.

b. Marsh Road - Footpath sign The Clerk was requested to ask the County Surveyor why a new sign had been sited after the first house and not at the top of the road.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground - Drainage In the absence of the Chairman, Mr K Wareing indicated that he understood that the problems were being caused by tree roots blocking the existing drains. It was agreed to leave the matter with the Chairman.

2. Recreation Ground - Boundary with Belsfield Drive
The Clerk reported that the two residents who had complained about the trees had agreed to pay half the cost of reducing the height of the trees. The Chairman had previously told the Clerk that he felt this was the wrong time of the year for such work.

The Clerk was requested to consult the Arboricultural Officer about this issue and thank the two residents concerned

3. Recreation Ground - Play Equipment In the absence of the Chairman, Mr P Bannister and Mr K Wareing agreed to look at the cradle swing referred to by the Insurance Company and remove it if necessary.

4. Grasscutting A response was still awaited from Mr M Taylor.

5. Station Road Play Area It was reported that a number of wooden slats were missing from the fence whilst others were broken.

It was agreed that Mrs D Trippier and Mrs H Sephton, in consultation with the Chairman, would investigate the problem and report back to the next meeting.

ALLOTMENTS

It was reported that only Mr A Rostron still owed part of the rental for his allotments.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Meeting with Football Club This had been cancelled as the Club were unable to attend on the date suggested. There was still a need for a meeting and the Clerk would speak to the Chairman about dates.

It was also stated that the Health & Safety people had checked the relevant equipment in the Bowling Club but had not been able to check items belonging to the Cricket and Football Clubs.

2. Meeting with Cricket Club Mrs L Kershaw reported on the meeting to discuss the lease and on a subsequent meeting with the Council's Solicitor. At the meeting with the Cricket Club it had been said that the Club were not in favour of football being played on the cricket field.

It was agreed that a further meeting was now required with the Cricket Club and the Clerk would discuss dates with the Chairman.

3. Station Road Hedge This was still with the Chairman and a price was awaited from Mr J R Foster.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Mrs L Kershaw said how much she had enjoyed her time on the Council and thanked everyone for their help. She also thanked those Councillors not standing in the election for their time and efforts on behalf of the residents of the parish.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

61/96 RESOLVED:- 1 That the Annual Parish Assembly be held on Monday, 20th May, 1996 commencing at 8.00pm, and

2 That the Parish Council meeting to be held on that date commences at 7.00pm and, if necessary, continues after the Annual Assembly.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

62/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONTINUED)

Northern Boundary of Site The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from Solicitors in Southport concerning issues in connection with the Northern boundary of the site.

63/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That action be taken to resolve the dispute over the ownership of the northern boundary of the site, and
2. That Mr K Wareing be authorised to make preliminary contact with a suitable Solicitor to represent the Council in this matter.

Nama Goodie
20/5/96

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 20th May, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; P M Stables; D M Trippier
and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Thirteen members of the public were present.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was MOVED and SECONDED that Mrs N M Goodier be elected Chairman of the Council.

64/96 RESOLVED:- That Mrs N M Goodier be elected Chairman of the Council for the year 1996/97.

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE.

Mrs N M Goodier made the Statutory Declaration of Office of Chairman of the Council.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was MOVED and SECONDED that Mr K S Wareing be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council.

65/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K S Wareing be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the year 1996/97.

MINUTES

66/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd April, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Bus shelter - Station Road/Moss Lane Payment had now been received for the shelter but no mention had been made of the bollard. The Clerk undertook to contact the Insurance Company again.

2. Parish Council Elections The Clerk reported receipt of the Official Result.

Mrs D M Trippier reminded members that they should be conscious of the fact that they had not been elected by the electorate but by default.

The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council was apolitical and all members were there for the good of the community. It was essential that all members worked as a team for the benefit of the residents of Hesketh Bank.

3. National Society of Allotments and Leisure

A survey had been received which would be completed by the Clerk and returned.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Mr R C Ball suggested that Members of the Council should declare their interests in various activities of the Council which should be registered in the Council's Register of Interests.

The Clerk indicated that the relevant legislation referred to pecuniary interests and, whilst he could advise members of what action they may consider taking, he could not force any member to take action. He suggested, however, that members involved with organisations who leased facilities from the Council may wish not to volunteer to serve on the relevant Committees of the Council.

67/96 RESOLVED:- That the Constitution and Membership of the various Committees of the Council for the year 1996/97 be as follows:-

a. Recreation Committee - 5 Members

The Chairman; Mr B Birkby; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables and Mrs J Witter.

b. Allotments Committee - 5 Members

The Chairman; Mr R Ball; Mrs H Sephton; Mr P Sergeant and Mrs J Witter.

c. Footpaths, Tree Wardens and Environmental Issues Committee - 6 Members

The Chairman; Mr R Ball; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables; Mrs D Trippier; Mr S Trippier.

d. Centenary Sports Ground Committee - 5 Members

The Chairman; The Vice-Chairman; Mr R Ball; Mr B Birkby and Mrs J Witter.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

68/96 RESOLVED:- That the following appointments be made to Outside Bodies for the periods indicated:-

a. Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils (3)

The Chairman; The Vice-Chairman and Mrs H Sephton. (1996/97)

b. Layfield Charity (1)

Mrs D Trippier. (4 years)

c. Village Hall Committee (1)

Mr S Trippier. (1 year)

d. Lancashire Playing Fields Association (1)

Mr P Sergeant. (1 year)

e. Council for Protection of Rural England (1)

Mr S Trippier. (1 year)

f. Hesketh-with-Becconsall CE School (1 Governor)

Mr J Hunter. (4 years)

g. Tarleton County Primary School (1 Governor)

Mrs P Stables. (4 years)

Mr R Ball asked about the District Council's Access Forum which was meeting tonight.

The Clerk indicated that the Council could send a representative to meetings but were not required to nominate a specific representative. He suggested that a member of the Footpaths Etc. Committee could attend future meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council There were no items on Committee Agendas affecting this Parish.

2. Lancs. Assoc. of Parish & Town Councils

A. Spring Newsletter

i. Repairs to Street Lighting The timetable for repairing street lights was noted.

ii. Councillors' and Clerks' Allowances These had now been standardise with the new rate for vehicles of 1200 cc and above being 43.8p per mile. Most members were unaware that they could claim expenses when on Parish Council business and long serving members indicated that they usually paid their own expenses.

iii. Local Government Review The Secretary of State had approved Unitary Authorities for Blackburn and Blackpool. Shadow elections would be held in 1997 and the new Authorities would become operational in May 1998.

iv. Training Day - Duties and Responsibilities

69/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr B Birkby and Mrs P Stables be authorised to attend the Training Day on Saturday 15th June, 1996 at a cost of £27.50 each.

v. Revision of Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 Some detailed notes had been received which would be studied by the Clerk.

vi. Recommendations for Part Time Clerk's Salaries The Clerk would look at the recommendations and bring forward suggestions, if appropriate.

B. Other Matters

i. NALC Handbook The 1996/97 Year Book had been received.

ii. Local Council Review The May 1996 edition had been received.

iii. CCL News The Spring 1996 edition had been received.

3. West Lancashire Area Committee

A. Representatives on Outside Bodies The list of current representatives had been received.

B. 'Ringmaster' System A Briefing Paper on the system had been received and the Police would attend the next meeting of the Council to explain the system in detail.

4. Other Matters

A. Lancashire County Council A contact list of County Council Officers and an A-Z of Services had been received.

B. West Lancashire Victim Support Scheme An invitation to the AGM on the 12th June, 1996 had been received together with a request for a grant.

70/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Chairman be authorised to attend the AGM of the Association, and

2. That the request for a grant be considered with other requests received later in the financial year.

C. West Lancs Play Association (Ltd) The Association were holding a 'Fun Day' on the 3rd August 1996 and were seeking stall holders.

D. Various Leaflets Leaflets on activities at Dean Wood and Beacon Country Park had been received.

E. Glenpark Drive A complaint had been received from a resident about a thorn bush spreading over the footway and a car parked on the footway. The Clerk agreed to forward the complaint to the County Surveyor and the Police.

F. Good Neighbour Scheme - AGM This would be held on Tuesday, 21st May, 1996 and members of the Parish Council were invited to attend.

Station *met*
G. Best Kept Village Competition 1996 The Chairman had entered the Parish in the competition and included the Post Office on ~~Shore~~ Road in a specific category. Posters had been received and would be distributed. The judging would start in June and the Chairman would welcome ideas to create more interest within the parish.

Mrs D Trippier suggested that the surrounds of the Village Hall required attention and Mr B Birkby indicated that, if material was available, he could arrange to fill in the pot holes on the site. It was agreed that Mr B Birkby and Mr S Trippier be authorised to organise the necessary work.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

71/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- a. Lancashire Association of Parish & Town Councils -
 - i Annual subscription £ 210.17
 - ii Course fees (Mr Birkby & Mrs Stables) £ 55.00
- b. Gary Pitman - Painting bus shelters £ 180.00
- c. CPRE - Annual subscription £ 17.50
- d. Mrs N Goodier - Best Kept Village Compt. Fee £ 7.50

2. Bank Mandate

72/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr S Trippier be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Council.

3. Insurance The premium for the Council's main insurance policy with Cornhill Insurance was now due.

73/96 RESOLVED:- That the premium of £ 222.02 be paid to Cornhill Insurance.

It being 8.00pm, the meeting was adjourned to allow the Annual Parish Assembly to be held.

The meeting was re-convened at 9.30pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The question of the proposed parking regulations was again raised by members of the public who failed to see the need for such drastic measures. It was suggested the main problem at Station Road/Moss Lane was caused by vehicles parking outside the Midland Bank. In addition, it was felt that the suggestions for the bridge went too near to the shops and the proposed restrictions would only serve to move trade to other areas due to the lack of car parking facilities.

Mr J R Foster indicated that he understood that Alty's had plans to close off the existing car park.

County Councillor R Hodge said that the County Surveyor's proposals nearly always went further than those requested by or acceptable to Parish Councils.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

74/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/0326 2 storey extension to rear elevation - 17 Moss Lane

b. No 08/96/0354 O/L one detached dwelling (including details of siting and means of access) - Land adj. 22 Boundary Lane

At this point Mr S Trippier left the meeting.

c. No 08/96/0360 Single-storey extension to office at rear - 9 Station Road

d. No 08/96/0381 O/L one detached dwelling house and garage (including details of siting and means of access) - Land adj. 86 Chapel Road

STANDING ORDERS

75/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

PLANNING MATTERS (Cont)

2. Development & Planning Committee - 23rd May 1996

A. Applications

76/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/0326 Two storey extension to rear elevation - 17 Moss Lane (Recommendation - Granted)

b. No 08/96/0236 Greenhouse cover to container storage area - Briarcroft Nurseries, 115 Moss Lane (Recommendation - Granted)

c. No 08/96/0161 Use of land for livery, including erection of stable block - Newarth Stables, Newarth Lane (Recommendation - Refused)

B. Old Church of All Saints, Becconsall Lane A report by the Director of Development & Amenities on a Building at Risk report in respect of the Old Church of All Saints was noted.

Mrs D Trippier indicated that the Friends of Becconsall Church were, at the present time, not in favour of the Director's preferred option for the future development of the building.

3. Other Matters

A. Planning Applications Determined Details of applications determined would be supplied to Parish Councils on a monthly basis for display on parish notice boards.

B. Breach of Planning Control - Use of land for storage and parking of vehicles including access from Shore Road This related to premises in Guide Road but no indication was given as to the actual breach.

77/96 RESOLVED:- That the Planning Department be asked for details of the breach in planning control.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Waiting Restrictions The County Surveyor had indicated that notification to individual properties was not feasible although proposed schemes were advertised on the site and in the local press. One letter of objection had been received by the County Surveyor which he would respond to shortly.

Details of proposed schemes for Station Road Bridge and Station Road/Chapel Road had been received and the Council considered these two schemes and gave further consideration to the previously advised scheme for Station Road/Moss Lane/Hesketh Lane/Mill Lane in the light of personal observations made by Councillors and the views of local residents.

78/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the County Surveyor be advised of the following views of the Parish Council in relation to the three schemes:-

a. Station Road/Moss Lane/Hesketh Lane/Mill Lane - No objections to restrictions on the corners of Station Road/Mill Lane (in front of the Midland Bank and round into Mill Lane) and Hesketh Lane/Mill Lane (from bus stop round into Mill Lane) but do not support the proposed restrictions on the corners of Hesketh Lane/Moss Lane and Station Road/Moss Lane.

b. Station Road Bridge - Do not support the proposed restrictions on the bridge.

c. Station Road/Chapel Road - Do not support the proposed restrictions at this location.

2. That the Planning Department be asked if there are any proposals in respect of the existing car park on land currently owned by Alty's.

2. Public Footpath Sign - Marsh Road The County Surveyor had indicated that the sign had been placed at the start of the public footpath.

3. Traffic Calming Measures A number of suggestions were made for possible sites for traffic calming measures.

79/96 RESOLVED:- That an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council to enable a full discussion to be held on this subject.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

A. Drainage The repairs to the drains had now been completed and the Football Club had subsequently undertaken maintenance work on the football pitch.

B. Boundary with Belsfield Drive The Arboricultural Officer had indicated that, ideally, work on the trees should be undertaken in the dormant season.

80/96 RESOLVED That a copy of the Arboricultural Officer's letter be forwarded to the two residents of Belsfield Drive and that they be advised that they must not touch the trees as the Council will undertake the work in the winter.

C. Play Equipment Mr S Trippier had removed the damaged swing seat which he felt he could repair and replace.

D. Agreement for use of Ground by CE School The Clerk undertook to look through his records for a copy of this agreement which had been requested by the Director of Property Services of the County Council.

E. Additional safety surfacing The Chairman undertook to speak to Mr S Trippier about this work which was being financed by a District Council grant.

2. Grasscutting A reply was still awaited from Mr Mark Taylor and Mr P Sergeant undertook to speak to him on behalf of the Council.

3. Glenpark Drive Play Area

A. Complaint Mrs J Witter had received a complaint from a number of residents about nuisances caused by older children. The Chairman undertook to speak to the local Police Officer and the Clerk would advise the complainants of the action being taken.

B. Broken glass Mr Foster was asked to look at this problem and report back to the next meeting.

4. Station Road Play Area - Broken Fence Mrs D Trippier and Mrs H Sephton had compiled a report on the damaged fence. Mr K Wareing undertook to obtain a price for the necessary materials for the next meeting.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

81/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to place this item on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

CENTENARY SPORTS FIELD

1. Refreshment Caravan The Enforcement Officer had written to the Council about the refreshment caravan and enclosed the relevant forms for making a retrospective planning application. The Clerk had forwarded the forms to the Football Club, asked for dates for a possible meeting and advised the Enforcement Officer of the action taken.

2. Cricket Club Lease It was agreed to try and fix a meeting with the Cricket Club on the same day as the meeting with the Football Club.

3. Station Road Hedge The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers had made some proposals about this and other hedges on the site.

82/96 RESOLVED:- That the Centenary Sports Ground Committee be requested to consider the proposals and bring recommendations to a future meeting of the Council.

4. Bowling Club Lease The Bowling Club had questioned the Council's rights to buildings on the site and the clause relating to the access road. The Club had also asked about the possibility of erecting street lights on the access road.

83/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the questions from the Bowling Club in relation to the buildings and the clause relating to the access road be referred to the Council's Solicitor, and

2. That the question of street lights on the access road be considered at a later date.

5. Future Policy on Sports Ground The Chairman was conscious of public concern in the village about the Sports Ground and rumours that, in the past, the Council had acted in an underhand manner.

84/96 RESOLVED:- That a public meeting be held, in the future, to discuss the development of the sports ground.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

85/96 RESOLVED:- That future meetings of the Council be held on the following Monday evenings commencing at 7.30pm:-

17th June 1996;	22nd July 1996;	2nd September 1996;
30th September 1996;	28th October 1996;	25th November 1996;
30th December 1996;	27th January 1997;	24th February 1997;
24th March 1997;	21st April 1997	

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

86/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (Cont)

Mr K Wareing reported on his visit to a Solicitor in Preston who had visited the site and made certain proposals together with his terms for acting on behalf of the Council. The advice was aimed at reaching the quickest solution to the problem of the ownership of the hedge on the northern boundary.

Members of the Council were concerned about the possible cost implications of the action as set out bearing in mind that public money was involved.

87/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Solicitor be requested to send the Clerk a receipt for the Title Deeds currently in his possession,

2. That the Solicitor's terms for acting on behalf of the Council be accepted,

3. That the Clerk be requested to instruct the Solicitor to respond on the lines of the advice set out in his letter to the Council, and

4. That any response be reported back to the Council before further action is undertaken.

Part 4 of the Resolution was subject to a Recorded Vote as follows:- FOR:- The Chairman, Mesdames Sephton, Stables and Witter, Messrs Birkby, Hunter, Sergeant and Wareing (8)

AGAINST:- Mrs Trippier and Mr Ball (2)

Nana Soobis
17th June 1996

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 17th June, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames P M Stables; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; S Trippier and
K Wareing

Nine members of the press and public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs H O Sephton; Mr J Hunter and Mr P J A Sergeant.

I.V. BROADCASTING MODULE OR 'RINGMASTER' SYSTEM

(Sergeant M R Bennett, Dianne Hignett - Crime Prevention Officer & Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, and PC M Thackery attended for this item)

Dianne Hignett explained that the 'Ringmaster' was a computerised message-issue system which provided the Police with the facility to furnish selected groups, within the West Lancashire District, with vital information quickly and efficiently via the telephone network. Unfortunately, budgets were restricted and would not allow for the funding of specific projects such as 'Ringmaster'.

Many people were willing to help the Police, particularly Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, which had increased in the district from 90 to 260 over the past 18 months, and the system would provide those groups with a direct communication link with the Police.

Anyone in the district who has a telephone can apply to join the system which can be linked to a maximum of 4 telephone lines and can also take fax messages.

On receipt of information, the Police can select the appropriate group of people and the system will automatically send a message to all in that group. It is also possible to programme into the system times during which group members will accept a message and, if the system gets a 'number engaged' or no reply from a number on the list, it will retry later until the call is answered. The system is capable of delivering 160 messages per hour and the Police can get a print out which shows which numbers have received a call.

It was hoped that all Neighbourhood Watch and Rural Watch Scheme members, schools, commercial and industrial premises, sheltered housing schemes, sub Post Offices, garages and other similar groups would take advantage of the scheme by registering with the Police.

The initial basic cost of the system, including one telephone line, was £4,000 plus VAT and sponsorship had been received to nearly cover this cost. The basic system would, therefore, be installed. Further sponsorship was now required to allow the number of telephone lines to be increased to four.

In response to various questions, the Police indicated that the cost including four telephone lines was £6,500 plus VAT; that the system was currently in use in 34 Police Forces in the UK; that information received would be verified by a Police Officer before being circulated to the appropriate group; that it was another form of intelligence gathering as an aid to the Police to secure a reduction in crime; that genuine individuals would not mind being checked out by a Police Officer if they had been reported to the Police as possibly acting in a suspicious manner; that only 2 persons at the Police Station would have access to the Database; and that once an Application Form had been received from an individual, business or other organisation, the information would be fed into the system and selected information passed via the system as appropriate.

It was suggested that it was a shame that a scheme of this nature could not be funded by the Government.

The Police indicated that they were not allowed to directly ask for donations from Parish Councils.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for a very interesting and informative presentation.

POLICING IN HESKETH BANK

(The Police Officers remained for this item)

PC M Thackery reported on the following issues which had been raised at previous meetings:-

Glenpark Drive He had spoken to the vehicle driver who had started to park the vehicle in the driveway and the County Surveyor had written to the resident about the hedge.

'Riccadonna' The firm had been approached about vehicles blocking the road and a system had been agreed whereby vehicles would park at the bottom of the yard and come up one by one to be loaded.

Glenpark Drive Play Area Most of the children he had seen using the site were in the 8-10 years age range and he would speak to them if they were kicking balls against fence panels. Most of the older children lived in the vicinity of the site and he would speak to them if necessary. He wondered if the Council may wish to consider erecting a 'No ball games' sign on the site.

Parking Restrictions He advised the Council that his original recommendation was for some form of crossing not for double yellow lines but the County Surveyor had opted for the latter.

Shore Road There had been two accidents last week involving young pedestrians. In both cases the vehicles were travelling within the speed limit and it appeared that the pedestrians had been the cause of the accidents. Sergeant Bennett undertook to speak to the Traffic Manager about these accidents and perhaps arrange for a site meeting to be held to discuss if any future action is required.

Mr R C Ball drew attention to the speed of cattle wagons through the village. The problems were caused mainly at weekends and at night and he wondered whether tachograph checks could be made on the vehicles concerned. He believed that certain premises were being used as a change over point for drivers.

The Police indicated that a tachograph alone could not be used to prosecute speeding offences but can be used to support other evidence.

PC Thackery undertook to speak to the Traffic Department about these problems.

The Chairman thanked the Police Officers for their attendance at the meeting.

MINUTES

88/96 RESOLVED:- That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th May, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

Page 5 Item G - Best Kept Village Competition 1996

Line 3 'Shore Road' to read 'Station Road'.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. LAP&TC Training Day Mrs P M Stables and Mr B Birkby had attended the day and felt it had been very worthwhile.

2. West Lancashire Victim Support Scheme The Chairman had attended the AGM of the Scheme and had been the only Parish Council representative present. The address had been given by the Chief Constable who had spoken about domestic violence. The Police now respond to any domestic violence incident and treat them sympathetically.

3. Complaint about resident of Glenpark Drive As reported by PC M Thackery, the resident had been spoken to about the vehicle and written to by the County Surveyor about the hedge.

4. Good Neighbour Scheme - AGM Mrs D Trippier circulated copies of the Annual Report ~~and Balance Sheet~~ to members of the Council and reported that only the same few regulars had attended the AGM.

5. Best Kept Village Competition Mr B Birkby and Mr S Trippier reported that old tarmac was no longer available from the County Council as all contracts were now contracted out. Mr Trippier also reported that the Village Hall Committee had no money available to spend on the upkeep of the Hall and surrounds.

Mrs Trippier reported that no AGM had been held for the past 5 years and the current Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer had not been voted into office.

In response to a question, it was stated that Tree Tops Nursery were paying rent to the Youth Club.

The Clerk was asked to place an item on the agenda for the next meeting to enable the Village Hall to be discussed in more detail.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas There were no items affecting this Parish.

b. Civic Service This would be held in Skelmersdale on Sunday, 30th June, 1996. No member of the Council was available to attend.

c. Members' Briefing Bulletin The latest edition had been received.

2. Health Services Review A copy of the review had been received which had been given to the Chairman. The initial views of the Community Health Council had also been received.

In essence, Accident & Emergency Services and Midwifery would still be available at both Southport & Formby and Ormskirk General Hospitals but specialist services would only be available at one hospital.

A response was not required until later in the summer and residents of the Parish would have the opportunity to attend a presentation in the Parish and further meetings would be held in Ormskirk and Southport.

3. Other Matters

a. Lancashire Playing Fields Association The Parish Council's representative, Mr P Sergeant, was on holiday when the AGM was to be held and no other Councillor was able to attend.

b. Association for the Conservation of Energy The Association was seeking support to a campaign to secure a reduction in VAT on energy saving materials and asking Parish Councils to write to their MP and to the appropriate Government Department.

89/96 RESOLVED:- That the Campaign be supported and the Clerk be authorised to write the necessary letters to the MP and the appropriate Government Department.

c. Environment Agency Correspondence from the local MP regarding this new Agency was noted. It had taken over the functions of the National Rivers Authority.

d. Crossroads AGM This would be held on the 22nd July 1996 at the Derby Day Centre, Ormskirk at 7.30pm. The request for a grant would be considered later in the financial year.

e. West Lancashire Police and Community Forum This would be held on Monday, 24th June, 1996 at Crosshall High School, Ormskirk at 7.30pm.

f. Fire Brigade - Safety Demonstration The Chairman reported the receipt of an invitation from LAP&TC to attend a demonstration at Euxton last week but she had not been able to attend.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

90/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

a. Hesketh Bank AFC - Water charges	£ 22.00
b. Banks & Wilson - Solicitor's Fees	£ 423.00
c. B W Rimmer Esq. - Clerk's salary & expenses	£ 539.56
d. Lancs. Playing Fields Assoc. - Subscription	£ 10.00

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

Mr A Rostron - Balance of allotment rent £ 4.00

3. Other Matters

Valuation of Assets A firm of Valuers from Preston had written to offer their services to the Council in respect of the valuation of assets for the new Audit Regulations. It was agreed to leave the letter on file for the time being.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Edmondson of Guide Road explained that the access from Shore Road, which was the subject of possible Enforcement Action by the District Council, was already in being as a old brick road.

Mr Edmondson had laid gravel and staff vehicles were parked on the land to alleviate parking problems on Guide Road. An application had now been made to regularise the use of the access and the parking spaces.

The Clerk said he had been unable to get further information from the District Council and was grateful to Mrs Edmondson.

Mr J R Foster indicated that whenever he visited the Play Areas they were being used by younger children. He had mentioned this to PC Thackery. He also indicated that he emptied the litter bins at least once a week.

The Council were advised that the CE School on Shore Road publish a weekly bulletin and it was suggested that the Council may like to provide information for publication, on, say, a monthly basis. The School would require a financial contribution from the Parish Council towards the cost of printing and distribution. It was agreed to discuss the proposal later in the meeting.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

a. No 08/96/0446 - Two/single storey extensions at rear, 141 Moss Lane

91/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

b. No 08/96/0499 - Demolition of existing farm buildings and construction of one pair of semi-detached and 3 detached dwellings, garages and new accesses, Land off The Brow

92/96 RESOLVED:- That the Planning Department be advised that the Parish Council feels that any development should conserve the character of the area and be sympathetic to the surroundings and that the Council is concerned about the very narrow access road to this site which is not wide enough for two vehicles to pass.

c. No 08/96/0500 - Residential development including public open space, estate roads and new access, Land off Shore Road

93/96 RESOLVED:- That the Planning Department be requested to confirm that 3 acres of public open space will be provided in this development.

d. No 08/96/0512 - Single storey rear extension, 'Milford', Guide Road

e. No 08/96/0516 - Extension to existing garage including provision of pitched roof, 1 Newarth Lane

94/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on these applications.

3. Parking on footways Mr R C Ball drew attention to persistent parking on footways in the village centre and suggested that the local Police Officer should be more vigilant in policing these illegal practices. Some members felt it unfair to criticise the Police Officer in his absence but the Clerk was asked to write to the Officer to request that action is taken.

4. Traffic Calming It was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

5. Temporary Road Closure Station Road had been closed for a number of days to enable a sewer connection to be made. The Clerk had been advised of the closure by the County Council and had passed the information to the Chairman.

6. Bus Services It was reported that since North Western had ceased to operate through Hesketh Bank, there was a two hour gap in the morning Stagecoach service between 0807 and 1011. It was helpful, however, that all buses connected at Tarleton with the service to Ormskirk.

96/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be asked to write to Stagecoach asking for a re-instatement of a bus just after 0900 and to the County Council for information about the subsidy paid on the Southport to Preston route via Hesketh Bank.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Boundary with Belsfield Drive The Clerk had written to the residents concerned.

b. Use of football pitch by School The Clerk had advised the County Council that he could find no trace of an agreement for the use of the football pitch by the school.

c. Paved footpath A number of flags were uneven and the path near to Delta Park was overgrown.

97/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That Mr K Wareing be authorised to spend upto £100 to effect repairs to the path, and

2. That the Clerk be authorised to arrange for the overgrown path to be mown under the grasscutting contract to be discussed later in the meeting.

d. Seat

98/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr S Trippier and Mr K Wareing be authorised to move the seat back to its original position.

e. Inspection It was agreed to fix a date for an inspection by the Recreation Committee at the next meeting of the Council.

2. Glenpark Drive Play Area

a. Nuisances etc The Chairman had visited the site on a number of occasions and each time only younger children had been there. She asked members to keep an eye on the situation. It was also reported that Mr Foster visited the site on a regular basis to pick up broken glass.

b. Letter from resident of Glenpark Drive The Chairman had received a letter from a resident about the untidy state of the play area. The Clerk was asked to advise the resident of the action being taken by the Parish Council.

The Chairman also indicated that the residents had picked up the grass cuttings after the area had recently been mown.

3. Station Road Play Area

a. Fence Mr Wareing reported that approximately £20 - £25 of timber was required to repair the fence.

99/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr Wareing be authorised to purchase the necessary timber to repair the fence together with some extra pieces for use in future and to undertake the necessary repairs.

b. Land adj. to Telephone Box Mr Wareing was asked to make some discreet enquiries as to the ownership of this land.

4. Grasscutting It was reported that, despite several attempts by the Chairman and other members, it had not been possible to contact Mr M Taylor and therefore, the Clerk had contacted Brophy's, who undertook work for the District Council in the parish. The Clerk, after consultation with the Chairman, had asked Brophy's to do an initial cut and to provide a quotation for the remainder of the cutting season.

The quotation was £90.00 per cut plus VAT for all the areas identified by the Clerk on the basis of a 3 weekly cut with strimming undertaken on every other cut.

Concern was expressed about the embankment on Station Road Bridge which was the responsibility of the County Council.

100/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That an order be placed with Brophy's for grasscutting on a three weekly cycle, with strimming on every other visit, at a cost of £90.00 plus VAT per cut,

2. That Brophy's be asked to give special attention to the overgrown path at the Delta Park entrance to the Recreation Ground,

3. That Brophy's be asked to cut the Station Road embankment on a one off basis, and

4. That the County Council be asked about the grasscutting on the areas in the Parish for which they are responsible.

STANDING ORDERS

101/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Council discussed the offer from the CE School on Shore Road to assist in the publication of information about the Parish Council as part of the School's weekly bulletin.

102/96 RESOLVED:- That talks be held with representatives of the School to ascertain the approximate cost to the Parish Council of taking up the offer of publishing information about the Council.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

103/96 RESOLVED:- That the resolution of the Annual Assembly relating to the Centenary Sports Ground, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book, be noted.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Meeting with Football Club It was agreed that the Clerk be authorised to try to set up a meeting with the Football Club for Wednesday, 19th June 1996 and advise the members of the Sports Ground Committee accordingly.

2. Station Road Hedge

a. Immediate attention

104/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr A Coxhead be authorised to cut the front hedge at an approximate cost of £15.

b. Long term action Mr Trippier undertook to copy the proposals of BTCV for members of the Sports Ground Committee.

3. Cricket Club Lease That arrangements for a meeting with the Cricket Club be held in abeyance for the time being.

4. Bowling Club Lease The Council's Solicitor had agreed that references to the buildings should be removed from the lease but that the bias should be in favour of the owner of the land and, therefore, the references to the access road should remain.

The Chairman suggested that the Council should seek the advice of the National Association on the draft lease and ask if the Council were right in upholding their legal responsibility if they set a deadline on the lease being signed.

In response to a question about access across Parish Council land, the Chairman indicated that the Council were not granting any third party access to land over Parish Council owned land.

104/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to seek guidance from the National Association of Local Councils on the draft lease prepared by the Council's Solicitor.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

105/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONT)

Northern Boundary The Clerk reported that no reply had been received from the Solicitor regarding this matter. Some members felt that the Council should continue its action and that the Clerk be authorised to act, if necessary, before the next meeting of the Council.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that, if the reply is not to the satisfaction of the Council, the Clerk be authorised to proceed on the lines suggested by the Council's Solicitor.

Upon being put to a recorded vote, the following votes were cast:-

FOR:- Mr R C Ball, Mrs D M Trippier and Mr S Trippier (3)

AGAINST:- The Chairman, Mr B Birkby, Mrs P M Stables and Mrs J Witter (4)

ABSTAINED:- Mr K Wareing (1)

Whereupon it was declared that the proposal had been defeated.

*Wanna Goodie
12 July 1996*

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 22nd July, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant and K Wareing

Twenty members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs P M Stables and Mr S Trippier.

MINUTES

106/96 RESOLVED:- That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th June, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

Page 3 - Good Neighbour Scheme - AGM

Line 2 Delete 'and Balance Sheet'.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Victim Support Scheme A copy of the Annual Report had been received.

2. Health Service Review A mobile exhibition would be in St Mark's Square, Tarleton on Monday, 12th August 1996 between the hours of Noon and 6.00pm.

3. Conservation of Energy HM Customs and Excise had replied to the representations of the Council to the effect that the Government were pursuing an alternative policy for improving energy conservation rather than through a reduction of VAT.

The local MP had supported EDM 702 relating to this subject.

4. Environment Agency The local MP would try to clear up the lack of circulation of material about the new Agency.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas

Transport & Amenities Committee - 2nd July 1996

The Committee had supported the County Surveyor's proposals for waiting restrictions in the village subject to this Council's views being considered before a final decision is made.

b. Meeting of Parish Council Clerks The Clerk reported on a recent meeting held at Ormskirk:-

1. Account & Audit Regulations - The Council must appoint a Responsible Financial Officer (RFO); must set up an Asset Register using approximate values or historical costs as appropriate; and must approve a Balance Sheet within 6 months of the end of the financial year. Final guidance notes would be issued in August with courses being run for Clerks in September.

2. Parish Council Expenditure - Four parishes had not applied for concurrent expenditure. Unsuccessful bids for capital grants would have to be re-submitted.

3. Government's Rural White Paper - Parish Reviews would become the responsibility of District Councils rather than the Local Government Commission but this would depend on parliamentary time being available before the General Election in the Spring which was unlikely. This Councils request for two district councillors was still on file and would be dealt with, alongwith other requests, when the district review was undertaken by the Local Government Commission.

4. West Lancashire Local Plan The final date for comments was the 7th August 1996 and, for the first time, objections could be made on the basis of what is not in the plan. It was likely an Inquiry would be held in May/June 1997 and the Plan adopted early in 1998.

Current planning applications must have regard to the policies in the Draft Plan but the Plan is not the sole basis for decisions.

The Plan suggests the conversion of rural buildings for commercial use rather than housing; that for the removal of agricultural dwelling occupancy conditions, evidence of the inability to rent the property rather than sell the property will be accepted; and that two new Conservation Areas will be created at Plox Brow, Tarleton and The Brow, Hesketh Bank.

Mr Andrew Middlemiss would be leaving shortly to take up a post of Director of Planning in Kent.

107/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be appointed as the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) of the Council.

2. Other matters

a. North West Water A meeting would be held about the drought at Ormskirk on the 25th July, 1996 at 5.00pm. The Clerk would attend.

b. Local Council Review The latest edition had been received.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

108/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- a. Zurich Municipal - Engineering insurance £ 186.96
- b. Mr K S Wareing - Fencing materials £ 22.93
- c. Mr D Halstead - Flagging on Rec. Ground £ 89.50

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

West Lancs. District Council - Street cleaning £1667.72

3. Requests for Grants

a. All Saints Church - Towards renovations of western face of clock costing £250. It was agreed to leave this request in abeyance until later in the financial year.

b. Village Hall Committee - A request had been received from the Village Hall Committee for the early payment of the rental to enable forthcoming expenditure to be met. The Clerk reported that £100 was included in the Council's estimates for support for the Village Hall Committee.

109/96 RESOLVED:- That an amount of £262.50 be paid to the Village Hall Committee comprising of Rental of £162.50 (13 meetings at £12.50 per meeting) and Grant of £100.00.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr McCormick of Chandlers Croft spoke for the residents of the Croft present about the planning application for development on the 'Hourwatch' site off Station Road. A petition had been submitted by the residents objecting to certain aspects of the application. The main concern was over the provision of an emergency access on to Chandlers Croft which was a cul-de-sac. Two bollards would be erected to prevent vehicular access but these would not prevent cycles, motor cycles and pedestrians from using the Croft. The residents were concerned for the safety of their children and the security of their premises especially as they were prevented from fencing off their properties. Further concerns were that the play area was smaller than originally proposed and no other amenities were to be provided. Also, the play area, emergency access and Chandlers Croft were in a straight line making it easy for children to get from the play area to Chapel Road which was a very busy road and dangerous for children. One of the attractions of purchasing houses in the Croft was because it was a cul-de-sac.

Mrs J Witter, a member of the Development and Planning Committee, indicated that she was to ask for a site visit before the application was considered.

Mr Taylor of Boundary Lane, Hundred End, referred to the traffic problems outside 'Riccadonna'. He said vehicles were virtually fully laden when arriving at the premises and only loaded one pallet. The road was not built for 38 ton vehicles and was becoming blocked by haulage vehicles. He suggested that the residents should be asked for their views on the current situation.

In response to questions, the Clerk indicated that £150 was included in the estimates for burial ground grants and that the public were to be excluded from items 13 and 14 for the reasons stated on the agenda.

In answer to a further question, the Chairman indicated that issues for discussion at the Area Committee of the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils were not discussed by the Parish Council beforehand and the Council had faith in the representatives to cast their votes wisely.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists The following were considered:-

a. No 08/96/0161 Erection of stable block, tack room and hay store for private use. Newarth Stables, Newarth Lane (To be submitted to Committee)

110/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

b. No 08/96/0460 Retention of mobile caravan serving refreshments on football match days. Hesketh Bank Sports Ground, Station Road (To be submitted to Committee)

Hesketh Bank Bowling Club had written to the effect that they would not be objecting to the application but wished to point out that services must not, without permission, be attached to the existing Bowling Club services and that the caravan must not interfere with the accepted access road.

A member, who had recently visited the site, felt the condition of the caravan was disgusting and it should meet health and sanitation rules. Another member felt that the Parish Council should object to the application.

The Clerk indicated that the Council could only object on planning grounds and the role of the Council as owner of the land was entirely separate. Any conditions the Council wished to place on the use or siting of the caravan was not a matter for the Development and Planning Committee.

111/96 RESOLVED:- That no objection be made to the application provided it met all statutory requirements. (The above resolution was the subject of a vote of For - 7 votes Against - 1 vote)

c. No 08/96/0487 New vehicular access and additional car parking. The Garage, 6 Guide Road (To be submitted to Committee)

The Clerk reported that this application was in respect of premises which were to be the subject of Enforcement Action.

112/96 RESOLVED:- That no objection be made to this application.

d. No 08/96/0658 Car port and garden fence to side. 62 Moss Lane

113/96 RESOLVED:- That no objection be made to this application.

2. Development and Planning Committee - 25th July 1996

No 08/96/0500 Residential development including public open space, estate roads and new access. Land off Station Road

114/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council fully supports the residents of Chandlers Croft in their objections to this application and urges the Committee to make a site visit prior to considering the application.

3. Applications Determined The following had been determined between 27th May 1996 and 21st June 1996:-

a. No 08/96/0283 Conversion of barn to dwelling. Nook Farm, Chapel Road

b. No 08/96/0316 O/L detached dwelling. Nook Farm, Chapel Road

c. No 08/96/0354 O/L one detached dwelling (including details of siting and means of access). Land adj. 22 Boundary Lane

4. Appeal Decision - No 08/94/0670 - Farm dwelling. Land adj. Long acres, Guide Road The appeal had been dismissed.

5. West Lancashire Local Plan

115/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council requests that consideration be given to the creation of a third new conservation area at Beconsall Lane, Hesketh Bank to start on the west side of the drive to Beconsall Hall and end at the River Douglas, on the basis that the area already contains three Listed Buildings.

6. Planning Appeal - No 08/95/0971 - Residential development. Land adj. Douglas Bank Farm, Beconsall Lane This would be dealt with by means of written statements and a site visit.

7. 'Riccadonna', Boundary Lane (Mrs J Witter declared an interest in this item) It was suggested that the three Parish Councils, Hesketh-with-Becconsall, North Meols and Tarleton, meet with the local residents to discuss the problems at Boundary Lane and that the County Surveyor and Director of Development and Amenities be invited to be represented. The Chairman felt that, whilst this Parish Council should be represented at such a meeting, one of the other Parish Councils should take on the responsibility of arranging and chairing the meeting.

116/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to write to North Meols and Tarleton Parish Councils to suggest a public meeting between the 3 Parish Councils, the residents of Boundary Lane and representatives of the County Surveyor and the Director of Development and Amenities to discuss the problems at 'Riccadonna' subject to one of the other Councils taking on the responsibility for arranging and chairing the meeting.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Parking on Footways The Clerk had written to the local Police Officer who had the matter in hand.

2. Bus Services Replies were still awaited.

3. Bus Shelters

a. Station Road/Moss Lane The Insurance Company required an estimate of the cost of a new bollard. Mr K Wareing undertook to deal with this matter.

b. Nook Farm, Chapel Road This shelter had been hit by a van. Details of the driver had been passed to the Council of the Police. The suppliers of the shelter had been called out to make the shelter safe and an estimate of repairs had been obtained in the sum of £1225.00 plus VAT.

4. Street Sign The Boundary Lane sign had been taken to Ormskirk by Mr J R Foster.

5. Hedges All had been cut in the past few days.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Use of Football Pitch by CE School The Property Services Department of the County Council had written to the Chief Education Officer to see if he wished to formalise the existing agreement.

b. Paved Footpath This had been repaired.

c. Seat This had been moved but people who used it preferred it to be in the alternative position. It did, however, require repairing.

117/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to ask Mr N Marsden to repair the seat.

d. Weekly Inspection of Equipment The Clerk undertook to ask Mr S Trippier if he had the Inspection Book.

2. Glenpark Drive Play Area

Additional Safety Surfacing The areas had been dug out, both on this area and the Recreation Ground, the new surfacing had arrived and was awaiting the Contractor to return to complete the work.

3. Station Road Play Area

a. Fence The materials had been purchased and the repairs would be undertaken by Messrs S Trippier and K Wareing.

b. Land adj. to Telephone Box Mr K Wareing had this matter in hand.

c. Embankment The grass was overgrown and required cutting. The Clerk indicated that the embankment belonged to the County Council.

118/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the County Council be requested to cut the grass on the embankment as a matter of urgency, and

2. That the County Council be advised that the Parish Council will take on the cutting of County Council grass in the Parish subject to re-imbursement of the costs involved.

d. Annual Inspection of Play Areas

119/96 RESOLVED:- That the Inspection be carried out on Thursday, 1st August 1996 commencing at the Station Road Play Area at 5.00pm.

ALLOTMENTS

120/96 RESOLVED:- That the Annual Inspection be carried out on Tuesday, 30th July 1996 commencing at 6.00pm.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Chairman was still awaiting details of the costs involved.

VILLAGE HALL

The Constitution of the Village Hall Committee was circulated. Mrs D Trippier indicated that no AGM had been held for years but she would call an AGM this year with a view to winding up the Committee due to lack of interest by residents of the Parish.

The general state of the hall and surrounds was discussed.

121/96 RESOLVED:- That a Vote of Thanks be extended to the ATC for their help in tidying up the hall and surrounds in the past and it is hoped they will continue to volunteer to do likewise in the future.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Meeting with Football Club It was agreed to leave this in abeyance for the time being.

2. Station Road and Other Hedges The Clerk agreed to remind Mr S Trippier about circulating the information to members of the Sports Ground Committee.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

122/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Mr R Ball left the meeting at this point.

STANDING ORDERS

123/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONT)

1. Leases (Mr P J A Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

The Clerk had asked Rawsthorn and Edelstons for an estimate of the costs to date and was awaiting a response. The National Association of Local Councils had indicated that the leases were acceptable from a local authority point of view but had made one or two suggestions for minor amendments.

The Clerk undertook to speak to Mr Davies of Rawsthorn and Edelstons with a view to obtaining a revised draft lease for submission to the three sports clubs.

2. Northern Boundary The Clerk reported on further correspondence from the Council's Solicitor regarding this issue.

It was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance until the next meeting of the Council.

STREET CLEANING CONTRACT 1997 - 2002

The existing Street Cleaning Contract expired on the 31st March 1997 and the District Council were seeking contractors to tender for the new five year contract from the 1st April 1997 to the 31st March 2002.

The Clerk explained how the current contract was administered and funded.

During discussion on this item, Mr J Hunter and Mr P J A Sergeant left the meeting.

124/96 RESOLVED:- That application be made for the Parish Council to be included on the list of contractors invited to tender for the Street Cleaning Contract for the Parish from 1997 to 2002.

*Nama Goodie
2 September 1996*

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 2nd September 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Ten members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs P M Stables.

MINUTES

125/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd July, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. North West Water The Clerk reported on a meeting with representatives of North West Water when it had been indicated that there was no danger of water rationing or standpipes in this area as the reservoirs were currently about 70% full.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas - Transport & Amenities Committee - 3rd September 1996

A report was included on proposed waiting restrictions at the junction of Shore Road and Guide Road on which the Parish Council had not been consulted. It appeared that the Police agreed with the proposals.

It was indicated by Councillors that no vehicles parked on the junction at present although a van did park further along Shore Road.

126/96 RESOLVED:- That the County Council be advised that the Parish Council is dismayed it has not been consulted on the proposals and that it feels that the proposed restrictions are not required.

b. Members Briefing Bulletin The latest Briefing Bulletin for members of the District Council had been received.

2. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

a. Newsletter There were no items of interest to the Council.

b. Annual General Meeting . This would be held on Saturday, 9th November 1996 at County Hall, Preston.

127/96 RESOLVED:- That The Chairman and Mrs J Witter be authorised to represent the Council at the AGM of the LAP&TC.

3. West Lancashire Community Health Council - Health Services Review - Transport Implications The Council had been asked for its views on the transport implications of the current Health Services Review.

128/96 RESOLVED:- That the CHC be advised of the various transport options for travelling from the Parish to Ormskirk and Southport Hospitals and that the Council feels that Southport would be the first choice hospital for residents of the Parish.

4. Other Matters

a. Resident of Guide Road A letter complaining about the untidy appearance of the Village Hall Grounds had been passed to Mrs D M Trippier. The letter also asked about proposals to alleviate traffic congestion in the village and the Clerk had answered that particular point. It was indicated that the AGM of the Village Hall Committee would be held on the 21st October 1996.

b. Environment Agency A letter and copy of the Customer Charter had been received.

c. LAP&TC - West Lancashire Area Committee The new Secretary had brought to the attention of the Council the following issues which would be discussed at the next meeting of the Area Committee:-

1. Honorarium for Secretary This was currently £120 and any future amount would be shared between 19 Councils. It was agreed that the Chairman would speak to Mrs L Kershaw, the former Secretary, about the work involved.

2. Representation on Area Committee by District Councillors The Council had no strong views on this issue.

3. Amendments to Standing Orders These would be circulated by North Meols Parish Council.

d. CCL News The latest edition had been received.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

129/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

a. A Coxhead - Hedge cutting on Centenary Sports Field - £ 17.63

b. D Dalton - Drainage work on Recreation Ground - £ 1045.75

c. Wicksteed Leisure - Supply and fixing of safety surfacing
- £ 2829.24

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

West Lancashire District Council - Payment for street
cleaning - £ 1667.72

3. Capital Funding 1997/98 Bids were required by the
end of October and the following suggestions were made:-

- a. Shore Road Car Park - New fence
- b. Village Hall - Disabled ramp
- c. Village Hall - Surfacing of car park
- d. Glenpark Drive - Additional play equipment

It was agreed to consider the above, plus any others suggested
by Councillors, at the next meeting of the Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr McCormick of Chandlers Croft again addressed the Council
on the planning application for development on the 'Hourwatch'
site off Station Road. A site visit had been held earlier today
at which there was a debate on various aspects of the
application. It had become clear that none of the locals wanted
the emergency access to Chandlers Croft and they were concerned
at how vehicles, other than emergency vehicles, could be
prevented from using it.

The Chairman, who had attended the site meeting, indicated that,
with a second access off Station Road, there was no need for
the access onto Chandlers Croft and it should be opposed on
the grounds of safety, security and disturbance to the residents.

Mr K Wareing advised that individual letters from residents
would carry more weight than a petition.

Mr McCormick said that letters were being sent to the District
Council and he thanked the Chairman and other members of the
Council who had attended the site meeting and supported the
residents.

Mr J R Foster felt there was a speed problem near the junction
of Guide Road and reported that a street nameplate had been
demolished in an accident.

Mrs H Sephton arrived at this point in the meeting.

Mr Duncan of Moss Lane asked what would be the consequences
of the village losing its village status. The Chairman replied
that, to her knowledge, there were no plans to alter the current
status of the village or the parish.

Mr Duncan then referred to the proposals for housing development in Moss Lane and asked if the Council supported the proposals.

The Chairman referred to previous discussions with English Churches Housing Association. A survey had been conducted in 1995 and a sketch scheme, for an unnamed site in Moss Lane, submitted to the Council in March 1996. The Council had supported the scheme in principle but would wish to look at, and comment on, any scheme put forward for planning permission.

Mrs V Venning of North Meols indicated that the Association had undertaken a scheme in North Meols which had turned out satisfactory.

Mr R Ball considered it was unfair of the Chairman not to answer questions from persons living outside the Parish.

The Chairman responded that she would use her powers to decide whether to answer a particular question or not.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

130/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following application:-

No 08/96/0689 - Single storey rear extension, first floor extension to side and pitched roof to garage/porch on front elevation - 11 Delta Park Drive

2. Development & Planning Committee - 5th September 1996

a. No 08/96/0500 Residential development etc. - Land off Station Road. Amendments had been made incorporating a revised layout, a reduction in the number of dwellings, increased public open space (to one acre) and a footpath link between the site and Delta Park Drive. The Planning Officer had indicated that the 3 acres of public open space was in respect of the whole site and the one acre in the current application could easily be extended should development occur on the remaining areas. The emergency access was a requirement of the County Surveyor and it was a matter for the District Council as to whether the developer was required to incorporate it into the site layout. The original application incorporated shops and a surgery but these were deleted before the Public Inquiry.

131/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council strongly oppose the emergency access to Chandlers Croft on the grounds of safety, security and disturbance to the residents. (The resolution was the subject of a vote of For - 7 votes, Against - 0 votes and Abstained - 3).

b. No 08/96/0161 Erection of stable block, tack room and hay store for private use. Provision of menage area. - Newarth Stables, Newarth Lane (Recommendation - Granted)

132/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application

c. No 08/96/0460 Retention of mobile caravan serving refreshments on football match days - Sports Ground, Station Road (Recommendation - Granted)

133/96 RESOLVED:- That no further comments be made on this application.

3. Applications determined to 23rd August 1996 The following were noted:-

a. No 08/96/0360 - Single storey extension to office at rear - 9 Station Road (Granted)

b. No 08/96/0381 - O/L one detached dwelling house and garage - Land adj. 86 Chapel Road (Granted)

c. No 08/96/0446 - Two/single storey extension at rear - 141 Moss Lane (Granted)

d. No 08/96/0499 - Demolition of existing farm buildings and construction of 1 pair semi-detached and 3 detached dwellings, garages and new accesses - Land off The Brow (Withdrawn)

e. No 08/96/0512 - Single storey rear extension - Milford, Guide Road (Granted)

f. No 08/96/0516 - Extension to existing garage including provision of pitched roof - 1 Newarth Lane (Granted)

g. No 08/96/0658 - Car port and garden fence to side - 62 Moss Lane (Granted)

4. West Lancashire Local Plan The Council's comments on the Plan had been acknowledged.

5. 'Riccadonna' There had been no response from Tarleton Parish Council but North Meols Parish Council would discuss the matter at its September meeting.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Waiting Restrictions - Station Road The County Surveyor had agreed to a site meeting after the proposals had been advertised and objections received.

134/96 RESOLVED:- That the Parish Council's previous views on the proposals be re-iterated to the County Surveyor and that he be informed that the Parish Council looks forward to the site meeting.

2. Bus Services Stagecoach had agreed to an additional service starting the 9th September and to run on Monday to Saturday inclusive leaving Banks at 0925 and Hesketh Bank at 0937. The County Surveyor had detailed the subsidies paid on routes travelling through Hesketh Bank which totalled £ 10,420

3. Bus Shelter

a. Station Road/Moss Lane Two quotations had been received for replacing the concrete bollard as follows:-

J T Bamber - £120.00
S Rigby - £125.00

135/96 RESOLVED:- That the quotations be submitted to the Insurance Company with a request for instructions.

b. Chapel Road, near to Nook Farm The Clerk had again written to the car owner who so far had not responded.

c. Shore Road, Hundred End The shelter had been damaged and Mr K Wareing agreed to see if it needed immediate attention. The Clerk was asked to contact English Nature about the possibility of moving the shelter back a yard onto their land and to obtain a quotation for a new shelter from Autocross.

4. Grasscutting The County Council had confirmed that amenity areas in Shore Road, Chapel Road and Moss Lane were on their list of sites for cutting and had been cut 3 times this year. Also the embankment at Station Road Bridge was the County Council's responsibility and would be cut as and when necessary.

5. Fermor Road/Boundary Meanygate/Boundary Lane The County Council had agreed to place road markings, indicating the right of way, in the near future.

6. Guide Road - Speed Limit The County Council proposed to terminate the 30mph speed limit just south of Dunkirk Dib drain. Members were concerned about the general speed of vehicles on Guide Road. A proposal to implement a 20mph speed limit on the whole of Guide Road was not seconded.

136/96 RESOLVED:- That the County Council be advised that the Parish Council support any proposals which will alleviate the speed of vehicles on Guide Road.

7. Moss Lane - Temporary Closure The road from Boundary Lane to Hesketh Lane (600m) would be closed from 0800 - 16th September 1996 to 1800 - 19th September 1996 to enable sewer connections to be made.

8. Other Matters

a. Controlled Waste A duty of care in the transportation and tipping of controlled waste was noted.

b. Streetcleaning A letter praising the efforts of the lengthsman was noted and the Clerk was asked to thank the resident for making her views known to the Council.

c. Hedges It was agreed that Mrs H Sephton would speak to the owners of Dunkirk Dib Farm and Hundred End Farm about overhanging hedges and members would give further consideration to the hedge near the bend on Moss Lane at the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to the County Surveyor about the hedge at The Barn, Station Road and to point out that problems were caused by the narrowness of the footway as much as by the hedge.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Inspection by Recreation Committee The roundabout, slide and climbing frame require painting and a piece of the safety surfacing under the climbing frame is missing. The street seat is broken and the grass requires cutting over the flags and around the trees.

The roundabout had been vandalised and the Clerk, after consulting the Chairman, had placed an order for repairs with Mr I J Yates at a cost of between £40 and £50. The Police were investigating the matter.

137/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That quotations be obtained for the painting required,

2. That discussion on the street seat be deferred to the next meeting of the Council,

3. That the Clerk contact the relevant firms regarding the grasscutting and repair to the safety surfacing, and

4. That the action of the Clerk in placing an order for the repair of the roundabout, at a cost of between £40 and £50, be confirmed

STANDING ORDERS

During consideration of the previous item it was:-

138/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

b. Football Club - Sponsored Run

139/96 RESOLVED:- That permission be given to the Junior Football Club to sell goods from small stalls on the occasion of a Sponsored Run on the 13th September 1996 subject to the Ground being tidied up after the event.

c. Paved Footpath This had been damaged again after the last meeting but had been repaired by Mr K Wareing.

d. Weekly Inspections of Equipment

140/96 RESOLVED That Mr B Birkby be authorised to carry out weekly inspections of all the Council owned play equipment.

e. Belsfield Drive Boundary - Trees The Clerk undertook to approach the residents to ask if they were still prepared to contribute towards the lowering of the height of the trees and the Contractor to ascertain the current price for the work.

2. Glenpark Drive Play Area

Inspection by Recreation Committee The whole area required tidying up, the swings and climbing frame required painting and complaint had been received about the playing of ball games, e.g. football.

141/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That quotations be obtained for the painting required,
2. That Mr J R Foster be asked to tidy up the area, and
3. That consideration of the complaint be deferred to a future meeting when future capital schemes are discussed.

3. Station Road Play Area

a. Inspection by Recreation Committee The area was in good condition but the grass cutting needed to be extended to the Sidney Avenue fence.

142/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk speak to the contractor about the grasscutting.

b. Fence This had been repaired.

c. Land adj. to Telephone Box The owners were quite happy with the current situation. It was agreed to ask Mr J R Foster to brush the loose stones off the area.

ALLOTMENTS

The Allotment Committee had carried out an Inspection and found every thing in order.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Chairman undertook to chase up the information required from the School.

VILLAGE HALL

There were no issues for discussion until after the AGM in October.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

(Mr P J A Sergeant declared an interest in these items)

1. Hedges The Clerk suggested that the Sports Ground Committee meet to discuss the quotation from BCTV for work to various hedges. The Council wished to make a decision at this meeting and the issue was discussed fully.

It was proposed and seconded that the leylandi, which had been planted in memory of a former player with the Football Club, be not touched until the parents had been consulted for their views.

Upon being put the proposal was carried by 6 votes to 3 votes, whereupon it was :-

143/96 RESOLVED:- That the leylandi be not touched until the parents had been consulted for their views

Further discussion took place with regard to the work on the hedges.

144/96 RESOLVED:- That the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers be requested to undertake the work as set out in their proposals subject to the leylandi not being touched until the parents of the former player with the Football Club, in whose memory they had been planted, had been consulted for their views.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

145/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONT)

(Mr P J A Sergeant declared an interest in these items)

1. Leases (Exempt Information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972) The Cricket Club had asked what the latest position was with the leases as they wishes to improve their facilities.

146/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Clerk be authorised to ask the Solicitor to amend the leases on the lines of comments of the NALC and to remove the references to the buildings being in the Council's ownership,

2. That the Solicitor be requested to send the revised leases to the 3 sports clubs for signature,

3. That the 3 clubs be given 28 days to sign and return the leases, and

4. That in the event any or all the clubs do not sign the leases, the club or clubs return to annual leases on the same basis as those previously granted by the Sports Company.

Mr B Birkby indicated that he had not seen the leases and was not prepared to take a view on the above resolution. The Chairman passed a copy of the draft lease to Mr Birkby.

2. Northern Boundary (Exempt Information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972) The Clerk reported on further correspondence from the Council's Solicitor and Mr J Wignall in which Mr Wignall conceded ownership of the hedge to the Parish Council but not the ditch.

147/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council's Solicitor be authorised to take action in line with his earlier advice in order to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion as quickly as possible.

The above resolution was subject to a recorded vote as follows:-

FOR:- Mrs H Sephton, Mrs D Trippier, Mrs J Witter,
Mr R Ball, Mr S Trippier, Mr K Wareing (6)

AGAINST:- The Chairman, Mr B Birkby, Mr J Hunter (3)

ABSTAINED:- Mr P Sergeant (1)

Nanna Gooder
30/9/96

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 30th September, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; P M Stables; and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Nine members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs D M Trippier

MINUTES

Mr R Ball suggested that in Public Participation, Mrs V Venning did not make the comment minuted. He proposed an amendment to the Minutes which was not seconded whereupon it was:-

148/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd September, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Low Cost Housing The Chairman indicated that the Parish Council had previously agreed in principle to the provision of low cost housing for Hesketh Bank residents as a means of helping young people who want to remain in the village to rent or buy their first home in the village. Correspondence had not been received from the District Council or English Churches Housing since a letter from the District Council in March 1996 which enclosed a sketch scheme but pointed out that no land had been purchased and any scheme would require Parish Council approval and Planning Permission. The Parish Council had no say over which site was pinpointed by either English Churches or the District Council. If anyone had worries over the proposals outlined in the summer edition of The Voice, which was published and circulated by the District Council, they should contact the Chairman of the Housing and Health Committee, Councillor A Adlen, and ask why details had been published without plans being submitted for planning consent.

STET // Mr R Ball indicated that he understood that North Meols Parish Council were concerned at the high level of rents levied by English Churches in respect of a similar scheme in that Parish. *mer*

The Clerk was asked to write to the District Council to express the Council's dismay that information had been circulated to the public, with a photograph of a site, without the Parish Council being consulted and to English Churches Housing to express dismay at the Parish Council not being kept informed of progress.

2. Village Hall The Secretary of the Village Hall had written to the Council about the forthcoming public meeting and AGM outlining the various options open to the Trustees.

Mr S Trippier, the Council's representative on the Trustees, indicated that the Parish Council was the only tenant and the Village Hall was on its 'beam ends'.

The Chairman felt that, in the light of the problems encountered over the purchase of the Sports Field, the Council may be shy about purchasing the Village Hall.

Mr B Birkby said that if the Hall was to be sold it would be put out to tender.

The forthcoming meeting would be attended by Mrs Joanne Leeman of the Community Council of Lancashire who was looking at the legal aspects of the various options.

3. Centenary Sports Ground - Hedge on Station Road boundary
(Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

The Chairman was concerned that hasty decisions were being taken by the Council, due to the lateness of the hour, and she felt it would be insensitive for the Council to write direct to the parents of the former player of the Football Club without ascertaining the true position with regard to the conifers on this boundary. Mr Ball understood that the Football Club had been looking for sponsorship for the conifers.

149/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to write to the Football Club to seek clarification of the position of the conifers on the Station Road boundary of the Centenary Sports Ground including why they were originally planted.

(The above resolution was the subject of a recorded vote as follows:-

FOR:- The Chairman; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables;
Mrs J Witter; Mr B Birkby; Mr J Hunter;
Mr K Wareing (7)

AGAINST:- Mr R Ball (1)

ABSTAINED:- Mr P Sergeant; Mr S Trippier (2)).

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas etc. The next West Lancashire Rights of Way and Access Forum would be held on Wednesday, 6th November, 1996 at 7.30pm.

b. Tree Warden Scheme Re-launch A meeting would be held on Tuesday, 1st October, 1996 at 7.30pm.

c. Parish Notice Boards The Clerk had advised the District Council of the number of Parish Notice Boards.

d. Housing Strategy Statement A copy had been received.

2. County Council

a. Planning and Environment

1. Environment Agency More details had been received including the following Emergency Hotline Number:- 0800 80 70 60.

2. Landfill Tax Details were advised and Parish Councils were asked to look out for fly tipping. Incidents to be reported on the Environment Agency Hotline.

b. Possible amalgamation of Schools in Ormskirk This would not affect schoolchildren from this Parish.

3. Lancashire Association of Parish & Town Councils

a. Training Day, 2nd November - Planning Made Easy
It was agreed that Mrs J Witter and Mr S Trippier would attend at a cost of £27.50 each.

b. Training Day - Accounts and Audit Regulations
This would be held on the 23rd November, 1996 and the Clerk was available to attend.

c. Oaks Millennium Trust Oak saplings were available at a cost of £15 per pack including sapling, planting instructions etc.

d. West Lancashire Area Committee - 11th October 1996

Council 1. Resolutions submitted by North Meols Parish

A. Amendment of Standing Orders

150/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council's representatives be authorised to listen to the debate and vote accordingly.

B. Honorarium for Secretary

151/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council's representatives be authorised to support an amount between £120 and £140.

Councillors C. Representation on Area Committee by District

152/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council's representatives be authorised to listen to the views expressed for and against this proposal and use their judgement to vote accordingly.

4. Local Council Review - September 1996 The latest edition had been received.

4. Other Matters

a. Pond Life Project Newsletter The latest edition had been received.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

152/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

1. Yates Playgrounds - Repairs to roundabout at Recreation Ground - £ 56.40
2. Hesketh Bank AFC - Standing Charge for water meter - £ 9.25
3. David Ward - Cleaning bus shelters - £ 144.00
4. B W Rimmer - Clerk's salary & expenses - £ 511.82

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

1. West Lancs. District Council - Precept - £2235.00
2. Allotment rents (15 x £12) - £ 180.00

3. Capital Funding 1997/98

The Trustees of the Village Hall had already obtained an estimate for surfacing the car park at the Hall.

154/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to obtain estimates for the following works for consideration at the next meeting of the Council:-

1. New fence at Shore Road Car Park - Mr I J Yates
2. Disabled ramp at Village Hall - Premium Paving
3. Additional play equipment at Glenpark Drive - Mr I J Yates

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr C Pickering voiced the continuing concerns of shopkeepers in respect of the proposed parking restrictions on Station Road. The Clerk indicated that the Council would be advised of the date of the site meeting by the County Council and the Chairman said that the shopkeepers would be kept informed of matters.

Mr J R Foster asked if the District or County Council could buy the car park at Alty's but the Chairman understood that the company had other ideas for that area.

Mr Foster was also concerned about test flying from British Aerospace over the parish especially in the light of the recent accident at Blackpool.

Mr Foster reported a hedge in Chapel Road which was growing over the pavement. The Chairman said that she understood the house had been sold and the former owners had moved out.

Mr Duncan referred to the article in The Voice about low cost housing and asked how long the Council had known about the development in Moss Lane. The Chairman said that the Council had heard nothing since the letter in March which said that a site had not been purchased. In answer to another question, the Chairman indicated that the survey of the parish had shown a need for 16 low cost units.

Mr Davies, of Moss Lane, felt that the article in The Voice gave the impression that development in Moss Lane was a foregone conclusion. He had spoken to English Churches Housing and been told that this time next year the houses would be finished and occupied. He had also been told that planning consent was a formality. He understood that the vendor would also be providing private houses on the site.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

a. No 08/96/0876 Alterations to existing vehicle access - 143 Moss Lane (Mrs J Witter declared an interest in this item)

155/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

b. No 08/96/0904 Erection of packing shed/workshop to serve nursery and irrigation/computer business - 160 Moss Lane

156/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

2. Development & Planning Committee - 3rd October 1996

a. Application No 08/96/0487 New vehicular access and additional car parking - Land adj. 20 Shore Road

b. Enforcement No E96/42 Alleged breach - Creation of parking and access areas - Rear of 6 Guide Road
(Recommendations - a. Refusal - Departure from Development Plan - Inappropriate to Green Belt; b. Issue Enforcement Notice - Cease breach in 3 months)

Mrs Witter indicated that the road was already there, the neighbours supported the development and she would be asking the Committee for a site visit.

157/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

3. Applications decided since last meeting No applications had been approved since the previous meeting.

4. 'Riccadonna' Tarleton Parish Council were prepared to attend a meeting arranged by North Meols as 'Riccadonna' was in that parish. North Meols Parish Council felt there was a wider issue - that of heavy farm traffic on narrow roads and were prepared to chair a meeting but not to make the arrangements or provide a Clerk.

The Chairman felt that this Council should not interfere with the business of another parish.

It was Proposed and Seconded that a meeting be arranged by this Council to be held in this Parish.

Upon being put to a recorded vote, the voting was as follows:-

FOR Mr R Ball; Mr S Trippier (2)

AGAINST The Chairman; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables;
Mrs J Witter; Mr B Birkby; Mr J Hunter;
Mr P Sergeant; Mr K Wareing (8)

Whereupon it was:-

158/96 RESOLVED:- That this Council supports Tarleton Parish Council in the view that any meeting should be arranged by North Meols Parish Council who should also provide the Chairman and Clerk. (This resolution was subject to a recorded vote as follows:-

FOR The Chairman; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables;
Mrs J Witter; Mr B Birkby; Mr J Hunter;
Mr P Sergeant; Mr K Wareing (8)

AGAINST Mr R Ball; Mr S Trippier (2))

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Waiting Restrictions

a. Station Road The County Council had published the proposals and observations were required by 23rd October, 1996.

159/96 RESOLVED:- That no further comments be made on the proposals for waiting restrictions in Station Road.

b. Shore Road/Guide Road The County Surveyor had apologised for not consulting the Parish Council prior to reporting the proposals to the County Committee and had offered to include this site in the site meeting to discuss the Station Road proposals. The local Police Officer felt the proposals should be extended to include the length of road immediately opposite Guide Road.

160/96 RESOLVED:- That the offer, by the County Surveyor, of a site meeting to discuss the proposals be accepted.

2. Bus Shelters

a. Station Road/Moss Lane The Insurance Company had approved the lowest estimate and the work had been completed.

b. Chapel Road (Nr Nook Farm) There was still no response from the owner of the vehicle and the local Police Officer was currently away on Conference duties.

c. Shore Road, Hundred End The estimate from Autocross for a new shelter was £1,175.00 plus VAT and no reply had been received from English Nature.

d. Station Road/Chapel Road (Opposite the Village Hall) Since the bus shelter had been removed, buses were no longer stopping due to the lack of bus stop sign. It was also reported that the litter bin had rotted away.

161/96 RESOLVED:- a. That The County Surveyor be asked to provide a new 'bus stop' sign and advise the bus companies of the stop at this location, and

b. That the District Council be requested to provide a new litter bin at this location.

3. Footway - The Barn, Station Road The County District Surveyor would inspect the footway and ask for the hedge to be cut, if necessary, and ask the Engineering and Transport Policy Section to investigate the width of the footway.

4. Other Matters

a. Acute Bend in Moss Lane Mrs D Trippier had undertaken a survey of residents in the vicinity of this bend. All the residents had highlighted problems and made suggestions for improving the situation for vehicles and residents.

162/96 RESOLVED:- That the County Surveyor be requested to look at the situation in regard to the dangerous bend in Moss Lane and consider the recommendations made by the local residents to alleviate the current problems.

b. Fermor Road/Boundary Lane/Boundary Meanygate Road markings had now been provided at this junction.

c. Moss Lane It was asked if it was legal to load and unload wagons on the carriageway. At least two Councillors had nearly been hit by fork lift trucks loading vehicles on the carriageway. The Chairman undertook to find out the legal position.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Painting of equipment A quotation had been obtained from Mr I J Yates and the Clerk was asked to chase Mr N Marsden for his quotation.

163/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to accept the lowest quotation for the work.

2. Recreation Ground

a. Safety Surfacing The safety surfacing had been repaired.

b. Belsfield Drive Boundary - Trees The two residents had agreed to meet 50% of the cost of lowering the height of the trees between them and the Clerk was to chase Mr P Crabtree for an updated price.

164/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to accept a price within 10% of the original quotation.

c. Street seat Investigations were to continue to find prices for new seats.

d. Agreement with C of E School The Property Services Department of the County Council had indicated that no action was to be taken, at this time, to formalise the agreement between the School and the Parish Council.

e. Other matters

1. Hedge

165/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to arrange for the hedges on the School Fold side of the Ground and behind the bus shelter to be cut.

2. School Fold - Parking It was reported that numerous cars were parking on School Fold on football match days. However, the road was a public road with no parking restrictions and there was nothing the Council could do to stop this practice.

3. Glenpark Drive Play Area There were no items for discussion.

4. Station Road Play Area The area was a bit untidy.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

There was nothing to report but the matter would be raised at next meeting of the Governors.

POLICING - CHANGES IN DIVISIONS

As from the 1st April, 1997, West Lancashire would be linked with Chorley and South Ribble for police purposes under the command of Superintendent Andy Lincoln, the former Commander of the Skelmersdale Division. Superintendent Lincoln was seeking views on policing priorities and these should be sent to him at Chorley Police Station, St Thomas's Road, Chorley PR7 1DR.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

Station Road hedge and other hedges The Clerk had written to BTCV and was awaiting a reply. One point of view was that the planting of trees in the new hedge, as suggested by BTCV would not work but other members disagreed.

A letter from Mrs J Birkby, about the proposed work to the hedges at the Sports Ground, was noted.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

The Chairman reported on the Parishes in West Lancashire which had been successful in the competition. A detailed account of how this Parish fared would follow.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

166/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONT) (Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

Leases for Sports Clubs (Exempt information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972) The Clerk was to see the Council's Solicitor on Thursday 3rd October, 1996, with a view to finalising the draft leases ready for issuing to the three Sports Clubs.

Mr S Trippier reminded the Council of the pre-conditions set previously which must be complied with before a lease is offered to the Football Club by the Council. These were in respect of the refreshment caravan, the stand on the Village Hall side of the pitch, the advertising boards and the hedge on the Station Road side of the ground. The Clerk turned up the previous Minute of the Council which read 'signed by the Council' not 'offered by the Council'. The Clerk also indicated that Planning Consent had been obtained for the caravan, although it was further pointed out that the Council had not been consulted on the precise siting of the caravan. The Clerk was requested to clarify, with the Council's Solicitor, the position with regard to the existing structures on the Sports Ground.

STANDING ORDERS

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that the provisions of Standing Order No 17, relating to the closing of the meeting, be not waived and the meeting be closed.

Upon being put to a recorded vote, the voting was as follows:-

FOR The Chairman; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables;
Mrs J Witter; Mr B Birkby; Mr J Hunter;
Mr K Wareing (7)

AGAINST Mr R Ball (1)

ABSTAINED Mr P Sergeant; Mr S Trippier (2)

Whereupon it was:-

167/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17, relating to the closing of the meeting, be not waived and the meeting be closed.

Nanna Jodis
28/10/96

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 28th October, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames P M Stables; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Ten members of the public and press were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs H O Sephton.

MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendments be made to the Minutes:-

1. Page 1 - Low Cost Housing - Delete penultimate paragraph - "Mr R Ball indicated that he understood that North Meols Parish Council were concerned at the high level of rents levied by English Churches in respect of a similar scheme in that Parish."

2. Page 2 - Centenary Sports Ground - Hedge on Station Road boundary - Add before Resolution - "Councillor S Trippier expressed concern over the decision being rescinded within a six month period."

3. Page 9 - Centenary Sports Ground (Cont) - Leases for Sports Clubs - Add at end of Minute - "During consideration of this item, the Chairman proposed that Councillor R Ball be no longer heard for the remainder of the meeting due to his bringing the meeting into disarray. This was seconded and carried."

4. Page 10 - Standing Orders - In the recorded Vote - AGAINST Delete - "Mr R Ball (1)" and insert - "(0)".
ABSTAINED - Delete "(2)" and insert "Mr R Ball (3)".

The proposal was put to a recorded vote as follows:

FOR Mr R C Ball; Mr S Trippier (2)

AGAINST The Chairman; Mrs P M Stables; Mrs J Witter;
Mr B Birkby; Mr P J A Sergeant (5)

ABSTAINED Mrs D M Trippier; Mr J Hunter; Mr K Wareing (3)

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th September 1996 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

The proposal was put to a recorded vote as follows:

FOR The Chairman; Mrs P M Stables; Mrs J Witter;
Mr B Birkby; Mr J Hunter; Mr P J A Sergeant;
Mr K Wareing (7)

AGAINST Mr R C Ball; Mr S Trippier (2)

ABSTAINED Mrs D M Trippier (1)

Whereupon, it was:-

168/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th September, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Low Cost Housing The Clerk reported the receipt of letters from the Director of Housing and Health of the District Council and English Churches Housing which both contained apologies for not keeping the Parish Council informed of progress and for publishing the article and photograph in "The Voice". However, problems had been encountered with the site in Moss Lane and the Housing Association were not yet in a position to submit a Planning Application. The Parish Council would be kept informed of future developments. The Director of Housing and Health had also written to apologise to the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Mrs J Witter (District Councillor for the Parish) and the immediate neighbours of the proposed site in Moss Lane.

2. West Lancashire Area Committee of LAP&TC - 11th October 1996 Mrs H O Sephton had sent in a report on the meeting, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book.

3. Centenary Sports Ground - Northern Boundary Mr R Ball asked the Chairman if she intended to move Item 12 to an earlier point in the meeting. The Chairman responded that she was not. Mr Ball expressed concern at the way this issue was being handled and the time taken to resolve it. It was costing the Council money the longer it went on and he was worried that, later in this meeting, Standing Orders would not be waived and the item not reached but again deferred to the next meeting.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Council move on to the next item on the Agenda.

The proposal was put to a recorded vote as follows:-

FOR The Chairman; Mrs P M Stables; Mrs D M Trippier;
Mrs J Witter; Mr B Birkby; Mr J Hunter;
Mr P J A Sergeant; Mr S Trippier; Mr K Wareing
(9)

AGAINST Mr R C Ball (1)

Whereupon, it was:-

169/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council move on to the next item on the Agenda.

POLICING MATTERS (PC M Thackery was present for this item)

PC M Thackery indicated that responsibility for the damage to the bus shelter in Chapel Road had now been resolved; his comments on the proposed double yellow lines at Shore Road/Guide Road had been minuted; it was not an offence under the Road Traffic Act to load and unload HGV's on the carriageway although the District Council may put restrictions on any planning permission granted and problems could be caused if the vehicles concerned were obstructing the highway; and fork lift trucks did not require licensing for loading and unloading other vehicles on the highway.

In response to a question about speeding, he indicated that the Traffic Department were working on the A565 but he would speak to them about looking at the Parish.

In answer to other questions about rumble strips and other traffic calming measures, he said it would probably be quicker to get results if the Council wrote to the County Council but he would ask about rumble strips. Mrs Witter said the School had previously asked about rumble strips and been told there was very little hope of getting them.

PC Thackery also indicated that it was the responsibility of developers to keep mud off the road at the entrances to building sites. He also indicated that the major crime in the area at present was stealing of and from vehicles with occasional instances of burglaries from dwellings.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas

1. Transport & Amenities Committee - 15/10/96

The Committee had supported the alteration to the speed limit on Guide Road subject to the Parish Council's comments being considered.

2. West Lancashire Rights of Way and Access Forum

To be held on the 6th November 1996 at Ormskirk. No Councillors volunteered to attend.

b. Tree Warden Training Mr J R Foster and Mr S Trippier had been unable to attend.

c. Other Matters

1. District Councillors' Briefing Bulletin No

24 had been received.

2. District Council Statement of Accounts to 31st March 1996 had been received.

2. Other Matters

a. West Lancashire CHC An Executive Summary of the formal response to the Health Service Review had been received.

b. Pond Life Project A Pond Warden Conference was to be held on the 23rd November 1996.

c. Parish Council Minutes Three letters had been received from members of the public, one asking to look at past minutes and two seeking to amend minutes approved by the Council. The Clerk had sought legal advice on the latter two letters.

The Chairman indicated that the Clerk gave a detailed account of the meeting in the Minutes, not one line minutes as was the practice in some parishes. However, there may be a case for items for public participation being submitted in writing before the meeting in order to alleviate possible misinterpretation. The Chairman suggested that the issue be discussed at the next meeting when all views could be fully heard and considered.

Mr Ball asked that it be minuted that he had tried to put his point of view at this meeting, possibly against what the Chairman wanted, and was not allowed to do so.

d. Community Council of Lancashire The AGM was to be held on the 30th October 1996.

e. Lancs. Assoc. of Parish & Town Councils The AGM was to be held on the 9th November 1996 at 10.30pm. The Clerk reported that an Emergency Resolution, from the West Lancashire Area Committee, on proposed changes to the Standing Orders of Area Committees was on the agenda but required a 2/3rds majority of those eligible to vote and in attendance before it could be heard. There were 10 other resolutions for debate.

The Chairman suggested that the delegates should listen to the debates on the resolutions and vote as wisely as possible. It was asked if the Parish Council were to have any input in respect of the resolutions. The Chairman replied that the system had worked well in past years and any Councillors could attend the meeting.

170/96 RESOLVED:- That the 2 delegates to the AGM of the Lancashire Association of Parish & Town Councils be authorised to vote as wisely as possible on the resolutions to be considered in the light of the debates on those resolutions.

f. Lancashire County Fire Brigade - Community Service Report 1996/97 A copy had been received.

g. Cropper Gardens The Doctors Gulati had expressed concern to the District Council about the lack of a warden at Cropper Gardens. Mrs Witter reported that a meeting had been held at The Gardens when it had been suggested that a warden be employed for 20 hours and not 40 hours. The residents were in favour and awaiting the outcome. Cover was currently provided from Ormskirk.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

171/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. J T Bamber & Sons - New concrete bollard, Station Road
(Cost to be reclaimed from Insurance Company) | £ 120.00 |
| 2. Banks & Wilson - Solicitors Fees | £ 338.40 |
| 3. LAP&TC - Finance Course for Clerk | £ 20.00 |
| 4. CIPFA - Accountancy Guidance Notes for Local Councils
(2 copies) | £ 19.98 |

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

NFU Mutual - Insurance payment (Bus shelter, Chapel Road - Nook Farm)	£ 1,439.38
--	------------

3. Capital Funding 1997/98 The Clerk reported on estimates for various items of work for consideration for capital funded for 1997/98 as follows:-

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Village Hall - Surfacing car park | £18,575.00 |
| 2. Village Hall - Disabled access ramp | £ 500.00 |
| 3. Recreation Ground Car Park, Shore Road - | |
| New fence | £ 1,975.00 + VAT |
| Two gates | £ 375.00 + VAT |
| 4. Glenpark Drive - New Play equipment - Various combinations | |
| Scheme A (Safety surfacing not required) | £ 3,170.00 + VAT |
| Scheme B (Safety surfacing not required) | £ 3,560.00 + VAT |
| Scheme C (Safety surfacing included) | £ 4,410.00 + VAT |
| Scheme D (Safety surfacing included) | £ 5,395.00 + VAT |
| Alt. Scheme D (Safety surfacing included) | £ 4,700.00 + VAT |
| Slide (Safety surfacing included) | £ 2,565.00 + VAT |
| Spring Rider (Safety surfacing included) | £ 770.00 + VAT |
| Spring Rider (Without safety surfacing) | £ 550.00 + VAT |

Mr Ball was concerned about taking hasty decisions but the Chairman pointed out that the Council had been advised of the timetable for bids at the September meeting and had identified possible schemes at the October meeting. The Clerk had done well to obtain estimates since the previous meeting of the Council.

It was suggested that, in the light of possible future changes under discussion by the Village Hall Trustees, the disabled ramp to the Village Hall was not required at the present time and only the front of the Village Hall site should be re-surfaced.

172/96 RESOLVED:- That the following projects be submitted to the District Council for consideration for Capital Funding for 1997/98:-

1. Glenpark Drive Play Area - Slide (Inc. safety surfacing) and spring rider (without safety surfacing) - £3,100 + VAT
2. Surfacing front of Village Hall - Clerk to obtain estimate.
3. Recreation Ground Car Park - New fence (without gates) - £1,975 + VAT

(In respect of Item 3 - Mr Ball pointed out that gates may possibly save a child's life in the long run)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr J R Foster suggested that a seat was required at the Glenpark Drive Play Area and reported that bottles and glasses were being smashed at both the Station Road and Glenpark Drive Play areas. He also reported that a resident of Cherry Vale had spoken to him about eggs being thrown at his windows. The Chairman indicated that the Council were to consider the first item later in the meeting whilst the other items were matters for the Police.

Judith Walker asked why money was being spent on Glenpark Drive as against the other play areas. The Chairman said that the proposals discussed earlier were to finish off the Glenpark Drive area and the Council tried to be fair to all the play areas. Mrs D Trippier said the additional play equipment at Glenpark Drive was to prevent the playing of football.

Mr P Leigh of the Football Club reported that, in respect of the pre-conditions set by the Council before a lease would be signed in respect of the football pitch on the Centenary Sports Ground, the Football Club had obtained the following advice:-

1. Conifers - The District Council had indicated they were within the requirements
2. Stand - The District Council had indicated that Planning Permission was not required
3. Hoardings - The District Council had indicated that Planning Permission was not required

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists The following applications were considered:-

- a. No 08/96/0926 - Replace existing bungalow with 2 storey dwelling and double garage - 168 Moss Lane

173/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

b. No 08/96/0904 - Erection of packing shed/workshop to serve nursery and irrigation/computer business - 160 Moss Lane

174/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

c. No 08/96/0987 - Application for determination as to whether prior approval is required for details - Remove redundant earth flood embankment for agricultural land improvement - Land at Hesketh New Marsh

175/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That concern be expressed as this is a secondary flood embankment and a similar application in Banks was refused last year,

(2) That it be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority that the Environment Agency predicts a 1 metre rise in tides over the next 20 years,

(3) That it be pointed out that similar embankments at the Pumping Station, Crossens and at Longton had been raised in height and

(4) That the Parish Council feel that existing trees should not be removed from the site.

2. Development & Planning Committee - 31st October 1996
There were no items affecting this Parish.

3. Applications decided since last meeting The following were noted:-

a. No 08/96/0487 & E96/42 - Creation of parking and access areas and outside storage of vehicles and tyres - 20 Shore Road - Planning permission refused - Enforcement action approved.

b. No 08/96/0500 - Residential development etc. - Land off Station Road - Planning permission granted.

c. No 08/96/0689 - Extensions - 11 Delta Park Drive - Planning permission granted.

4. "Riccadonna" A reply was awaited from North Meols Parish Council.

5. Lancashire Structure Plan 1991-2006 A second list of further modifications to proposals for replacement of a structure plan were now on deposit throughout the County.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Bus Shelters

a. Chapel Road (Nook Farm) The Council had received payment from the Insurance Company.

b. Hundred End This site was not owned by English Nature and the Clerk had now written to the Environment Agency.

176/96 RESOLVED:- That, if a favourable reply is received from the Environment Agency prior to the next meeting of the Council, the Clerk be authorised to place an order for a new shelter, together with an order for a replacement for the shelter damaged at Nook Farm in Chapel Road.

2. Moss Lane (Acute bend) This matter was still with the County Surveyor.

3. Bus Stop - Station Road (opposite Village Hall) This was still with the County Surveyor but see also following item.

4. Deminimis Agreement 28/051 This provided for one bus in three on the 100/102 route to travel via the junction of Station Road and Shore Road, the other two buses travelling via Chapel Road. Notices had been posted at bus stops to advise users of the withdrawal of the buses because they were not being used.

Mrs Witter reported that she had organised a petition and the County Council had agreed to leave the service for a further 4 weeks whilst consultations were undertaken.

177/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the County Council be advised that:-

a. The Parish Council are dismayed that action was being taken to stop the service via the Station Road/Shore Road junction without prior consultation with the Parish Council,

b. The current service is used for shopping, hospital visiting etc.,

c. The elderly are suffering more and more through the lack of public services and are in danger of becoming trapped in their homes, and

d. The building of the new housing estate, off Station Road, which has already commenced, should provide scope for an increased use of bus services through the village.

5. Litter Bin, Station Road (opposite Village Hall)
The Clerk had contacted the District Council but, in the light of the proposals to re-route the bus service (see previous item), had asked for the matter to be put on hold.

6. Other Matters

a. Naming of New Roads The following had been suggested by the Builder for the new estate off Station Road:-

Poppyfields (Main estate road); Cornflower Close; Rosehip Close; Bluebell Close; Primrose Close; Foxglove Close; Hemlock Close; Thistle Close; Campion Close.

178/96 RESOLVED:- That the District Council be advised that:-

1. The Parish Council do not wish to place the suggested road names in order of preference, and
2. The names Cowslip Close and Sanphire Close be submitted for consideration by the Builder.

b. Mud on Roads Concern was expressed about mud being left on Station Road by vehicles delivering to the new housing development site. Mrs Witter had spoken to the Builder who had apologised and undertaken to keep the road clean. The Builder had also apologised for working on a Sunday and had undertaken to advise the Council if Sunday working was necessary in future.

c. Titmouse Brow, - Handrail The Clerk undertook to report that both handrails on Titmouse Brow needed repairing.

d. Streetlights Streetlights which are not lit should be reported direct to the County Council.

e. Speeding of Vehicles Residents should report instances of speeding direct to the Police.

f. Proposed Waiting Restrictions A date for the site meeting with Officers of the County Council was still awaited and would be advised to Councillors as soon as it was to hand.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Painting of Equipment Mr N Marsden was not interested in doing this work and the Clerk had placed an order with Yates Playgrounds.

2. Recreation Ground

a. Belsfield Drive Boundary - Trees The work had been done at a cost of £65 and an invoice was awaited. Some members felt that too many branches had been taken off.

b. Street Seat Yates Playgrounds could provide two types of seat, each with a galvanised steel frame, one made from hardwood at a cost of £265 + VAT and the other from re-cycled plastic at a cost of £220 + VAT.

It was suggested that a seat was also required on the Glenpark Drive Play Area.

Proposals were made for the purchase of two hardwood seats; two re-cycled plastic seats; and one of each type of seat.

179/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That an order be placed with Yates Playgrounds for the provision of two seats, one made from hardwood at a cost of £265 + VAT and one made from re-cycled plastic at a cost of £220 + VAT, each seat to be concreted into position, and,

2. That one seat be placed at the Recreation Ground, Shore Road, near to the swings, and the other seat be placed at Glenpark Drive Play Area, in a position to be agreed between the Chairman and Mr I J Yates.

c. Hedge Cutting A quotation had been obtained from Mr A Coxhead as follows:-

1. Cut hedges all round Recreation Ground - £120.00
2. Cut hedges on School Fold side only - £ 60.00

180/96 RESOLVED:- That an order be placed with Mr A Coxhead to cut the hedges all round the Recreation Ground at a cost of £120 and that Mr Coxhead be asked to ensure that the hedge behind the bus shelter is included.

d. School Fold - Parking Residents were complaining that, when football matches were taking place on the Recreation Ground, cars were being parked across driveways which stopped residents from using them. It was stated that this is a police matter.

e. Drainage Work It was reported that restoration work was required where the drain had been repaired.

181/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to arrange for necessary infilling to be undertaken at the Recreation Ground up to a cost of £100.

3. Glenpark Drive Play Area There were no other items for consideration.

4. Station Road Play Area

182/96 RESOLVED:- That the organisers of the forthcoming bonfire at the Beconsall Hotel be asked to try to ensure that the fence, dividing their land from the Parish Council's play area, is treated with respect by people attending the event.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The School had been advised of the Parish Council's interest in a joint newsletter but no details had yet been received.

VILLAGE HALL

1. Public Meeting - 21st October 1996 This had been well attended (41 present) and a new Committee had been formed. It was intended to regularise the current situation by the amalgamation of the Village Hall and the Youth Club under one organisation.

It was also reported that negotiations and discussions would be taking place about a suggestion to make the Youth Club building the Village Hall, use the existing Village Hall as a Band Room and demolish the existing Band Room.

2. Financial Aid for Village Hall At the public meeting it had been stated that the Parish Council had an additional £4,500 available from the District Council some of which could be used to assist the Village Hall. The Secretary of the Trustees had written to the Council asking for information about the funds the Parish Council may have available.

The Clerk explained that the District Council had altered the method of calculating the concurrent expenditure available to each Parish Council i.e. Parish Council expenditure which could be met by either the District or Parish Council. As a result, some Councils had a reduced concurrent allocation whilst others had an increased allocation. This Parish was fortunate to be in the latter category. However, the estimates for the current year had been prepared and the precept set on the basis of the needs of the Council taking into account the additional concurrent contribution to be received from the District Council.

Mrs Trippier indicated that the current bank balance of the Village Hall was £240 and all tenants had paid upto next May. Various bills for running expenses would need to be met and the likely deficit was in the region of £300. Copies of the accounts for the last 3 years were handed to the Clerk.

The Clerk indicated that the Parish Council may be able to assist later in the financial year. It was suggested, by a Councillor, that, if finance was available, the Council may wish to give priority to the Village Hall.

It was agreed to place an item on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Station Road Hedge (Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

The Football Club had approached Mr Dawson who had indicated that he wished the conifers to remain as a memorial to his son. The Football Club would prune and replace vandalised trees at an appropriate time. The Football Club were also concerned that a Parish Councillor, Mr R Ball, had approached Mr Dawson, less than 24 hours after the Council meeting and without authority, and had been economical with the truth.

The Chairman drew Councillor Ball's attention to the Code of Conduct for Councillors which he had signed when he became a Councillor and which was how he would be judged. She suggested that the Council would not tolerate such behaviour and that no approach should have been made.

The Chairman PROPOSED and it was SECONDED that it be recorded in the Minutes that the Parish Council deplore Councillor Ball's conduct in contacting individual people and conveying incorrect information.

The Chairman also indicated that she had been approached by a resident of Station Road who claimed that Councillor Ball had been approaching residents of Station Road regarding a petition for the conifers to be cut down. The resident felt threatened and intimidated by the approach and wished to remain anonymous.

Councillor Ball stated that he did not confront Mr Dawson but met him on the road. In response to a question from the Chairman, Councillor Ball indicated that he met Mr Dawson on the Tarleton Bypass. Councillor Ball said he spoke to Mr Dawson, and, off his own bat, not on behalf of the Council, sounded him out about replacing the conifers with 6 oak trees which may provide a far better memorial to his son. Councillor Ball maintained that Mr Dawson said it sounded a good idea but he would see what the Football Club had to say. Councillor Ball also indicated that he had not approached any residents about a petition

The Chairman re-iterated that Councillor Ball should not have made an approach to Mr Dawson.

The proposal was put to a recorded vote as follows:-

FOR The Chairman; Mrs P Stables; Mrs J Witter;
Mr J Hunter; Mr B Birkby (5)

AGAINST Mrs D Trippier; Mr R Ball; Mr S Trippier (3)

ABSTAINED Mr P Sergeant; Mr K Wareing (2)

Whereupon it was:-

183/96 RESOLVED:- That it be recorded in the Minutes that the Parish Council deplore Councillor Ball's conduct in contacting individual people and conveying incorrect information.

STANDING ORDERS

184/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That the provisions of Standing Order No 17, relating to the closing of the meeting, be not waived, and,

(2) That the remaining items of business be deferred and taken at the start of the next meeting of the Council.

Nanna Goodes
Chair

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 25th November, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; P M Stables; D M Trippier
and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Mr L L Watson - County Adviser, Lancashire Association
of Parish & Town Councils

Nine members of the public were present.

MINUTES

Discussion took place on an addition to the Minutes after Resolution 183/96 and a deletion from the 2nd paragraph on Page 12.

185/96 RESOLVED:- That, subject to the following addition, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 28th October, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND - Station Road Hedge Page 12 - After Resolution 183/96:- 'Mrs Trippier indicated that she had also spoken to Mr Dawson and the Chairman replied that the Council had not received a complaint about Mrs Trippier.'

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. West Lancashire Rights of Way and Access Forum The Minutes of the latest meeting had been received.

2. Cropper Gardens It had been agreed to appoint a Warden to work 20 hours a week.

3. Centenary Sports Ground - Station Road Hedge Discussion took place on the actions taken by some Councillors following a decision taken by the Council.

The County Advisor pointed out that the Parish Council was a Corporate Body and it was entirely wrong for councillors to act as individuals as well as part of a Corporate Body. The Clerk was employed to implement the decisions of the Council. It was important, therefore, for members of the Council to act as a Corporate Body and not as individuals.

A proposal was made that Mrs D Trippier should also be censured for approaching Mr Dawson but this was not seconded.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was MOVED and SECONDED and by 6 votes to 4 votes:

186/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Whereupon it was:-

187/96 RESOLVED:- That the foyer of the Village Hall be cleared of members of the public whilst the following items of business are discussed.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Northern Boundary (Exempt Information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972)

The Clerk reported further correspondence from the Council's Solicitors and from Barnetts, who were again representing Mr Wignall. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in consultation with the Clerk, had agreed to the action suggested by the Council's Solicitors.

188/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in authorising the action suggested by the Council's Solicitor, be confirmed, and

(2) That the Clerk be authorised to take any further action necessary to progress this issue as a matter of urgency.

2. Leases for Sports Clubs (Exempt Information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972) Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item.

The Council considered the draft lease, which contained the amendments suggested by the National Association of Local Councils, and took account of the Council's response to the issues raised by the Cricket Club.

189/96 RESOLVED:- That the draft lease be approved.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Council establish the Northern Boundary by means of a fence or similar barrier to ensure there is no right of way across the boundary and then issue the leases to the 3 sports clubs.

To which and amendment was MOVED and SECONDED that a lease be offered to the Bowling and Cricket Clubs and the offer of a lease to the Football Club be withheld until the previously agreed pre-conditions are complied with.

Upon being put the amendment was CARRIED by 7 votes to 2 votes with 2 abstentions.

Whereupon the amendment was put as the substantive motion and by 7 votes to 2 votes with 2 abstentions it was :-

190/96 RESOLVED:- That a lease be offered to the Bowling and Cricket Clubs and the offer of a lease to the Football Club be withheld until the previously agreed pre-conditions are complied with,

191/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That the Clubs be given 2 months to agree and sign the lease after which their tenancy will revert to the existing annual basis, and

(2) That Mr S Trippier be authorised to prepare plans showing the respective areas to be leased to the 3 clubs.

At this point, Mr J Hunter left the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL (Exempt Information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972)

The Clerk reported the receipt of advice from the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils to the effect that once the Minutes had been signed as a correct record they could not be amended.

The County Advisor indicated that Public Participation cannot be part of the Council meeting and comments made by members of the public need only be recorded for the benefit of the Clerk as a record of action which needs to be taken. Only Councillors, the Clerk/Proper Officer and persons invited to give professional advice are entitled to take part in Council meetings.

At this point, 7 members of the public were re-admitted to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas There were no items affecting this Parish.

b. Tree Warden Guidelines New guidelines had been issued and would be passed to the 2 Tree Wardens.

c. Other Matters

Housing and Health Directorate The Quarterly Newsletter - 'Home Front News' had been received.

2. Other Correspondence

Local Council Review The latest edition had been received.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

192/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That the following accounts be paid:-

Mr B Birkby - Poppy Wreath	- £13.00
Royal British Legion - Poppy Wreath	- £11.75

(2) That the Royal British Legion be requested to cancel the Council's Standing Order for a poppy wreath for next year (1997) only.

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

Eagle Star Insurance - Payment for concrete bollard, Station Road bus shelter	- £ 120.00
West Lancashire District Council - Streetcleaning payment	- £1667.71

3. Capital Funding 1997/98 The Clerk reported that the estimate for re-surfacing the front of the Village Hall Car Park was £4850 and this had been forwarded to the District Council as part of the Council's bid for capital funding.

193/96 RESOLVED:- That The Chairman, or in her absence, Mrs J Witter, be authorised to represent the Council at the Community Services Sub-Committee when the bids for capital funding are considered.

4. Request for Grant It was agreed to defer a request from the Winged Fellowship until later in the financial year.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Subjects raised included the Leases for the Sports Clubs, the drains on the Recreation Ground, flooding by the swings on the Recreation Ground, public participation in meetings and a Tree Warden issue.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - FUTURE POLICY

194/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That a period for Public Participation continues to be included on Agendas for meetings of the Council, and

(2) That the Clerk be authorised to draw up some basic ground rules to be used by persons speaking under this item on the agenda.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists The following applications were considered:-

a. No 08/96/0904 Erection of packing shed/workshop to serve nursery and irrigation/computer business - 160 Moss Lane. This application had been dealt with at the previous meeting of the Council.

b. No 08/96/0987 Consideration of details for Prior Approval - Remove redundant earth flood embankment for agricultural land improvement - Land at Hesketh New Marsh

195/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That, in addition to the comments already made on this application, the District Council be advised that the Parish Council is concerned about the loss of wildlife habitats, and

(2) That the Planning Department be asked to clarify the exact location of the embankment referred to in the application.

c. Other Applications

196/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

1. No 08/96/1055 Application for determination as to whether prior approval is required for details - Agricultural storage/packing building - 198 Moss Lane

2. No 08/96/1038 Erection of packing shed - Market Garden, Guide Road

3. No 08/96/1061 Erection of garage in extended curtilage - 198 Moss Lane

4. No 08/96/0251 Siting of portable buildings (for office use) and provision of car parking spaces - Rear of 410 Moss Lane - Application revised to include retention of 2 storage containers and diesel tank

2. Development & Planning Committee - 28th November 1996
There were no items affecting this Parish.

3. Applications decided since last meeting The following were noted:-

a. No 08/96/0500 Residential development etc., - Land off Station Road - GRANTED

b. No 08/96/0876 Alterations to existing vehicular access - 143 Moss Lane - GRANTED

4. Appeal decision The following was noted:-

No 08/95/0971 O/L Residential development - Land off Becconsall Lane - DISMISSED

5. Alleged Breach of Planning Control

197/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following:-

No E/96/0061 Unauthorised erection of a building
and its use for vehicle repairs - 31A Boundary Lane

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Bus Shelter, Shore Road, Hundred End The Environment Agency had asked the local Flood Defence Officer to visit the site and report back to the Council.

2. Moss Lane - Acute Bend The County Surveyor had indicated that little could be done at this location in the present circumstances. The County Advisor indicated that proposed new legislation would allow Parish Councils to fund traffic calming measures on their own account or in conjunction with other Councils.

3. Titmouse Brow - Handrails These had been repaired.

4. Bus Service 100/102 - Deminimis Agreement 28/051 It was reported that the service via The Brow would be kept on for the foreseeable future.

5. Other Matters

a. Gritting of roads

198/96 RESOLVED:- That the County Surveyor be asked why road gritting in Lancashire had only started at 9.30am on Saturday, the 23rd November, 1996 when South Ribble Council has started at 5.30am and Sefton Council at 6.30am.

b. Station Road

199/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That Morris Homes be again requested to ensure that mud is not deposited on Station Road by vehicles leaving the Poppyfields building site, and

(2) That Morris Homes be requested to ensure that staff cars do not obstruct the pavements outside the site.

c. Consultation Issues It was reported that a date was not yet available for the proposed site visit to discuss parking restrictions in the Parish and that no feedback had been received on the suggested names for roads on the Poppyfields estate.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Inspection of Play Equipment The Insurance Company had reported two defects on the swings at the Recreation Ground.

200/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr S Trippier be authorised to look at the inadequate clearance under the flat seat swings and the broken rail on the first cradle swing and report his findings back to the Clerk.

2. Provision of Seat - Glenpark Drive The Chairman had decided that the new seat should be sited in front of the trees on the left hand side of the play area.

3. Recreation Ground

a. Hedgecutting An order had been placed.

b. Area by swings This area was currently flooded to a depth of about 2".

201/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That Mr David Dalton be requested to return to the site to ascertain if the current flooding was as a result of the drainage work carried out in the summer, and

(2) That Mr Ball be authorised to speak to Mr Dalton about the problem whilst he is in Croston later this week.

c. Flagged Footpath It was reported that a number of flags needed replacing partly because of the gang mower running over them whilst grasscutting.

202/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to arrange for the flags to be lifted and replaced with chippings.

d. Football Goalposts The Governors of the School were concerned that one set of goalposts were being tied to the school fence and had taken the matter up with the Football Club.

203/96 RESOLVED:- That the matter be left in the hands of the Football Club.

3. Glenpark Drive Play Area There were no other items concerning this area.

4. Station Road Play Area There were no items concerning this area.

STANDING ORDERS

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the provisions of Standing Order No 17, relating to the closing of the meeting, be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be discussed at this meeting.

Upon being put 5 votes were cast in favour of the proposal and 5 votes were cast against the proposal.

The Chairman used her casting vote to vote against the proposal whereupon it was:-

204/96 RESOLVED:- (1) That the provisions of Standing Order No 17, relating to the closing of the meeting, be not waived, and,

(2) That the remaining items of business be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

Nanna Goodie
30/12/96

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 30th December, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Six members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs P M Stables.

MINUTES

205/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 25th November, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There were no items under this heading.

ITEMS DEFERRED FROM LAST MEETING

1. PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mrs Wright, who originally raised this matter on behalf of the School, was no longer on the Governing Body. The Chairman and Mrs J Witter undertook to raise the issue at the next Governor's Meeting.

2. VILLAGE HALL

206/96 RESOLVED:- That this item be deferred until the new Village Hall Committee decides on future action.

3. CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

A. Hedges A letter from Mr L Greenwood, who had spoken to Mr Dawson, was noted. Mr Dawson had indicated that he was happy to leave a decision on the Leylandi to the Football Club.

B. Access Road The Bowling Club, after consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk, had re-surfaced the access road at nominal cost to the Parish Council.

207/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the action of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk, in agreeing to the re-surfacing of the access road, be confirmed, and

2. That the Clerk be requested to thank the members of the Bowling Club for undertaking the work to the access road.

4. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

Reports were presented and noted on the following:-

- a. AGM on the 9th November 1996.
- b. Planning Training Course attended by Mrs J Witter and Mr S Trippier.
- c. Account and Audit Regulations Training Course attended by the Clerk.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. LAP&TC - Area Committee - 10th January 1997 The Chairman was not able to attend this meeting.

208/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the motion from Newburgh Parish Council, calling on the LAP&TC to report back to Area Committees on progress on issues raised at the AGM, be supported, and
2. That the Council's representatives be authorised to vote on the second motion, submitted by Dalton, Lathom, Parbold and Newburgh Parish Councils on the handling of waste materials other than by landfill, in the light of the debate on the subject.

2. Other Correspondence

A. The following items of correspondence were noted:-

- a. District Council Agendas.
- b. West Lancashire Police Forum Agenda.
- c. LAP&TC Newsletter.
- d. LAP&TC Area Committee correspondence re- Agency arrangements for community cleansing.
- e. Lancashire Constabulary re- Staff changes at Divisional HQ.
- f. CCL News - Autumn Edition.
- g. Pondsapes - Issue No 6.
- h. West Lancashire Community Health Council - Annual Report.
- i. West Lancashire Community Health Council - Update on Health Service Review.
- j. West Lancashire District Council - Members' Briefing Bulletin No 25.

B. The following items of correspondence were deferred to the next meeting of the Council:-

- a. Attendance at Annual Conference of LAP&TC.
- b. Attendance at Tree Warden Training evening.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

209/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the following accounts be paid:-

- a. Paul Crabtree - Reducing height of trees at Recreation Ground £ 65.00

- b. Hesketh Bank FC - Standing charge for water £ 9.25
- c. Trinity Weekly Newspapers - Audit Notice £ 70.68
- d. LAP&TC - Audit & Account Regs, booklet £ 5.00
- e. Hesketh Bank Bowling Club - Work to access road at Centenary Sports Ground £ 25.00
- f. Mr B W Rimmer - Clerk's salary & expenses £522.04
- g. Thames Water Contracting - Grasscutting £634.50
- h. Ernst & Young - Audit fee £ 94.00

and 2. That the Clerk be authorised to reclaim £16.25 each from Messrs Veevers and Banks of Belsfield Drive in respect of their share of the cost of reducing the height of the trees. (Item a above)

2. Concurrent Funding 1997/98 The maximum to be paid by the District Council was £3,959.00, subject to a precept being levied for a similar amount.

3. Capital Funding 1997/98 The District Council's priority scheme was at Downholland Village Hall. If that scheme did not proceed then this Council would be allocated £2,000 to replace the fence at the Recreation Ground. The scheme for play equipment at Glenpark Drive, at a cost of £3,100, had not been approved whilst the scheme for resurfacing at the Village Hall car park, at a cost of £4,850, should be submitted for funding from the Village Hall Projects Fund established by the Millennium Commission.

There had been an underspending of £3,000 in the year 1996/97 and £1,000 had been allocated. The Clerk was requested to ask what was to happen to the remaining £2,000.

4. Audit of Accounts The audit had been completed and the Clerk had raised a number of issues with the Council's Bankers.

210/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to negotiate Banking Terms with the Council's Bankers at the least possible cost to the Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Issues raised included leases for the Sports Clubs, flooding at the Recreation Ground, Parish Council achievements over the past 12 months and the speed of vehicles in the village.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

211/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the following comments be made on the application indicated:-

No 08/96/1126 - Change of use from ladies dress shop to betting shop - 5 Station Road - Parish Council concerned about increased traffic and lack of car parking spaces, and

2. That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/1108 - Demolition of existing stable and store and erect office/workshop and store building - Ribble View Farm, Shore Road

b. No 08/906/1156 - Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 detached dwellings including new vehicular/pedestrian access - 77 Moss Lane

c. No 08/96/1122 - O/L demolition of existing derelict farm buildings and erection of 12 terraced dwellings (including details of means of access) - Land off The Brow

d. No 08/96/1173 - Storage building, water storage tank and water crane - West Lancs Light Railway, Station Road

2. Application No 08/96/0987 - Redundant flood embankment

A copy of a plan showing the location of the embankment had been received from the District Council and a letter had been received from Mr J R Foster.

212/96 RESOLVED:- That the letter from Mr Foster be passed to the District Council.

3. Other Items The following items were noted:-

a. Agenda for Development & Planning Committee - 2nd January, 1997 - No items for this Parish.

b. Applications determined since last meeting:-
No 08/96/0904 - Erection of packing shed/workshop to serve nursery - 160 Moss Lane - Approved.

c. West Lancashire Local Plan - Response to objections and comments - Beconsall Lane of insufficient interest to be designated a Conservation Area.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Traffic Regulation Orders - Hesketh Bank The County Surveyor was seeking a date for a site meeting and Mr A J Sergison had sent 3 letters of support for the proposals of the County Surveyor.

213/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That Mondays the 13th and 20th January, 1997 at 9.00am be suggested for the site meeting to discuss the Traffic Regulation Orders,

2. That the County Surveyor be requested to visit the bend in Moss Lane with members of the Parish Council as part of the site meeting, and

3. That Mr A J Sergison be thanked for his comments and invited to attend the site meeting.

2. Replacement of Bus Shelter - Hundred End Approval had been received from the Environment Agency to move the shelter back 1 metre from the carriageway.

214/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to place an order with Autocross for the replacement of the shelter at a cost of £ £1175.00 plus VAT plus cost of extension to base.

3. Litter Bin

215/96 RESOLVED:- That the District Council be requested to provide a litter bin by the seat at the junction of Station Road and Beconsall Lane.

4. Other Matters The following were noted:-

a. Bus Service 100/102 - Further survey had justified retention of service via junction of Station Road and Shore Road.

b. Poppyfields Site - Mechanical sweeper used on Station Road every other day and employees told not to park vehicles on Station Road.

c. Grasscutting - County Council contract runs out in December 1997. Parish Councils to be asked in summer if they wish to undertake work at a cost equal to what County Council would expect to pay its Contractor. The Grasscutting for the safety of the highway users, not for amenity purposes.

d. Gritting of roads on 25th November, 1996 - No response.

e. Shore Road gutters - Started and should be finished this week.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground - Flagged footpath

216/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr J R Foster be requested to cut back the soil from flagged footpath across the Recreation Ground.

2. Recreation Ground - Flooding by swings

217/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to again contact Mr D Dalton about the flooding by swings.

3. Recreation Ground - Other Matters The following were noted:-

a. Comments of Insurance Engineer about swings - Awaiting response.

b. Car Park - Muddy and requires attention - Discuss at future meeting.

c. Hedges - Contractor contacted and work to be completed shortly.

d. Raised flags - Work completed, account to follow.

e. Seats - To be supplied this financial year.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

The Chairman had received the Judges' Report on the Parish.

218/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council to discuss an action plan for the next financial year, and

2. That the Parochial Church Council be advised of the comments made in respect of the buildings and grounds under their control.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

219/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

OTHER CLEANING CONTRACT 1997 - 2002 (Exempt information - Paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972)

The Clerk reported on the basis of the Parish Council's successful tender for the Streetcleaning in Hesketh-with-Becconsall for the period 1st April, 1992 to 31st March, 1997 and his assessment of the current situation regarding the Council's tender for the contract for the next 5 years.

220/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to submit a tender for the contract for Streetcleaning in Hesketh-with-Becconsall for the period 1st April, 1997 to 31st March, 2002 on the same basis as the previous contract and at the price increase agreed by the Council.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Leases for Sports Clubs - Level of Rents (Exempt information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972) (Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

221/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That rents for the year 1996/97 be levied on the 3 Sports Clubs at a amount equal to the rents for 1995/96 plus the RPI for the past 12 months (the RPI to be provided by Mr K Wareing),

2. That the rents to be included in the Leases be the rents due for the year in which the leases are signed., and

3. That Mr S Trippier be urged to provide plans of the areas to be leased as a matter of urgency.

2. Northern Boundary (Exempt information - Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972)

There was nothing to report about the ownership of the northern boundary of the site but the Council were advised of action taken by the Clerk in respect of the Draft Electoral Register.

222/96 RESOLVED:- That the action taken by the Clerk, in respect of the Draft Electoral register, be confirmed.

3. Additional Land for Sports Facilities (Exempt information - Paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972)

The Parish Council noted the current situation regarding the possibility of purchasing additional land for sports facilities.

REPORT FROM WEST LANCASHIRE AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting held on Friday, 11th October 1996.

Members present: Mrs. N. Goodier, Mr. K. Wareing, Mrs. H. Sephton.

A presentation on the Environmental Action Programme for West Lancashire (Agenda 21) was given by Mr. Steve Byron, Policy and Environmental Manager. An environmental charter has been published to set the framework for the Council's activities in the coming years. It is the first stage in the creation of a strategy to achieve greater sustainability and a healthier environment in West Lancashire. A copy of the charter, together with leaflets on recycling, etc. are enclosed.

The honorarium to the Secretary of the committee has been set at £10.00 per Parish Council, with £5.00 for the smaller parishes of Bispam and Simonswood. This honorarium will now be subject to an annual review at the AGM.

Parish Councils should be submitting their bids for the 1996/97 capital expenditure grants. They should reach the District Council before 3rd December.

The Police and Community Forum held on 30th September reported that all crime was up 3%. Violent crime in the district was up 10%, theft from cars up 7%. However, the detection of crimes was up, and figures show that the lowest number of crimes are committed in West Lancashire, and it is the safest place in Lancashire. West Lancashire has the second highest neighbourhood watch scheme, with a high visibility policing campaign. Response times are on target. Lancashire are closing the division based at Skelmersdale, and creating a new division incorporating Chorley, Leyland and West Lancashire. This will be effective in organising the force better, with local police for local areas.

The Social Services Liaison meeting focused on the problems with waiting lists for occupational therapists and respite care for children with special needs.

There was comment on the emissions from BNFL. Any queries should be sent to Mr. P. Orr at LCC.

met

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 27th January, 1997 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; P M Stables; D M Trippier
and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Four members of the public were present.

MINUTES

223/96 RESOLVED:- That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th December, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

Page 1 Item 3A Line 3 "Leylandi" to read "Leylandii".

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Parish Newsletter Mrs H Sephton undertook to pass a copy of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings, together with a report, to the school for incorporation in the School Newsletter. The Chairman undertook to find out the cost of producing and circulating the Newsletter.

2. Litter Bins It was agreed that the existing litter bin at Becconsall Lane was not used and should be moved nearer to the seat and new bins provided at the bus stops opposite the Village Hall and near the entrance to the 'Poppyfields'.

CORRESPONDENCE The following items were noted:-

- a. District Council Agendas.
- b. The next meeting of the Rights of Way and Access Forum was likely to be held on the 17th March, 1997.
- c. Local Council Review - January Edition.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

224/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- | | |
|---|------------|
| a. Autocross - Replacement bus shelters in Chapel Road and at Hundred End | £ 3,022.11 |
| b. Mr K Wareing - Work at Recreation Ground | £ 31.72 |
| c. Mr G Hale - Work to fence posts (Station Road) | £ 13.50 |

2. Other Matters The following items were noted:-

- a. Receipts - West Lancashire District Council - Concurrent expenditure - £ 2,355.74
- b. Capital Funding - The underspending of £2,000 on Parish schemes in 1996/97 has been returned to the District Council's Capital Reserves.
- c. Concurrent Expenditure - The District Council will be holding a special meeting with Parishes in April to discuss this issue.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Issues raised included the fence at Station Road Play Area, Dog bins, and the British Gas building in the village.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

225/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

- a. No 08/96/1206 - Use of existing garage as dog grooming business - "Sunnybank", Guide Road
- b. No 08/96/1191 - First floor rear extension - 141 Moss Lane
- c. No 08/97/0038 - O/L One detached bungalow (inc. details of siting and means of access) - 8 Granville Avenue
- d. No 08/97/0052 - O/L Detached dwelling and garage - Land at 211 Moss Lane
- e. No 08/97/0055 - Erection of replacement single storey w.c. building at rear - The Beconsall Hotel, Station Road

2. Lancashire Structure Plan - 1991-2006 The County Council will adopt the Plan, without further modifications, after the 6th February 1997. Mr J R Foster had asked, by letter, if the Parish Council or Area Committee of the LAP&TC had commented about the short and long term flood defences and was advised that they had not.

3. Planning Application No 08/96/1122 - Land off The Brow Mrs J Witter had now obtained a copy of the deposited plans.

226/96 RESOLVED:- That the following comments be made:- the development will detract from the visual amenity of the area; is inappropriate as it is an overdevelopment of the site and will overwhelm the existing buildings; the site has historic connections; and the Parish Council is concerned about rear access to the houses which is by means of a communal path.

4. Other Matters The following issues were noted:-

- a. Agenda for Development & Planning Committee - 30th January, 1997 which included the following:-

1. Application No 08/96/0926 - Replace existing bungalow with a 2 storey dwelling & double garage - 168 Moss Lane - Recommendation - REFUSED

2. Application No 08/96/1126 - Change of use of Ladies Dress shop to a Betting shop - 5 Station Road - Recommendation - GRANTED

3. Application No 08/96/1156 - Demolition of existing bungalow & erection of 2 No detached dwellings including new vehicular/ pedestrian access - 77 Moss Lane - Recommendation - GRANTED

4. Application No 08/96/1038 - Erection of packing shed - Market Garden, Guide Road - Recommendation - GRANTED

5. Enforcement Item No E96/91 - Unauthorised erection of building - Use of land & building for vehicle repairs and valeting - 31a Boundary Lane - Recommendation - ISSUE ENFORCEMENT NOTICE, CEASE USE, DEMOLISH BUILDING AND REMOVE ALL MATERIALS

b. Alleged breach of planning control (No 8/E/97/0003) - Construction of hardstanding area, parking of HGV's and erection of greenhouse - Belvedere Nurseries, Chapel Road

c. Lancashire Minerals & Waste Local Plan 2006

d. Applications determined since last meeting:-

1. No 08/96/0251 - Siting of portable buildings (for office use), retention of 2 storage containers and a diesel tank, and provision of car parking spaces - Rear of 410 Moss Lane - GRANTED

2. No 08/96/1055 - Application for determination as to whether prior approval is required for details - Agricultural storage/packing building - 198 Moss Lane - PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT PRIOR NOTIFICATION

3. No 08/96/1108 - Demolition of existing stable & store and erect office/workshop & store building - Ribble View Farm, Shore Road - GRANTED

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Waiting Restrictions The Chairman reported on the site meeting held last week. The matter would now be reported back to the County Council Committee and the Parish Council would be advised of the decision in due course.

A further letter had been received from Mr A J Sergison.

227/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be instructed not to answer the points made by Mr Sergison in detail but to invite him to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council when he can ask questions during Public Participation.

2. Hawthorns on Station Road Bridge

228/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr B Birkby be authorised to prune the hawthorns to the level of the fence.

3. Dog Fouling Mrs H Sephton had spoken to the Dog Warden about continuing dog fouling problems and the Warden would be visiting the Parish in the near future.

229/96 RESOLVED:- That Councillors be requested to pass to Mrs Sephton information regarding dog fouling in the Parish.

4. Mud on Roads Incidents should be reported to the Police.

5. Other Matters The following were noted:-

a. Bus shelters - The replacements had been erected in Chapel Road and at Hundred End.

b. Road Conditions on 23rd November 1996 - The County Surveyor's response to the Parish Council's concerns.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Play Equipment Mr S Trippier had met the Engineer who had explained the problems.

230/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr I Yates be requested to raise the height of the flat seat swings and replace the damaged child's cradle seat.

b. Pruning of Trees No payment had been received from the two residents of Belsfield Drive.

231/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to again write to the two residents to request payment of the agreed contribution to this work.

c. Flagged Footpath and Rubbish by Hedge

232/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to investigate these problems.

d. Mound of Lime

233/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr P Sergeant be authorised to investigate this matter.

e. Flooding by Swings

234/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman be authorised to speak to Mr D Dalton about this problem.

2. Station Road Play Area

235/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr B Birkby be authorised to monitor the Cherry Vale boundary, where there is currently some rubbish.

3. Painting of Play Equipment and Provision of Seats
The Council noted that this work should be completed by the end of January or early in February.

ALLOTMENTS

A report about dogs on the allotments was noted.

LAP&TC - WEST LANCASHIRE AREA COMMITTEE

Mrs H Sephton presented a report, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book, of the meeting held on the 10th January, 1997.

LAP&TC - SPRING CONFERENCE

236/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman and Mrs J Witter be authorised to attend the Conference on Saturday, 8th March, 1997 and the Conference Fees of £67.00 (2 x £33.50) be paid.

TREE WARDENS' TRAINING SESSION - 19th FEBRUARY, 1997

It was noted that Mr J R Foster would be attending the session.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE BOARDS

It was agreed to consider the request for a new Notice Board to be provided at the Village Hall during the discussion on the Parish Council Estimates for 1997/98.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND - HEDGES

237/96 RESOLVED:- That the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers be requested to include the work in its schedule for the latter part of 1997 subject to the exact extent of the work being discussed with the Trust nearer the time.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND COMMITTEE

A proposal to disband the Centenary Sports Ground Committee was defeated.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

A report from the Judges, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book, had been circulated and was noted. The All Saints Church PCC had agreed to attend to the matters within its jurisdiction.

238/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the issue be discussed at the April meeting of the Parish Council, and

2. That Mrs H Sephton be authorised to submit a report in the Village Visiter and to speak to the owner of Shore Farm.

REVISED ESTIMATES 1996/97

239/96 RESOLVED:- That the Revised Estimates for 1996/97, as now submitted, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book, be approved.

PARISH COUNCIL ESTIMATES 1997/98

The Council considered suggestions for the Parish Council Estimates for 1997/98, except for the remuneration of the Clerk and Lengthsman which would be dealt with later in the meeting.

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 24th February, 1997 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; P M Stables; D M Trippier
and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Six members of the press and public were present.

MINUTES

245/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 27th January, 1997, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Tree Wardens' Training Mr J R Foster had attended and copies of some new leaflets were passed to the Clerk.

2. Best Kept Village Mrs H O Sephton had prepared an article for the local paper and the owner of Shore Farm had agreed to the Farm being entered as a special feature.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

246/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

A proposal to allow the members of the public to stay inside the building was not seconded.

ITEMS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Centenary Sports Ground (Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

a. Leases Mr S Trippier had prepared the necessary plans for attaching to the leases.

247/96 RESOLVED:- That, to enable possible future access to be obtained to land to the north of the cricket field, the boundary of the land to be leased to the Cricket Club be as shown on the plan prepared by Mr S Trippier.

A letter from the Football Club regarding the points to be complied with before a lease is issued was noted and an item from the Financial Times regarding the length of leases granted by Parish Councils was noted and handed to the Clerk.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that the Clerk be authorised to investigate further the length of lease the Council is allowed to grant.

Upon being put, the proposal was DEFEATED by 6 votes to 4 votes with 1 abstention.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that draft leases, with the necessary plans, be issued to the 3 sports clubs and the Clerk be authorised to investigate further the length of lease the Council is allowed to grant.

Upon being put, the proposal was CARRIED by 6 votes to 2 votes with 3 abstentions whereupon it was:-

248/96 RESOLVED:- That draft leases, with the necessary plans, be issued to the 3 sports clubs and the Clerk be authorised to investigate further the length of lease the Council is allowed to grant.

249/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr S Trippier be thanked for preparing the plans of the areas to be leased to the 3 sports clubs.

b. Northern Boundary Mr K Wareing had been in touch with the Council's Solicitor and reported on the latest position.

250/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to seek further advice from the Council's Solicitor regarding the northern boundary and rights of way across the Council's land.

c. Enforcement Action The Clerk reported letters received from the Chief Executive and the Director of Development & Amenities of the District Council.

251/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman, together with Mrs D Trippier and Messrs R Ball and B Birkby, be authorised to meet officers of the District Council to discuss this matter further.

Members of the public were re-admitted to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. LAP&TC - Training Course - 19th April, 1997

252/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr R Ball be authorised to attend the Training Course on the 19th April, 1997 at a cost of £27.50.

2. Other Cleaning Contract - Hesketh-with-Becconsall
Official notification of the awarding of the contract to West Lancs. Contracting had been received. It was noted that the successful tender was lower than the tender submitted by the Parish Council five years ago. The Clerk was asked to voice the Council's disappointment to the District Council.

3. Sport & Recreation Strategy for West Lancashire An invitation to attend the launch of the Strategy on the 15th March, 1997 was declined.

4. Other Matters The following items were noted:-

- a. District Council
 1. Committee and Council Agendas
 2. Strategy Statement 1996
 3. Members' Briefing Bulletin No 26
- b. Association for Conservation of Energy - Newsletter
- c. Parbold Civic Service - Invitation declined
- d. Enquiry about Becconsall Old Church - Grant applied for from Millennium Fund
- e. CCL News - Winter edition

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

253/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the following accounts be paid:-

- a. Mr A Coxhead - Hedgecutting, Recreation Ground £ 141.00
- b. Mr J R Foster - Underpayment of wages Jan.1997 £ 30.00

2. That Mr K Wareing be authorised to arrange for Mr Coxhead to complete the hedgecutting work before passing over the cheque, and

3. That Mr J R Foster be requested to tidy up around the hedges on the Recreation Ground and submit an account to the Clerk.

2. Closure of National Westminster Bank (Hesketh Bank Branch) A letter from the Bank was noted. The Council were concerned about the lack of consultation before the decision had been taken.

254/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to approach the Midland Bank and Giro Bank about the possible transfer of the Parish Council Accounts. (Mr J Hunter declared an interest in this resolution and did not vote thereon).

3. Grants to Organisations (Mrs H O Sephton declared an interest in this item)

a. Burial Ground

255/96 RESOLVED:- That the following grants be paid for the year 1996/97:-

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 1. All Saints CE Church | £100.00 |
| 2. Becconsall Old Church | £ 50.00 |

b. Other Grants

256/96 RESOLVED:- That the following grants be made for the year 1996/97:-

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Victim Support Scheme | £ 25.00 |
| 2. Crossroads (Care Attendant Scheme) | £ 25.00 |

4. Other Matters The following items were noted:-

- a. Cheque from West Lancs DC for streetcleaning £1667.72
- b. Letter of acknowledgement from Hesketh Bank Bowling Club
- c. Annual Audit to be held on Friday 1st August 1997

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Issues raised were the lease for the Football Club and Dog bins.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

257/96 RESOLVED:- That comments be made on submitted planning applications as indicated:-

- a. No 08/97/0087 Erection of replacement detached dormer bungalow - Station House, Boundary Lane - No Comments
- b. No 08/97/0159 Removal of redundant earth flood embankment for agricultural land improvement - Hesketh New Marsh - Object on the grounds that it is in an Area of Scientific Interest, is a Special Conservation area, is a second line of defence and during the recent high tides, the water was lapping at the top of the bank.
- c. No 08/0102 Display of non-illuminated free standing advertisement sign - 140 Station Road - Object on the grounds of an inappropriate use of the Green Belt, a detraction from the general aspect of the village and the general proliferation of signs in the village.

2. Development and Planning Committee - 27th Feb.1997

258/96 RESOLVED:- That comments be made as follows:-

- a. No 08/96/1191 First floor rear extension - 141 Moss Lane (RECOMMENDATION - Refused) - No comments
- b. No 08/97/0052 O/L Detached dwelling & garage - 211 Moss Lane (RECOMMENDATION - Refused) - No comments
- c. No 08/96/1206 Use of existing garage as a dog grooming business - Sunnybank, Guide Road (RECOMMENDATION - Delegated to Director of Development & Amenities in consultation with Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committee subject to the Secretary of State having no objection to the Local Planning Authority making decision) - No comments
- d. No 08/96/1122 O/L demolition of existing derelict buildings and erection of 12 terraced dwellings (including details of siting and means of access) - Land off The Brow (RECOMMENDATION - Delegated to Director of Development & Amenities in consultation with Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committee subject to completion of Section 106 Agreement) - Draw attention of Committee to previous undertaking that low cost housing should be for local needs whereas the condition suggested by the Director refers to people on the Council's waiting list, also feel the maximum number of dwellings on this site should be six with six provided on the applicant's main site as previously agreed by the District Council

3. West Lancashire Local Plan

259/96 RESOLVED:- That the Parish Council object to the deletion of the Conservation Areas (Policy CA1).

4. Other Matters The following items were noted:-

a. Planning Appeal (No 08/96/1061) - O/L erection of garage in extended curtilage - 198 Moss Lane - Submitted to Secretary of State

b. Application determined since last meeting - No 08/96/1173 - Storage building, water storage tank and water storage crane - West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road - GRANTED

c. Alleged breach of planning control - No 8/E/96/0061 - Unauthorised erection of a building and its use for vehicle repairs - 31A Boundary Lane - Issue of Enforcement Notice approved

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Car Parking in Village Centre

260/96 RESOLVED:- That the offer of Henry Alty Ltd to lease land at Station Road to the Parish Council for a car park be not accepted due to the impact of the proposed rental on the Parish Precept and the Council Tax.

A proposal to seek to purchase the land by Compulsory Purchase Order was defeated.

2. Bus Stops and Bus Services It was noted that a new bus stop sign would be erected on the boundary between Nos 91 and 91A Station Road and that application had been made by Stagecoach to run a half-hourly daytime service from Preston to Hesketh Bank to go down Station Road to The Brow and returning via Chapel Road.

3. Other Matters

261/96 RESOLVED:- That the County Surveyor be requested to investigate the proliferation of signs attached to lampposts etc. advertising the development at 'Poppyfields' and the ditch on the northern side of Shore Road which has collapsed at various points.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Flagged path Twenty seven flags were required to repair the path and it was agreed to leave it until the drainage problem had been dealt with.

b. Lime The Football Club had asked Mr J R Foster to dig the lime into the ground.

c. Flooding by the swings Mr D Dalton had undertaken to visit the site this week.

d. Pruning of trees

262/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to send to Mr R Banks copies of his original letters, which did not mention the hedge, advise him that the Council will be trimming the hedge adjacent to his property and again request payment of the agreed contributions of Mr Banks and his neighbour, Mr P Veevers.

2. Glenpark Drive - New Seat The Chairman and Mr I Yates had agreed on a location for the new seat.

3. Station Road Play Area Mr B Birkby reported on the latest position with regard to the rubbish at the Cherry Vale end of the play area and the possible action to be taken by the resident concerned to take over a small piece of that land.

263/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to clarify with the Lancashire Association of Parish & Town Councils the Council's position with regard to the land.

ALLOTMENTS

It was reported that Mr A Rostron did not wish to continue renting his two allotments from the Council.

264/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr A Cheetham of Guide Road and Mr D Dunkley of Chapel Road be each allocated one allotment with immediate effect.

PARISH NOTICE BOARDS

265/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That Mr J Ball of Tarleton be authorised to carry out necessary repairs and renovations to the Notice Board situated at the Recreation Ground, Shore Road, in the sum of £49.82, and

2. That the Clerk be authorised to approach the owners of the shops at the junction Station Road and Chapel Road for permission to erect a new Notice Board at that location.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

266/96 RESOLVED That Mrs H O Sephton be authorised to produce a quarterly Parish Newsletter at an approximate cost of £40.00 per annum, using photocopying facilities at All Saints CE School and distributing copies by seeking to place them in the two Post Offices and one shop at the junction of Station Road and Chapel Road.

Nanna Pook
24/3/97

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 24th March, 1997 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter; P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

12 members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs H O Sephton;.

MINUTES

267/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 24th February, 1997, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Car Park in Village Centre - Compulsory Purchase Order

The Clerk reported that a CPO could only be applied for by the District Council on behalf of the Parish Council with the Parish Council responsible for all expenditure including legal fees and compensation for the owners of the land.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Committee Agendas A Special Meeting of the Community Liaison Sub-Committee would be held on the 16th April, 1997 and the Chairman would attend.

b. Other Matters The following were noted:-

West Lancashire Design Awards 1997 - Details
Revenue Budget & Capital Programme to March 1998

2. Other Correspondence The following were noted:-

Lancashire Police Authority - Community Forum Meeting 17th March 1997
Association of Chief Police Officers - Crime Prevention Strategy for Millennium
Lancashire County Council - Travelwise Scheme
Lancashire County Council - Planning Department Leaflets
Local Council Review - March 1997 issue
Pondscapes Newsletter - Issue 7
Lancs Assoc. of Parish & Town Councils - West Lancs Area Committee - Agenda
for meeting to be held on the 11th April, 1997

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

268/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

Yates Playgrounds - 2 new seats	£ 569.87
B W Rimmer Esq. - Clerk's salary & expenses	£ 531.74
Mr J Ball - Refurbishment of Notice Board (Shore Road)	£ 49.82
David Ward Esq. - Cleaning Bus Shelters	£ 126.00

2. Banking Facilities The Clerk reported on details of accounts available at the Midland Bank and Giro Bank.

269/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Clerk be authorised to:-

A. Close the Parish Council's accounts at the Hesketh Bank branch of the Nat West Bank on a date convenient to the smooth running of the Council's affairs,

B. Open a Business Current account (Treasurer account) and a Premium Business account at the Hesketh Bank branch of the Midland Bank as soon as practicable,

C. Authorise the Midland Bank to pay all cheques and other instructions for payment signed on behalf of the Parish Council by any two of the following three signatories:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman of the Council), Mr K S Wareing (Vice-Chairman of the Council) and Mr S Trippier (Member of the Council),

D. Authorise the Midland Bank to accept the signature of the Clerk to the Council on receipts for the delivery of items held by the Bank in safe custody and in respect of any other transactions with the Bank,

E. Authorise the Midland Bank to accept telephone instructions from the Clerk to the Council and, in his absence the Chairman of the Council, for the transfer of funds between the Council's Current account and Premium Business account,

F. Supply to the Midland Bank, as and when necessary, lists of persons who are authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Council and authorise the Bank to rely upon such lists until amended or cancelled by notice, in writing, to the Bank signed by the Chairman and Clerk to the Council acting on behalf of the Council, and

2. That a Vote of Thanks be recorded to the Clerk for investigating the alternative options for the Council's Banking Arrangements.

3. Other Matters Further Audit Information for the Clerk had been received.

POLICING MATTERS (PC M Thackery attended for this item)

PC Thackery indicated that the re-organisation of the Force would take effect on the 1st April, 1997. Inspector Janet Edmondson would still be responsible for the Hesketh Bank area and the Northern Parishes would gain a Sergeant and a Constable. He had no further information about the introduction of parking restrictions. A Planning Application was to be made in respect of a car valeting building in Boundary Lane. He also confirmed that he was keeping an eye on mud on the road especially near to the 'Poppyfields' site and indicated that Morris Homes were usually quite helpful.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The only issue raised was the proposed development of low cost housing on The Brow.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

270/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

No 08/97/0165 Extensions - 7 Charles Close
No 08/97/0182 Extensions - Wedgewood, Shore Road
No 08/97/0211 Garage/store and conservatory - 128 Moss Lane
No 08/97/0216 Greenhouses - Land at 82 Moss Lane
No 08/97/0228 O/L erection of detached house etc. - Land adj. 109 Moss Lane
No 08/97/0247 1. Change of use from youth centre/childrens day care centre to village hall/childrens day care centre 2. Change of use from village institute to silver band room - Hesketh Bank Youth Centre

2. Development & Planning Committee - 27th March, 1997

271/96 RESOLVED:- That no further comments be made on the following applications:-

No 08/96/1122 O/L 12 terraced dwellings etc. - Land at The Brow
(Recommendation - Granted)
No 08/97/0087 Replacement detached bungalow - Station House, Boundary Lane
(Recommendation - Refused)
No 08/96/1061 O/L erection of garage in extended curtilage - 198 Moss Lane
(Recommendation - Resist on appeal)

3. Applications determined since last meeting The following were noted:-

No 08/96/1191 First floor rear extension - 141 Moss Lane (Refused)
No 08/97/0055 Erection of replacement single story wc building at side - Becconsall Hotel, Station Road (Granted)

4. Other matters The following were noted:-

Lancashire Structure Plan - Copy received
West Lancashire Local Plan - Comments forwarded

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Street Lighting The County Surveyor was to provide an additional lighting column at the junction of Station Road and Chapel Road.

Street lights which are not lit should be reported on one of the following numbers:-

FREEPHONE 0800 132631 ORDINARY PHONE NUMBER 01772 264682

The Clerk was asked to advertise the numbers on the Council's notice boards.

2. Other matters The following issues were still with the County Surveyor:-

- A. Advertising signs on lamp posts
- B. Shore Road ditch

RECREATION GROUND

1. Recreation Ground

A. Flooding The Chairman would continue to pursue this issue.

B. Cleaning under hedges Mr J Foster was not able to do this work and a complaint had been received from a resident in Ribble Drive.

272/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That prices be obtained for cleaning out under all the hedges on the Recreation Ground and

2. That the Clerk obtain advice from the LAP&TC regarding access from private residences directly on to the Recreation Ground.

C. Hedges

273/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to arrange for the hedge to be cut on the Belsfield Drive side of the ground, near to where the trees have been pruned, and to investigate the hedge on the School Fold side of the ground which is interfering with the telephone cables.

D. Work to football pitch The Football Club were to undertake major work to the surface of the pitch at no cost to the Parish Council. The exterior of the changing hut required repairs and painting at an estimated cost of £185.75

274/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Football Club be thanked for their offer to undertake work to the pitch at no cost to the Parish Council and

2. That the Parish Council meet the cost of the repairs and painting to the Changing Hut, at an estimated cost of £185.75, to be met from amounts included in the estimates for 1997/98.

2. Glenpark Drive Play Area The seat had been provided.

3. Station Road Play Area

A. Ownership The Clerk reported that the Parish Council could register ownership after a period of 12 years and he had written to LAP&TC for further clarification.

275/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to take the necessary steps to acquire the remaining piece of land at the Play Area for the Parish Council, by prescription, subject to the advice received from the LAP&TC.

B. Other matters The following were noted:-

Rubbish - No further developments

Car on play area - To be reported to the local PC.

NEW NOTICE BOARD

The Clerk had agreed with Mr & Mrs J Forshaw that a new notice board could be sited alongside the lottery board at the side of their shop.

276/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to contact Mr J Ball and place an order for the provision of a new notice board at the junction of Station Road and Chapel Road.

LAP&TC SPRING CONFERENCE

A copy of a report on the Conference, by the Chairman, appears in the Minute Book.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

277/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (Paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of LGA 1972))

1. Northern Boundary The Clerk reported further advice from the Council's Solicitor.

278/96 RESOLVED:- That estimates be obtained for the provision of a temporary fence on the northern side of the boundary hedge.

2. Leases for Sports Clubs (Mr P Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

The Clerk reported that the Solicitor was preparing 3 draft leases, one for each Club, and had asked for a sight of the plans. The NALC had confirmed that the Council had statutory powers to proceed with the leases for the term agreed at a rental of less than market value.

3. Enforcement action The District Council officers felt that the Parish Council were trying to take over the meeting and wished the Parish Council's representation to be limited to the Chairman and Clerk, or their representatives.

It was suggested that the matter be referred to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Members were reminded that items taken after the exclusion of the press and public must not be discussed outside the meeting.

279/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to meet Officers of the Planning Department, on site, to discuss the situation and that the need for further action, if appropriate, be considered by the Parish Council following that meeting.