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PALS**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, 8th May 2025, 7.00pm**

**Hesketh Bank Community Centre**

**Present: Jenni Smitton (Chair), Angela Bond (Secretary), Robert Yates (Treasurer), John Glover, Carol Wellings, June Jordan. Steve Kirby, Melanie Burns**

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters arising.**

Minutes of Committee Meeting Thursday, 10th April 2025 accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Rob Yates Seconded: Melanie Burns

**Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

1. **Chair’s Report - Jenni Smitton**

Thanks to Fred Smith for the carpark and sorting the taps, to John Birchall for making the new planters, to Mark for providing the wood and to Robin for making the fence for around the oak tree.

The Nectar Bar is looking lovely as is the Peace Garden. It is nice to see the latter being used by visitors. Thank you to all those who continue to look after and develop both of these. Lastly, thank you to June for help clearing the Community Cabin.

Regarding the recent inspection, there has been real progress on plots on the watch list. Six letters are to go out, five of which are due to little or no cultivation in progress.

1. **Treasurer’s Report – Rob Yates**

Fees have now been paid to the Parish Council and to the National Allotment Insurance. The insurance has gone up by £98 this year. The water bill of just under £500 has been paid and a total of £938.03 on wood.

The Books will be going to the auditor this weekend.

1. **Membership Secretary’s Report**

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| --- | --- |
| **Hesketh Bank** | **11** |
| **Others** | **1** |

1. **School Visit - Angela**

A total of 17 children visited the site in two groups. My thanks to Rob Yates and Steve Kirby for their help. The children welcomed by allotmenteers who were on site and Phil Leadbetter kindly let them on his plot. They were fascinated to see where their packets of crisps started from. BUT nothing could beat the big, shiny, red tractor waiting for them on the site. Thank you so much Geoff for bringing it down. Phil has made some great suggestions for next year.

1. **Bee Shed - Jenni**

Currently, this is unable to be used. It needs a massive tidy out.

1. **Preparation for Shows - Jenni**

* June and Jenni have cleared the cabin and have done an inventory.
* Andrew Burns will put up the signs prior to the show.
* LEF Heron needs to be displayed.
* Other LEF sign is available.
* £100 budget for ordering consumables for the shows.
* Need medals for the children’s games.
* No bottles left for apple pressing.

1. **Application for Party**

This has been approved. The Parish Council have been informed and have no objections.

1. **Dates for Diary**

AGM – 19th June followed by Open Meeting

Scarecrow Competition – 28th June

Mikron – 6th July

Summer Show – 30th August

Quiz Night – 26th September

1. **AOB**

* Agree to Phil Leadbetter spot treating weeds on paths.
* The Peace Garden can be watered by hose when the need arises.
* Dog signage is up.

Date of next Meeting - Thursday 19th June 2025 - Hesketh Bank Community Centre - 7pm