HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11th September 2023 at 7:00pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

#### PRESENT

Paul Sergeant (Chairman), Tim Barnacle, Kate Maughan, Richard Plant (Vice Chairman), Ron Tyson, David Maughan, Joan Witter, Louise Taylor & Norma Goodier.

Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

Five member of the general public were present.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**APOLOGIES**

John Hunter & Steve Kirby

**MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION No. 2023/09/01 Carried** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10th July2023 are confirmed as a true record.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Joan Witter (agenda item 13)

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Residents overlooking the Poppyfields open space shared their concerns regarding the safety members of the public using the area and their frustration at the impact on their gardens due to the overgrown nature of woodland encroaching into neighbouring gardens. They were updated on both the background to the position and the current stage of discussions with West Lancs Borough Council – the latest update from the Borough Council legal department is that the issue has been passed to their Group Finance Director following the commencement of legal proceedings against Morris Homes.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The chairman updated the Parish Council on Councillor Hunter’s current health challenges – the Parish Council expressed their best wishes for a speedy recovery which will be passed on by the Chairman.

**FLOODING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**RESOLUTION No. 2023/09/02 Carried** that Mr Stan Farington is formally co-opted onto the Flooding Group to formalise his future involvement in discussions on this topic going forward.

Tarleton Parish Council had their final meeting on the draft report 11 September 2023 – this input will form the final amendments to the draft report – final report expected within the next 2 weeks.

In the meantime, the recent planning applications on land off Boundary Lane were highlighted as developments that if they were to go ahead would put further pressure on an already failing drainage infrastructure.

Further Flooding occurred during July and August with supporting photographic and video evidence captured.

**MEMBERS REPORTS**

None

**CLERK’S REPORT**

* Flooding Shore Rd Play area (last week in July) due to blocked drain adjacent to the outside gym area as a result of roots from surrounding trees blocking drains – cleared but Clerk will ask for trees to be looked at during forthcoming tree survey.
* Clarification provided on a point raised by Councillor Goodier in July about Committee and Working Party meetings and the necessity for public notice, minutes etc:-

HAW group is a delivery group

Planning Committee is a Committee

Flooding group is a Working Group

Committee meetings – to be advertised, Public Agenda issued and Minutes taken.

*Normally, the Clerk will summon members to the above although provisions exist for members to do so.*

Working Groups – Casual affairs, no Agenda or Minutes required and are normally held in private. It is normally expected that a substantive Agenda item for the next full Council meeting will result from the discussions. Meetings may be casually held between Councillors and/or others or at the instigation of the full Council.

Delivery Groups – Casual affairs used to deliver projects already authorised by Full Council, Scheme Budgets are delegated to the Group; they may simply be the opportunity to update members on the progress of a scheme. Minutes or notes are made and updates given to Full Council as reports.

* Allotments – tour took place on the 14th August – good representation from the Parish Council and the support was welcomed. The Allotments provide the village has a fantastic facility that remains in pristine condition. The Summer Fair took place on the 2nd September 2023 and was once again extremely well supported by the community.
* Christmas Lights 2023 – proposal to change the 2023 scheme from solar panel Christmas tree lamp post units to LED displays supported and Clerk will progress arrangements with supplier.
* Approach from the Douglas Cardiac Trust for the defibrillator currently located within All Saints School to be relocated to the external wall of the Shore Rd changing rooms as replacement updated version to be installed within the school. Nominal electricity supply required and installation will be covered by the Parish Council. Will provide benefit to users of the Playing fields and Playgorund / Outdoor Gym on Shore Rd, Football pitch, Allotment users and neighbouring community. Clerk will progress with Douglas Cardiac Trust.
* Clerk stated that the feedback on the July Newsletter had been positive and stated that this particular publication was delivered in a tight timescale and delivered in line with the objectives of the newsletter.

**RESOLUTION No. 2023/09/03 Carried** that the Clerk’s Report and actions are noted and ratified.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

**RESOLUTION No. 2023/09/04 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.

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**The Council’s liquid assets on the 31 July 2023 were reported as:**

**Receipts**

**Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent £308.75**

**Deposit Account Interest £615.45**

**Nat West Bank Interest £12.79**

**VAT Recovered £7094.75**

**Balances 31 July 2023**

**NatWest Current Account £14,420.67  
CCLA Deposit Account £164,000.00  
Total Liquid Funds £178,420.67**

**The Council’s liquid assets on the 31 August 2023 were reported as:**

**Receipts**

**Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent £308.75**

**Deposit Account Interest £679.25**

**Nat West Bank Interest £16.20**

**Balances 31 August 2023**

**NatWest Current Account £10.370.75  
CCLA Deposit Account £164,000.00  
Total Liquid Funds £174,370.75**

**RESOLUTION No. 2023/09/05 Carried that** the External Auditor’s report for the Financial Year to 31st March 2023 was received and noted that this, being unqualified, does not require any action by the Council.

**Poppyfields Update**

This item was covered in the Public Agenda discussion recorded above.

**To Consider the Council’s response (if any) to:-**

**Planning Application No. 2023/0730/FUL**

**Proposed Demolition of an existing bungalow and the erection of 34no. adaptable and accessible bungalows for over 55s with associated infrastructure, landscaping and car parking at Land Off Boundary Lane, Hesketh Bank, Preston, Lancashire, PR4 6AJ.**

**Agreed that** Hesketh With Becconsall Parish Council would object to Planning Applications ref 2023/0787/OUT and 2023/0780/FUL within deadlines set via the West Lancs Borough Council website – full rationale to be drafted up for Councillor overview by Parish Clerk and Councillor David Maughan.

**Recreation and Play Area Reports**

Report received for:-

Shore Road August and September 2023

Station Rd not provided due to Councillor Hunters absence

Glen Park not provided due to Councillor Hunters absence

**Items Received Since Agenda Publication**

**None**

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