



HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL **PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8th December 2025 at 7:00pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

PRESENT

Paul Sergeant (Chairman), Kate Maughan (Vice Chairman), Tim Barnacle, Ron Tyson, Joan Witter, Ian Eccles, John Hunter, Norma Goodier & Steve Kirby.
Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

No members of the general public were present.

COUNCIL MEETING

APOLOGIES

Cllr Samantha Townsend & Cllr Carol Andress

MINUTES

RESOLUTION No. 2025/12/01 Carried that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10th November 2025 are confirmed as a true record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC FORUM

PCSO Neil Cronshaw updated the Parish Council on some minor incidents of anti-social behaviour and a car theft within the Parish.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman took the opportunity to wish all the members of the Parish Council and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

FLOODING COMMITTEE REPORT

No further update from the Northern Parishes Water Management Group as they are only due to meet on the 9th December 2025.

MEMBERS REPORTS

Steve Kirby shared the outputs from a meeting he attended regarding the Astland Walks Energy Park where plans were discussed for a single 110m high wind turbine, 30 acres of solar panels and battery storage. The project is supported by Bretherton Parish Council and GA Pet Foods.

CLERK'S REPORT

- The replacement noticeboards are all in situ now.
- A survey of all the trees that the Parish Council has responsibility for was carried out last week and a program of urgent work to the end of the year has been established.

A further survey will be completed in Spring or early Summer 2026 when the trees are in full leaf, on the back of which, an ongoing management plan will be drawn up to satisfy the requirements of our insurers. An appropriate budgeted spend will be proposed within the 2026 / 2027 financials.

- Disabled Access HAW- since the clerks last update, more heavy rain has resulted in fresh rutting to the pathway. A resident has been in touch expressing frustration with the standard of repair carried out and requesting contact details for West Lancs Borough Council Planning which have been provided.
- Christmas Lights are now lit – there are a couple of lamppost displays that seem to be lit all day and the clerk has contacted the contractor to request that these are corrected.
- Definitive Map Modification Order – Douglas Bank Boat Yard.

The Boatyard owners have requested the walked line or the route that is being currently used through the site is changed for security reasons- this is also the current England Coastal Path route.

LCC and England Coastal Path seek to change the pathway to a revised route that runs predominantly toward the bottom of the embankment to create a 2m wide pathway.

There is a public footpath on the Definitive map that hasn't been walkable for many years as it takes you through a wooded area on the bank and the furthermost land edge of the boat

yard. LCC have established that this was originally drawn incorrectly and should have been drawn on a route through the middle of the boatyard.

Before LCC can establish their path at the bottom of the embankment, they first of all need to ratify that the existing route is incorrect and should run through the centre of the boatyard. Only when they've done that, can they make an order to divert the line to the bottom of the embankment. The clerk had a meeting with LCC to understand their plans and has now confirmed that LCC can proceed as proposed.

- Flooding on Station Rd – Councillor Barnacle reported the issue after the last Parish Council meeting. Confirmation from LCC via Thomas De Freitas received that they visited the site on 20th Nov 2025 & didn't find any underlying issues. They jetted and cleansed the gullies at that time. Since then, they have been informed that the issue remains and they are therefore arranging to carry out further work to jet and cleanse the main connection these gullies feed into. Next routine work is scheduled to be done in March 2026 however Councillor De Freitas has clarified that it will have been booked in as an additional piece of work before the routine work next year.
- Lack of maintenance to public footpath next to Taylors Produce along Carr Hayes Watercourse off Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank - The footpaths are full of brambles and bridge way is impassable due to overgrowth.

WLBC confirm they have inspected the footpath and raised an order for works to be completed. They don't have a timeframe for completion of the works due to the current ground conditions as it's a little wet to drive onto the fields, however it has been raised and is with the contractors so as soon as conditions allow, the works will be completed.

- Planning Application appeal - for determination as to whether prior approval of details is required for a change of use to an agricultural building at Freshfields, Hundred End Lane Hesketh Bank. Conversion of an Agricultural Barn to a dwelling house. Originally declined by WLBC in May 2025 due to a flood risk assessment omission. The applicants were originally informed by WLBC that one wasn't required - WLBC subsequently confirmed that the application had been declined in error & offered the applicant a free appeal. No requirement for the Parish Council to comment on the appeal based on this information.

- Budgets 2026/2027

The Clerk has highlighted the following as projects to finance subject to budget constraints for the forthcoming financial year:-

Lamppost poppies during the period of Remembrance
 Increase in General Reserve
 Community Fund top up
 Tree management work
 Remaining Christmas lights timers
 CCTV for the allotments.

RESOLUTION No. 2025/12/02 Carried that the Clerk's Report and actions are noted and ratified.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 2025/12/03 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.

The Council's liquid assets on the 30 November 2025 were reported as:

Receipts

Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent	£308.75
Deposit Account Interest	£558.08
Nat West Bank Interest	£28.37

Balances 30 November 2025

NatWest Current Account	£25,919.57
CCLA Deposit Account	£184,000.00
Total Liquid Funds	£209,919.57

Poppyfields Update

No response to Clerks chasing e mail received at the time of meeting – further update will be provided in January 2026.

Recreation and Play Area Reports

Report received for:-

Shore Road December 2025
Station Rd December 2025
Glen Park December 2025

Items Received Since Agenda Publication

None

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.45pm

November 2025

Hesket with Becconsall Parish Council

CREDITOR	WORK/SUPPLY	DELEGATED	PERIOD	STATUS	NETT	VAT	REF	Statutory Power
E-on	Pavillion Electricity (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£28.87	£1.44	DD	PHA 1936
IONOS	Web hosting / email (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£68.81	£13.76	DD	LGA 1972
Graham Crompton	Nett Salary Finance (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£1,401.49		E2085	LGA 1972
Graham Crompton	Expenses (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£252.23		E2085	LGA 1972
Ian Cropper	Nett Salary Finance (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£183.60		E2084	LGA 1972
McDonald	Pavillion Cleaning (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£220.00		SO	PHA 1936
Parkinson	Comprehensive Grounds M'tce (Nov)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£2,048.00	£409.60	SO	PHA 1875
HB Community Centre	Monthly PC Meeting	Y	Expense	Paid	£14.00		E2081	LGA 1972
Yates Playgrounds	Quarterly Playground Inspections	Y	Expense	Paid	£156.00	£31.20	E2082	PHA 1875
Parkinson	Cut down storm damaged tree Station Rd Play Area	Y	Expense	Paid	£70.00	£14.00	E2087	LGA 1972
Banks Printers	Autumn Newsletter	Y	Expense	Paid	£312.00		E2083	LGA 1972
N Power	CCTV CSG	Y	Expense	Paid	£337.31	£16.87	DD	LGA 1972
Parkinson	Repair Damaged Fence at CSG adjacent to cricket pitch	Y	Expense	Paid	£80.00	£16.00	E2090	PHA 1875
Parkinson	Repair Damaged Speed sign CSG	Y	Expense	Paid	£50.00	£10.00	E2089	OSA 1906
Ingleside Ent Sols	Newsletter Delivery	Y	Expense	Paid	£130.00	£26.00	E2086	LGA 1972
LCC Sign Shop	HAW Replacement sign	Y	Expense	Paid	£55.00	£11.00	E2088	LGA 1972
Banks Printers	Summer Newsletter	Y	Expense	Paid	£305.00		E2091	LGA 1972
Total Expense					£5,022.31	£512.87		

At the General Meeting of the Council on the 1th November 2024 a Resolution was passed
ratifying the payments of the above completed transactions and authorising
the acting Responsible Finance Officer to electronically complete all the above remaining payments due.

Authorised Signatory 1
Paul Sergeant

Authorised Signatory 2
Andrew