HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th October 2022 at 7:30pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

#### PRESENT

Councillors Paul Sergeant (Chairman) Tim Barnacle, Norma Goodier , David Maughan, Kate Maughan, Richard Plant , Ron Tyson, Joan Witter, John Hunter

Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

One member of the general public was present.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**APOLOGIES**

Apology received from Cllr Steve Kirby

**MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION No. 2022/10/01 Carried** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 26thth September2022 are confirmed as a true record.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**PUBLIC FORUM**

A representative from Hesketh Bank Community Centre was in attendance to receive the Councils decision regarding funding of the coverage of the MUGA.

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**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman read out a report from the employment committee confirming it was resolved that Ian Cropper be requested to continue employment with the Council as the Proper Officer responsible for the oversight of non budgetary expenditure and expenditure reliant on the General Power Of Competency in agreement with the incumbent clerk Graham Crompton.

Mr Cropper has agreed to this and is therefore retrospectively appointed from 1 September 2022 at the rate of his previous employment being SCP32. The arrangement will be reviewed by the employment committee in September 2023.

In addition, The Chairman referred to Resolution 2022/09/04 and highlighted the fact that this resolution was believed to be passed based on inaccurate and misleading information presented at the September meeting.

The chairman will now seeks a retraction of the proposal and in the event that this is not forthcoming, the matter will be referred to the standards committee.

The Clerk will recirculate copies of the Standing orders and Policy Document for Gifts, Grants and Loans with the Council.

**REPORTS**

Councillor Plant reported positive feedback from a Parish wheelchair user who uses the Henry Alty Way.

Councillor Tyson updated the Council on the winners of the Best Kept Village awards for the Borough.

**CLERK’S REPORT**

Update from Clerk provided on progress made towards competency in role.

Cricket Club Bonfire – Clerk has written to the Cricket Club seeking confirmation that appropriate risk assessment and consultations have been completed with emergency service and Borough Council – response awaited.

Remembrance Sunday arrangements discussed and arrangements agreed – Councillor Plant requested strong representation at the service from the Council.

Request to councillors that any spend planned for 2023 budget should be brought to next Council meeting with supporting plans and costings.

**RESOLUTION No. 2022/10/02 Carried** that the Clerk’s Report and actions are noted and ratified.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

**RESOLUTION No. 2022/10/03 Carried** that payments of Accounts made since the last meeting are ratified and the Invoices now presented on the Payments Schedule are approved and that the Clerk is authorised to complete the appropriate transactions.

**The Council’s liquid assets on the 30 September 2022 were reported as:**

 **Receipts**

 **Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent £308.75**

 **Deposit Account Interest £170.19**

 **WLBC Precept £31,652.50**

 **Balances 30 September 2022**

 **Current Account £61487.73**

 **CCLA Deposit Account £124,000.00**

 **Total Liquid Funds £185,4876.73**

**RESOLUTION No. 2022/10/04 Carried** that theExternal Auditor’s report for the Financial year to 31st March 2022 was received, noted and this being unqualified, does not require any action by the Council.

**RESOLUTION No. 2022/10/05 Carried** that the Half-Year Out-Turn Report has been Received and Noted.

**Casual Councillor Vacancy**

The Council voted to elect Louise Taylor to fill the vacant Casual Councillor Vacancy with a majority of 7 votes to 2

**Adoption of Public Space & Play Area at Poppyfields.**

Graham Crompton and Councillor Witter stated no further update from West Lancs Borough Council has been received – Parish Clerk to chase for an update on progress.

**Request to Fund Coverage Of The MUGA By Hesketh Bank Community Centre**

Representation from the Community Centre were advised that in accordance with the Policy Document for Gifts, Grants and Loans the Council could only consider requests for up to 50% of the project cost with the balance being met from the Community Centre’s own funds – The Parish Council awaits revised funding request in the meantime.

**Recreation and Play Area Reports**

Reports received for:-

Glen Park

Shore Road

Station Road

**Items Received Since Agenda Publication**

Nothing Received

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm**