HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7:00pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

#### PRESENT

Councillors Paul Sergeant (Chairman) Tim Barnacle, Richard Plant , Ron Tyson, Louise Taylor, Steve Kirby, John Hunter, Joan Witter, Norma Goodier

Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

One member of the general public was present.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**APOLOGIES**

Apology received from Cllr Kate Maughan

**MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/01/01 Carried** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 11thth December2023 are confirmed as a true record.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Councillor Ian Eccles attended the open forum session to request a letter of support from the Parish Council in relation to a request for funding from Rural England Prosperity Fund by West Lancs Light Railway Trust – this matter was dealt with under Members Reports later in the meeting.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman announced the sad passing of Councillor David Maughan and passed on condolences on behalf of the council to Kate Maughan and her family recognising his hard work and commitment to the local community. Vice Chairman Plant said prayers and led a minutes silence in memory of David who will be sadly missed by all his fellow councillors.

**FLOODING COMMITTEE REPORT**

No further update provided in the absence of Stan Farrington and Councillor Kate Maughan

**MEMBERS REPORTS**

Councillor Kirby reported he had been approached by members of West Lancashire Light Railway trust for a letter of support for their application for Grant funding from Rural England Prosperity Fund towards the building of a new Y cabin tearoom. The request is purely to support the proposition as does not seek funding from the Parish Council. All members were supportive of the request and a letter will be drafted by the Parish Clerk for the Chairman’s signature on this basis.

**CLERK’S REPORT**

Clerk to explore possibility of adding to the village Christmas lights display for 2024 by locating a lit Christmas tree at the hub of the village positioned adjacent to Booths Supermarket. Further updates as discussions progress during the early part of the year.

Tree Survey has now been received – quote awaited from Brian Parkinson to carry out recommended work.

Confirmation received from current service provider that they will no longer be able to support us due to unreliable signal issues after end of February 2024. Meetings with alternative providers are ongoing.

Details of the arrangements for the funeral of Councillor David Maughan were shared with the Council.

E Mail from Tarleton Parish Council shared with Councillors expressing their condolences on the passing of Councillor David Maughan.

Clerk requested an update for the Community Centre regarding the repair of the concrete fence between the CSG Football pitch and Community Centre – Councillor Kirby to provide an update once he has discussed with representatives from the Community Centre.

Parish Clerk has sent an e mail to City Scape Maps Ltd who provided the original Heritage Way board located adjacent to the footpath outside Booths requesting contact to discuss a refresh of the board incorporating additional features – a response is awaited.

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/01/02 Carried** that the Clerk’s Report and actions are noted and ratified.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/01/03 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.

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

**Receipts**

**Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent £308.75**

**Deposit Account Interest £795.94**

**Bank Account Interest £20.34**

**Hiscox Insurance (Bus Shelter Claim) £3095.00**

**Balances 31 December 2023**

**Current Account £10,765.40**

**CCLA Deposit Account £184,000.00**

**Total Liquid Funds £194,765.40**

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

Parish Clerk updated the meeting on progress –.e mail received from West Lancs Borough Council Solicitor advising that Morris Homes have been in touch and have not expressed any issue with transferring ownership of the land to WLBC which in turn will then be transferred to Hesketh with Becconsall PC – responsibility for maintenance will then be that of the Parish Council.

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/01/04 Carried** that the Quarter 3 Out-Turn Report to the 31st December 2022 has been Received and Noted.

**RESOLUTION No 2024/01/05 Carried** that the Proposed Budget (2024 – 2025) is ratified as presented and that a **Precept of £68,012.12** is set on West Lancashire Borough Council.

**RESOLUTION No 2023/01/06 Carried** to Delegate to Parish Clerk the expenditure of the non-capital revenue budget for 2024 – 2025.

Councillor Louise Taylor will take over from Vice Chairman Richard Plant as Parish Council Representative to The Community Centre with immediate effect.

**Recreation and Play Area Reports**

Report received for:-

Shore Road

Glen Park

Shore Road

**Items Received Since Agenda Publication**

Cllr Tyson highlighted that a program of gully clearing had been completed following a request by the Parish Clerk to WLBC.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm**