



HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL **PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11th May 2026 at 7:00pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

PRESENT

Councillors Paul Sergeant (Chairman), Steve Kirby, John Hunter, Ian Eccles, Carol Andress, Norma Goodier, Tim Barnacle & Ron Tyson.
Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

Three member of the general public were present.

COUNCIL MEETING

CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 2026/05/01 Carried that Cllr Paul Sergeant is elected unopposed as Chairman of the Council.

RESOLUTION No 2026/05/02 Carried that the council receive and accept Cllr Sergeant's Declaration of Acceptance of Office duly witnessed by the Parish Clerk.

APOLOGIES

Cllr Samantha Townsend, Cllr Joan Witter & Cllr Kate Maughan (Vice Chairman)

The Chairman passed on congratulations to Councillor Townsend on the recent birth of her baby and also thoughts and best wishes for a speedy recovery to Councillor Witter on behalf of the Parish Council.

RESOLUTION No. 2026/05/03 Carried that Cllr Kate Maughan is elected unopposed as Vice Chairman of the Council.

APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 2026/05/04 Carried that appointments were made as per Appendix 1

RESOLUTION No 2026/05/05 Carried that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 13 April 2026 are confirmed as a true record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Kirby declared an interest in agenda item 22.

PUBLIC FORUM

Stan Farrington updated the meeting on likely timescales for the next Flooding Working Party Meeting.

Sarah Hagerty-Moran and Cait Talbot-Landers answered questions from the Parish Council in relation to the Community Fund application from Beconsall Heritage Park.

PRIOR YEAR CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on the activities of the Council during the prior year – see Appendix 2

FLOODING COMMITTEE REPORT

Stan Farrington updated the meeting on when the next Flooding Working Party meeting is likely to take place.

MEMBERS REPORTS

Councillor Tyson raised concerns regarding the disruption to residents on Shore Road as United Utilities continues work to lay new water pipes. Impacted residents haven't had their bins emptied for well over 10 days, traffic congestion is significant and there are real concerns that the laying of the pipes will impact on positive water flow along the Shore Rd culverts.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write an e mail on behalf of the Parish Council to United Utilities with Thomas De Freitas and Lancashire County Council on copy expressing these concerns and seeking reassurances that the necessary survey work and planning permission have been undertaken.

CLERK'S REPORT

Insurance claim proceeds have now been received in relation to the damaged bus shelter at the junction of Hundred End Lane and Shore Road. The replacement order has been made via Ace Shelters under instruction from the insurers.

Agreement has now been reached to retain the services of the existing Festive Lights display contractors on a store, maintain and install basis with costs reduced by around 50% compared to last year.

Articles for the next Parish Council Newsletter agreed. Work to commence on the draft over the next 2 weeks.

RESOLUTION No. 2026/05/06 Carried that the Clerk's Report and actions are noted and ratified.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 2026/05/07 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 April 2026 were reported as:

Receipts	
Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent	£308.75
Poor Marsh Allotments Rent	£300.00
CCLA Account Interest	£521.47
NatWest Bank Interest	£7.02
Council Tax Support Grant (T1)	£1740.51
Precept (T1)	£35,581.49
North Meols PC Allotments Surcharge	£12.00

Balances 30 April 2026

Current Account	£42,261.68
CCLA Deposit Account	£164,000.00
Total Liquid Funds	£206,261.68

RESOLUTION No 2026/05/08 Carried to support the request for funding provided by the Hesketh Bank Community Fund, from Beconsall Heritage Park – Lancashire Heritage (2028) CIC for £2,000 towards materials and plant hire for improvements to a section of footpath which forms part of the nature trail. Proposed by Councillor Andress and seconded by Councillor Hunter – carried unanimously and subject to sight of quotes to match breakdown of costs provided.

RESOLUTION No 2026/05/09 Carried Hesketh with Beconsall Parish Council enter into lease renewals for a 7 year period with:-

Hesketh Bank Cricket Club	£557
Hesketh Bank AFC	£478
Hesketh Bank Bowling Club	£1,106

and that Paul Sergeant (Chairman) and Graham Crompton (Parish Clerk) sign the leases on behalf of the Parish Council. Proposed by Councillor Goodier and seconded by Councillor Andress – carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION No. 2026/05/10 Carried that the Parish Council will support West Lancs Borough Council's original decision to decline Planning Application (Ref: 2025/0778/PIP) following an appeal to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for Permission In Principle for up to 4 dwellings on Land To The Rear Of 137 Station Rd, Hesketh Bank, Preston Lancashire.

Adoption of Public Space & Play Area at Poppyfields.

WLBC have not responded to a request from The Clerk for an update on matters. A further e mail will be sent chasing a response.

Recreation and Play Area Reports

Report received for:-
Shore Road May 2026
Station Rd May 2026
Glen Park May 2026

Items Received Since Agenda Publication

None

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00pm

Appendix 1

	BARNACLE	HUNTER	KIRBY	MAUGHAN	SERGEANT	WITTER	ECCLES	GOODIER	TYSON	ANDRESS	TOWNSEND
Chairman					X						
Vice Chairman				X							

Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc Appointee (1)					X						
Environmental & PRow Member (1)	X										
Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee (1)						X					
Newsletter Editor (3)				X						X	X
Recreation & POS Committee (4)		X		EO	EO						
Planning Committee (4)				EO	EO			X	X		
Recreation Areas Inspection Members 3)		X			X	X					
LHB / BKV Working Group (3)			X				X	X	X		
Payment Authorisation Members (2)				X	X						
Henry Alty Way Delivery Group (5)	X			EO	EO	X		X			
Hesketh Bank Community Centre Representative (1)											
Northern Parishes Flooding Representatives (4)				EO	EO	X	X		X		
Green Lane Link Working Party (3)						X			X		X

Notes:

The Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc. Appointee is a Nominee of the Council and can act as he/she thinks fit. Reports are expected to Council as appropriate but at least annually

The Environmental & PRow Member is specifically charged with bringing to the Council any matters within the powers of the Council affecting the local environment and reporting requirements on Public Rights of Way for consideration under the LCC delegated scheme.

The Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee is a Nominee of the Council and can act as they think fit. The representative is expected to report back to the Council at least annually.

The Newsletter Editor is charged with gathering copy and producing print ready artwork.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2026

The present Council has now completed its 2nd year in situ.

The population of Hesketh Bank continues to grow with the new Persimmon development either side of the centre of the village and into Tarleton is now completed. Since they began the building of over 250 properties on the old Alty's brickworks site they have worked well with the council and have extended the Henry Alty Way path through its development.

This time last year we announced the launch of a brand-new funding policy for projects such as volunteer programmes, projects for young people, community groups and local sports groups. The new policy set aside an initial sum of up to £10,000 annually no single request should exceed 20% of the overall fund that is reserved annually, e.g. if £10,000 then £2,000. I'm pleased to announce that this has proved to very popular and the Community Centre, Hesketh Bank Cricket Club, Hesketh Bowling Club, Becconsall Heritage Park and Hesketh Bank Silver Band have all taken the opportunity to successfully apply.

We once again held our Best Kept Garden Competition in the summer and delivered five different categories – Front Garden, Cottage Garden, Frontage of Hanging Baskets & Tubs, New Build Front Garden & Community Space. Thanks are due to Ron Tyson and his small committee for organising this competition which will begin again next month with winners announced in mid-July.

During the past 12 months The Flooding Committee has continued to push for a joint solution to the problems occurred in recent years. Likewise, we have not given up on taking over the leisure space and play area on the Poppyfields estate.

As Chairman I thank my Vice Chairman Kate Maughan, the clerk Graham Crompton and all of rest of the Council past and present for the hard work that they undertake for the whole community within the Parish of Hesketh-with-Becconsall.



April 2026

Hestketh with Becconsall Parish Council

CREDITOR	WORK/SUPPLY	DELEGATED	PERIOD	STATUS	NETT	VAT	REF	Statutory Power
E-on	Pavillion Electricity (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£29.89	£1.49	DD	PHA 1936 S87
IONOS	Web hosting / email (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£71.47	£14.29	DD	LGA 1972 S137
Graham Crompton	Nett Salary Finance (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£1,211.72		E2130	LGA 1972 S151
Graham Crompton	Expenses (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£263.73		E2130	LGA 1972 S151
Ian Cropper	Nett Salary Finance (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£152.92		E2129	LGA 1972 S151
McDonald	Pavillion Cleaning (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£20.00		SO	PHA 1936 S87
HB Community Centre	Monthly PC Meeting(Apr)	Y	Expense	Paid	£15.00		E2126	LGA 1972 S12P23
HMRC	PAYE & NI	Y	Expense	Paid	£690.96		E2127	LGA 1972 S151
Parkinson	Tree Safety Work	Y	Expense	Paid	£80.00	£16.00	E2128	LGA 1972 S144
N Power	CCTV CSG	Y	Expense	Paid	£421.58	£21.08	DD	LGA 1972 S144
Parkinson	Comprehensive Grounds Mtce (Apr)	Y	Monthly	Paid	£2,048.00	£409.60	SO	PHA 1875 S164
Net West	Bank Charges	Y	Expense	Paid	£10.85		DD	LGA 1972 S137
Total Expense					£5,016.12	£462.46		

At the General Meeting of the Council on the 11th May 2026 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

Authorised Signatory 2

Faul Sergeant
S K [Signature]

Faul Sergeant