HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th April 2024 at 7:00pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

#### PRESENT

Councillors Paul Sergeant (Chairman) Tim Barnacle, Kate Maughan, Richard Plant, Steve Kirby, Joan Witter, John Hunter, Louise Taylor.

Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

Three members of the general public were present.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors Ron Tyson & Norma Goodier

**MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/04/01 Carried** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 11thth March2024 should be amended to remove “Update provided on allocation of 3rd memorial bench. Ian Cropper remains in discussions regarding allocation of 4th and final space”and should be replaced with …”The Parish Council were updated with regard to the request to install a memorial bench by the Beckett family in memory of Dave and Darcy who tragically lost the lives earlier this year in a Road Traffic Accident in Tarleton.

The council were approached by a friend of the family exploring this request shortly after the accident and were advised that in principal this would be possible but that the bench would be sourced by the council and would liaise with the family at a time in the future regarding the logistics and protocol to progress – this message was delivered by e mail on the 20th February 2024.

On the 9th March 2024, Emily Beckett advised the Clerk that a bench had been made by her late husband’s friend and requested this could located on the HAW rather than the Parish Councils standard bench.

Discussion held by the Parish Council regarding this request with the general consensus being if at all possible a sympathetic stance should be taken.

Prior to this it was deemed appropriate to share the council’s position with a member of the public who had previously made a similar request where he accepted the standard bench solution.

Providing he took a similar sympathetic view, it was agreed that the clerk and Vice Chairman Richard Plant would visit Mrs Beckett to progress.

The Minutes were then confirmed as a true record.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Emily Beckett and friends of the family spoke to the Parish Council about the comfort of locating their hand made memorial bench would bring to her and her family following the tragic death of her husband and daughter David and Darcy earlier in the year and asked the Parish Council to review current rules in order that this could be accommodated.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman confirmed an uncontested election had taken place and that a new council will be formed on the 2 May 2024 with 4 seats unfilled. Co-option will commence shortly after Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on the 13th May 2024. He took the opportunity to thank those councillors who chose not to stand for re-election for their service to the local community during their tenure.

**FLOODING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councillor Maughan updated the Council on recent diesel pollution issues effecting the area. The Clerk shared recent correspondence responses from LCC relating to a request for sight of the Hydrologists report completed in 2021 for the Shore Road Culvert and attendance at future Channel Management meetings.

**MEMBERS REPORTS**

No reports

**CLERK’S REPORT**

A resident has been in touch to seek support to traffic congestion and litter issues created following the recent opening of the Dominos Pizza outlet on Station Rd. He has been advised on where to report these complaints to and the Parish Clerk will observe over forthcoming weeks and seek support for the community from the owners in the event that these issues escalate.

E mail issues relating to messages from West Lancs Borough Council to the Parish Clerk are close to being resolved with acknowledgement received that the problem exists on their system – resolution expected within the next week or so.

The meeting were updated on discussions held with Emily Beckett regarding the memorial bench and the families desire to locate a handmade bench on the Henry Alty Way. Current rules were explained by the Chairman and Clerk. The council was asked to consider a change to their rules. The new Parish Council will be formed from the 2 May 2024which will include a refreshed Henry Alty Way Steering Group. Any changes to rules would need to be proposed by the Steering Group and voted on at full Parish Council meeting in June.

CIL monies of £5,266.88 to be paid to the Parish Council at the end of April 2024 which are derived from 2021/0320/FUL- Land Adjacent To 92 Station Road, Hesketh Bank- Erection of 2 dwellings

The Council were advised of a complaint from a resident, whose property backs on to Glen Park Play area where repeated instances of balls being kicked over her fence have occurred over recent weeks. The problem has been ongoing for some time but has escalated recently following the birth of her child and she feels it is only a matter of time before a ball will hit him with narrow misses regularly experienced.

Signage looks clear although writing could be a little small.

Images of offenders can be captured on CCTV but there are no real powers of enforcement according to local constabulary.

Councillor Kirby will cover the issue in the next Parish Council Newsletter and Clerk will review the area with local police to look at any simple layout changes to restrict ball game use.

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/04/02 Carried** that the Clerk’s Report and actions are noted and ratified.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/04/03 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 March 2024 were reported as:**

**Receipts**

**Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent £308.75**

**Deposit Account Interest £683.58**

**NatWest Bank Interest £17.43**

**Hesketh Bank BC – annual rent £953.81**

**Hesketh Bank CC –annual rent £479.86**

**Hesketh Bank AFC – annual rent £411.75**

**North Meols PC – Allotment Surcharge £24.00**

**Balances 31 March 2024**

**Nat West Current Account £10,501.06**

**CCLA Deposit Account £164,000.00**

**Total Liquid Funds £174,501.06**

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

WLBC solicitor has responded to recent update request confirming that at the beginning of April, he provided Morris Homes with the details of the work that needed to be carried out to bring the site up to an adoptable standard and he also provided them with the commuted sum calculation which is the payment amount required from them to cover the maintenance costs for a 7 year period after it has been transferred – he awaits their response.

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**Proposal that the** Year End Budget Out-turn report is received and noted

**RESOLUTION No 2024/04/04 Carried that the Year End Budget Out-turn report is received and noted.**

**Proposal that** the Annual Accounts & Bank Reconciliation of the Council are Received, Accepted and Noted as presented**.**

**Resolution No 2024/04/05 Carried that the Annual Accounts & Bank Reconciliation of the Council are Received, Accepted and Noted as presented.**

**Proposal** that the **“Annual Governance Statement 2023/24”** is ratified as presented and that the Chairman and Clerk are authorised to sign denoting the Authority’s Approval.

**Resolution No 2024/04/06 Carried that the “Annual Governance Statement 2023/24” is ratified as presented and that the Chairman and Clerk are authorised to sign denoting the Authority’s Approval.**

**Proposal** that the Tender Contracts up for renewal at the end of March 2024 are awarded to:-

Brian Parkinson Maintenance

Banks Printers

Yates Playgrounds Ltd

**Resolution No 2024/04/07 Carried that the Tender Contracts up for renewal at the end of March 2024 are awarded to:-**

**Brian Parkinson Maintenance**

**Banks Printers**

**Yates Playgrounds Ltd**

**Recreation and Play Area Reports**

Report received for:-

Shore Road Apr 2024

Station Rd Apr 2024

Glen Park Apr 2024

**Items Received Since Agenda Publication**

**None**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm**