

Love Hesketh Bank

The Newsletter of Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council

June 2019

ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019

At the May meeting of the Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council, the Chairman, Paul Sergeant, presented his **ANNUAL REPORT** to the Council:



As we move in to the final twelve months of the present Council, we can look back with pride on what has been an exceptionally busy and productive year; indeed probably the most productive year in the history of this Council.

This time last year, we had two major drainage schemes in progress. At the Council's Shore Road Recreation Ground, land drains which had been laid over twenty years ago had failed resulting in many months of the grounds being in an unusable state. Our contractor "Duncan Ross" undertook the laying of new field drains, spiking and sand banding of the whole field along with replacement of collection and discharge drains, which had been incorrectly installed by previous contractors, through the Council's car park. This

Welcome

In this issue of Love Hesketh Bank we are publishing our Chairman's **ANNUAL REPORT** from Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council and bringing you news of some of our other activities. You can find out more by visiting our website at: www.HeskethBankCouncil.uk

latter work also necessitated the re-surfacing and marking out of the car park. The work was initially held up by the ground being so wet that it could not bear the weight of the contractor's machines only to be followed by a period of drought making it impossible to lay the drains; the initial estimate of four week's work ended up lasting over twelve weeks.

At the same time, the Council as landlords and the football Club as tenants undertook a major reconstruction and drainage of football pitch at the Centenary Sports Ground. This major scheme undertaken by sports ground specialists "Danvic" was another job compromised by the summer of drought necessitating major water supply works being installed to prevent the newly seeded pitch drying out.

The total cost of both schemes financed by the Council approached £100,000 with the football club entering into new lease terms effectively repaying the Sports Ground works through an increased ground rent.

The Centenary Sports Ground main car park also benefitted from the installation of LED floodlighting which has vastly reduced nuisance and drug abuse.

The Council also embarked on an extended “Lengthsman” scheme during the year with our contractor “Brian Parkinson” taking over weed control on our roads from the Borough Council; this year that has been extended further with maintenance of the grass verges and the cleaning of road and traffic signs being vested with the Lengthsman.

Roads and speeding were highlighted by residents and councillors alike. The Council responded with the purchase of three “Speed Indicating Devices” (SPIDS) now located on the old railway bridge, Shore Road and Moss Lane. The Council were the first in this country to import these high-tech devices of French manufacture at significantly less cost than the British equivalents, statistics have shown an average of over 8% reduction in speeds as well as recording details and times of all passing vehicles which are passed to the police.

Maintaining the Parishes assets has always been high on the Council’s list of priorities and during the year our three Play Areas were all fully overhauled with the safety surfacing being repaired throughout. We continue our weekly inspection by Councillors of all community assets with engineering inspections each quarter and full insurance inspections annually. We still look forward to being able to take control of the Play Area and Green space at Poppyfields/The Green once the Borough Council, as the planning Authority, can agree terms with Morris Homes.

The Council were pleased to receive the gift from the Eatough and Plant families of the strip of land between Granville Avenue and Sidney Avenue which is a popular shortcut. The Council will be improving the area over the coming months.

We were also delighted to receive the significant gift of the former railway track-bed on the Westerly banks of the Douglas from “Henry Alty & Co” as they finally left the Brickworks Site. This strip of land runs from the Southerly end of the Persimmon development initially to Sutton Avenue with a further strip to the east of Merlecrest Drive. Through this land and beyond to the canal sea-lock, the Council intend to develop a multi-use pathway as both for leisure and a traffic free route. Funds which the Council will receive from the development levy imposed on the Persimmon development will be entirely devoted to this scheme.

The Council also took ownership of several small parcels of land around the village with a view to converting eyesores to assets and intend to provide additional wayside seating in the coming months.

In time for the Early Spring Bank Holiday, work was completed two weeks ago on the new £14,000 “Outdoor Gym” at the Shore Road



recreation ground financed almost entirely from development grants. This has already proved extremely popular with people of all ages; it was indeed very rewarding to see whole families using the new equipment together.



The Council continue to support the Community Centre in their ambitions to develop their site with a new purpose built building and have committed the receipts from other Infrastructure levies to that cause.

The “Love Hesketh Bank” initiative continues to grow in popularity with the “Best Kept Street” accolade being added to the list of awards. Sadly despite efforts like this, irresponsible dog owners still leave dog excrement for others to walk in and remove, whilst the litter louts think it’s OK to drop anything they’ve done with.

The Council has also agreed to work with the “Lancashire Volunteer Partnership” in progressing the “Parish Champion” initiative which aims to give a uniformed presence in the rural areas. To date we have one resident who has come forward and are looking for a further one at present.

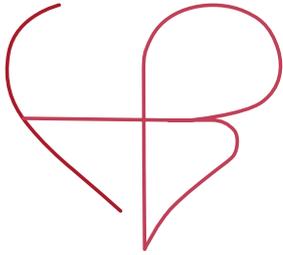
All this has been accomplished with a Parish Precept which is 21% less in real terms than it was ten years ago.

I couldn’t finish without again thanking Duncan Taylor who continues to decorate the village centre each year with Festive Christmas wreaths to set off the Council’s luminaires then in the summer providing hanging baskets from the lamp standards and filling the planters at the Moss Lane junction.

I would personally, and on behalf of the community, like thank all of the Members of the Council for their dedication and the hard work they voluntarily undertake for the whole community within our Parish.

Finally I would also like to thank our Clerk, Ian Cropper for managing the work of the Council and his continued support and guidance to me and all the Councillors.

Paul Sergeant
Chairman.



Love Hesketh Bank update

Making a difference in our community

Peace Garden Pals pleased with Award

Geoff Warminger and David Baines were pleased to be among Hesketh Bank Parish Council's 'Love Hesketh Bank' awards this year for their work on their Peace Garden on the village allotments.

They explained that the Peace Garden came about because there was a spare plot of land at the entrance to the allotments and the committee thought it would be a good memorial to a number of allotmenters that had sadly passed away. Volunteered by his partner, Eileen, Geoff, who had always wanted to design a garden, teamed up with the Chair of the allotments, David, to meet this challenge in 2017. Now in 2019, it is becoming established and is a welcome addition to the site, especially for the bees that live there.

Geoff and David said, "We are pleased to accept this award on behalf of everyone who was involved and supported the project, we are a great community."

They are currently on the look-out for more benches to put in the Garden, which they hope will entice people to linger there to enjoy the peace and tranquillity.

The 'Love Hesketh Bank' campaign, celebrating what is great about the village, launched on 14th February 2014. In these individual awards, introduced in 2016, the Parish Council recognises those that have made an outstanding contribution to the village, showing their love for Hesketh Bank.



Geoff on the left and David on the right are pictured in the Peace Garden wearing their 'Love Hesketh Bank' pin badge awards.



Brian's Love Hesketh Bank badge



Brian is pictured with one of his workers, Henry, busy in the Community Garden wearing his 'Love Hesketh Bank' pin badge award.

Brian Parkinson was delighted to receive his Love Hesketh Bank pin badge in recognition of the work he does for the village. The award from Hesketh Bank Parish Council was for the many years of service he has shown the Council in helping them keep the village looking good.

Parish Clerk, Ian Cropper, said, "I can always count on Brian to sort anything we need, it just takes a phone call and I know it will be done."

Brian has run his garden maintenance and general repairs business for over thirty years employing local staff. He has worked for the Parish Council for a long time and officially took on the Parish Council's Lengthsman contract in 2017, which has greatly improved the general tidiness of the village.

Talking about the award, Brian said, "It is great to receive this, but I don't do the work for recognition. I love my job and if it makes a difference that is reward enough."

Be a Community Champion!

As you may see in the local press, Hesketh Bank has been selected for a trial introduction of Community Champions.

Open to all members of the public, the Champions will assist local public services with their work within the community. It's all about empowering local residents to help each other and resolve issues of concern.

You will assist in the planning and management of local events.

We already have one champion in place and there is an opportunity for another member of the community to join. You will receive full training and support.

If you would like to make a difference in our community and to find out more, please contact our Clerk on:

Clerk@HeskethBankCouncil.uk

Telephone: 01772 812681



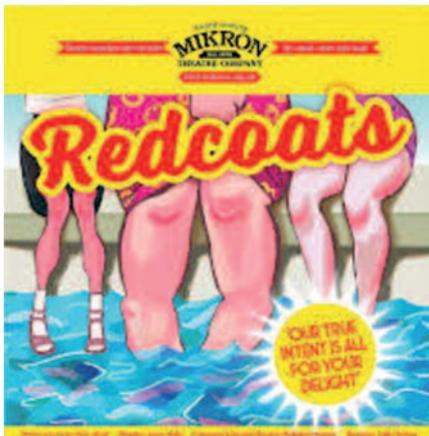
WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO BE A UNIFORMED COMMUNITY CHAMPION IN HESKETH BANK?

You can make a difference to your community

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OUR LANCASHIRE
LET'S JOIN TOGETHER

LANCASHIRE VOLUNTEER PARTNERSHIP



Mikron Theatre at the Allotments

The award winning Mikron Theatre company visited the Poor Marsh Allotments on the 25th May for their annual visit. A great evening was had by all. As always the performance was full of music and comedy.

It was also an opportunity for visitors to see the excellent and beautifully maintained allotments, a real gem in our community which is managed by the allotments association on behalf of the Parish Council. The Peace Garden In particular, is well worth a visit.

Maureen Baldwin

The Hesketh with Beconsall Parish Council is sad to record the recent death of Maureen Baldwin.

Maureen was a hard working member of the Parish Council for eight years from 2008 to 2016 when she stood down through ill

health. She was also North West Commissioner for the Guides and was a long-standing trustee of the Community Centre.

Her contribution to the community has been considerable over many, many years. She will be much missed.



New Out-Marsh Seating

Recently, three seats have been installed on the out-marsh. The Parish Council provided two seats and the Environment Agency the third.

The seats are a great addition to this reserve and we are pleased to have received several compliments from residents.



Henry Alty Way

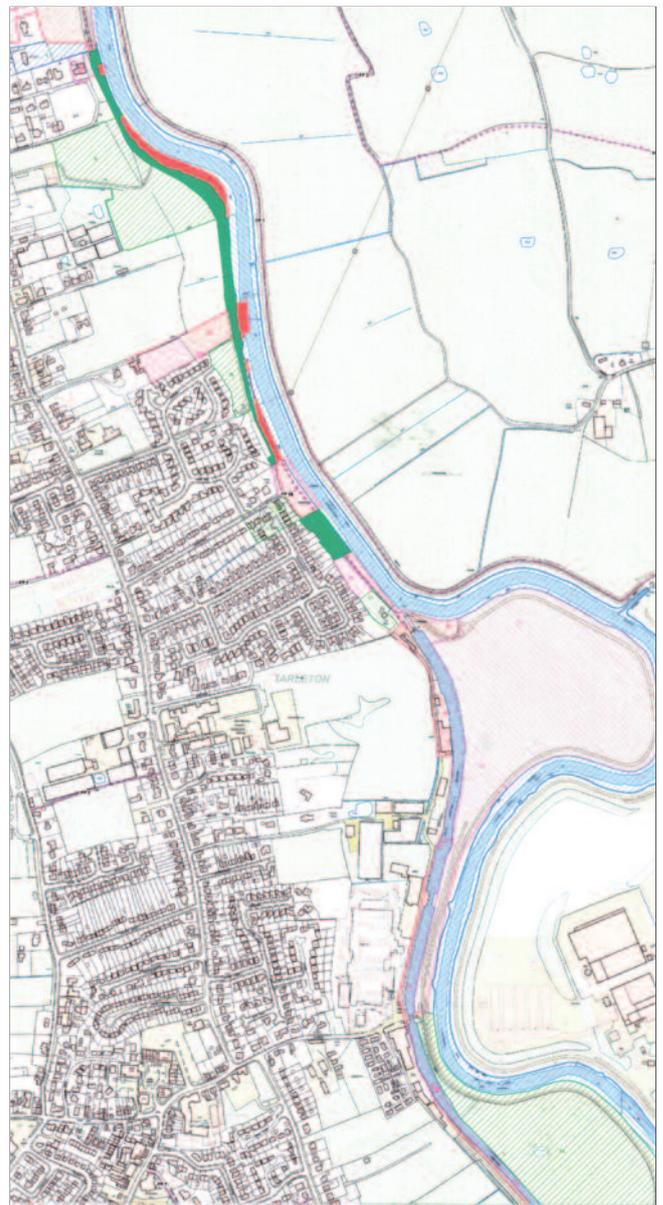
The Parish Council is pleased to have been gifted the former railway track to the west of the river Douglas by Henry Alty & Co. Once landscaping development work has been completed and an improved path created, this will become a major asset for the community forming a traffic free route from Hesketh Bank through to Tarleton for pedestrians and cyclists. This project has been discussed for many years and is now coming fruition.

The funding for this project will come totally from Community Investment Levy (CIL) monies generated by the Persimmon development on the old Henry Alty brickworks site.

Under our Chairman, Paul Sergeant, a committee has been set up by the Hesketh with Beconsall Parish Council - **The Henry Alty Way Delivery Group** - to oversee this important project. This group has already met and is hard at work planning the work that needs to be done.

The Delivery Group would welcome the involvement of others so if you have any ideas, please contact the Executive Clerk on:

Clerk@HeskethBankCouncil.uk



Dates for your diary

Parish Council meetings are held in the Front Hall of the Community Centre on the second Monday of every month from 7:30pm. Forthcoming meetings are as follows:

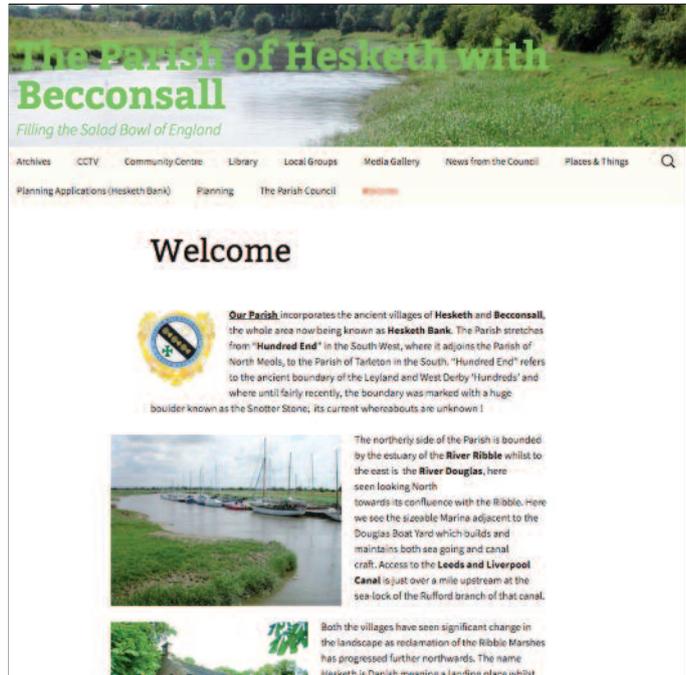
10th June 2019
8th July 2019
9th September 2019
14th October 2019
11th November 2019
9th December 2019

All residents are welcome to attend, not only to hear about the work of the Council but also to raise any concerns or questions that they may have.

If you have any questions or concerns you wish to raise outside of these meetings, then please contact the Parish Clerk on Clerk@HeskethBankCouncil.uk or call him on: 01772 812681.

Keep in touch

You can find out about recent planning applications and more about what the Council does as well as archive and historical information on the Council's website. Visit: www.HeskethBankCouncil.uk



Newsletter circulation

Our Love Hesketh Bank newsletter is posted on the Parish Council notice boards around the village and in Booths. The newsletter is also available on line at the Council's WebSite.

In addition you can also be notified by email of any new updates to the Council's Website - If you wish to receive an email whenever the Council's WebSite is updated, send a blank email to Clerk@HeskethBankCouncil.uk with the words 'Subscribe to Updates' in the Subject line.

Your Parish Councillors

Paul Sergeant, Chairman, 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

Iain Ashcroft, 1 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank
Diane Earles, 2 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank
Norma Goodier, 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton
Steve Kirby, 50 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank
Richard Plant, 12 Granville Avenue, Hesketh Bank

Jeff Christie, 62 Becconsall Lane, Hesketh Bank
Mike Ellis, 17 Astland Gardens, Tarleton
John Hunter, 1 Langdale Avenue, Hesketh Bank
David Maughan, 52 Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank
Ron Tyson, 'Lansdowne' Shore Road, Hesketh Bank



Parish Clerk, Ian Cropper
Providence Place, 125 Roe Lane, Southport, Lancashire PR9 7PG

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www.HeskethBankCouncil.uk

