



Love Hesketh Bank Newsletter

Produced by Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council
April 2023

www.heskethbankcouncil.uk



Introducing our new Parish Councillor – Louise Taylor

Louise moved to Hesketh Bank during the summer of 2021 with her husband Carl and little rescue dog Coco. She said 'We love being part of such a warm, welcoming, and vibrant village with so many great facilities to enjoy. I retired from full time employment 3 years ago after having worked as an IT service manager, in both the public and private sector for over 30 years. My last position was Head of Service Delivery for The Federation of Small Businesses.



Alongside my civilian career I also served as an Officer in the Royal Naval Reserve for 20 years rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In addition to several periods of deployment to the Gulf (including 6 months mobilisation for the Gulf War in 2003 as a Maritime Trade Operations Officer), I was also a member of the Senior Management Team of my unit in Liverpool. I am delighted to be asked to serve as a parish councillor and I sincerely hope that I can add value to the role'

Best Kept Garden Competition

Last year, at the suggestion of Competition Judge, Duncan Taylor of Arden Lea, the Best Kept Garden Competition was extended to five categories and this year we intend to follow the same format which proved to be a great success. A report on last year's competition is included within this newsletter.

To nominate your own or someone else's garden contact Steve Kirby on 01772 812137 / 07766 367550 or email stevekirby123@gmail.com

Nominations close on 30th April

Hesketh Bank Best Kept Garden Competition 2022

Background

The Parish Council has, for the past several years, entered Hesketh Bank in Lancashire's Annual Best Kept Village Competition. In an effort to encourage local residents to spruce up the village an annual Best Kept Front Garden was introduced as part of the Love Hesketh Bank initiative.

More recently, an additional award has been added for the Best Kept Street. Both awards have proved very popular.

How the Competition Works

Although there may be some wonderful back gardens, only gardens that can be seen from the pavement can be judged for obvious reasons. However, in addition to gardens that might be picked out by the judges, for the last two years we have invited residents to nominate gardens that they think deserve to be considered including their own. This year 10 nominations were received and were included in the long list of gardens to be considered as part of the short listing process. The long list was produced by Margaret Kirby and the short list was decided by Councillor Ron Tyson and his wife Liz. The final judging was done by Duncan Taylor of Arden Lea.

Proposed Changes to the Competition

Duncan Taylor has this year recommended a number of changes which the Best Kept Village Committee have been very happy to support, as they feel that it will enhance the annual competition by attracting more interest and greater participation, thus boosting the overall effort that will go into making our village more attractive. Instead of two awards, we have now agreed to make five awards. These are:-

Best Kept Large Garden

Best Kept Small Garden

Best Dressed Cottage/House (For those without front gardens)

Best Kept Street

Community Garden of the Year. (Currently there is only one known such garden other than the Community Garden that is part of the Hesketh Bank Allotment site, but this might encourage others to engage)

Awards

Whilst it is not appropriate to offer any kind of financial award to the Best Kept Street, the installation of a plaque beneath the Street Name has proved very popular and this will continue. For the Best Kept Large and Small Gardens and the Best Dressed Cottage a Garden Centre Voucher to the value of £25 will be awarded. The Community Garden of the Year, which involves seven local residents will be awarded a Garden Centre Voucher to the value of £50 to be spent on further enhancements to the Community Garden. A budget of £250 has been approved for this year's competition which should suffice assuming that the cost of the Best Kept Street Plaque comes in below £125 which it has been well under previously.

Winning Entries



Best Kept Large Garden:
Jumps Farm, 3 Rose Gardens
Karen and Dave McDonnell
Judge's Comments 'Love the borders at the side and front. Their use of plants is beautiful'



Best Kept Small Garden:
6 Woodlea Road. Derek Cookson
Judge's Comments: 'Bursting with mature plants, full of colour. Some striking bushes, pruned to an exceptionally high standard'.



Best Dressed Cottage:
Fisherman's Cottage, 39 School Fold
Linda and Phil Stringer
Judge's comments:
'Best Dressed Cottage looked great'.



Best Kept Street:
Pardoe Close (Off Chapel Lane)
Judge's comments: 'The whole area has a pristine look about it, peaceful, tidy and no one particularly letting the road down'.



Community Garden of the Year:
Barrow Gardens, Sydney Avenue
Judge's comments: 'Looks like a team works well in the area or one very busy person'.

Best Kept Village Committee
Councillors Steve Kirby and Ron Tyson

Short Listed Gardens
30 Boundary Lane, May Cottage, Meadow Lane
Moss Lane, Numbers 8, 25, 64, 117, 133 and 188

Public Open Spaces in Hesketh Bank

Hesketh Bank has a number of relatively small Green Spaces, which are often but not always linked to a previous housing development. Typically, these areas have been maintained as green spaces by the developer and ultimately have been taken over by the Parish Council, often with a financial settlement to cover the cost of ongoing maintenance. Examples can be found at Glen Park Drive, Pardoe Close (see below) and Ashbrook Close

At the junction of Sydney Avenue and Norwood Avenue a similar area exists at what used to be part of the embankment of the former Southport to Preston Railway. This is maintained by West Lancs Borough Council and recently, with their agreement, part of it has been developed into a Community Garden by a voluntary group of local residents. This is now known as Barrow Gardens and is featured in the report of the Best Kept Garden Competition earlier in this newsletter.

The health and well-being benefits of helping to develop and maintain outdoor spaces such as these are becoming increasingly recognised especially since the pandemic. It's a great way of staying active and connecting with other members of the local community

If any other local residents are similarly interested in adopting part of a Public Open Space area near where they live as a Community Garden, the Parish Council will explore the idea to see if it would be practical.



If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Your Parish Councillors

Paul Sergeant, Chairman, 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Sergeant@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 814009

Tim Barnacle
53 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Barnacle@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 814257

Kate Maughan
52 Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.MaughanK@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 811662

Norma Goodier
3 Carr View Close, Tarleton
Cllr.Goodier@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 813816

Richard Plant
12 Granville Avenue, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Plant@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 815257

John Hunter
1 Langdale Avenue, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Hunter@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 815379

Louise Taylor
10b Granville Avenue, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Taylor@heskethbankcouncil.uk
07516 455533

Steve Kirby
50 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Kirby@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 812137

Ron Tyson
'Lansdowne' Shore Road, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Tyson@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 814075

David Maughan
52 Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank
Cllr.Maughan@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 811662

Joan Witter
5 The Gravel, Mere Brow, Tarleton
Cllr.Witter@heskethbankcouncil.uk
01772 930462

Parish Clerk, Graham Crompton

Hesketh Bank Community Centre, Station Road, Hesketh Bank, Preston, PR4 6SR
Clerk@heskethbankcouncil.uk 07834 573227