



Love Hesketh Bank Newsletter

Produced by Hesketh with Beconsall Parish Council
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www.heskethbankcouncil.uk



Beconsall Heritage Park: Improved Access

Beconsall Heritage Park is an exciting new development in Hesketh Bank on a 20 acre site that was formerly part of the old Henry Alty Brickworks. The remainder of the old brickworks site is now the recently completed Persimmon Housing development and West Lancashire Light Railway

Those who have been lucky enough to visit it will confirm that what was, for nearly 100 years, the Brickworks' claypit (the 'Clay Ole' as it was known) is now a majestic lake surrounded by a combination of beautiful woodland and green pasture. However, although a footpath has been created around the lake, complete access to the whole of the trail has proved difficult for all but the more able bodied, especially during or following significant rainfall.

That's why the Parish Council were happy to support an application for £2000 from its recently created Community Fund to improve a section of the path in order to make it accessible for everyone including wheelchair users and parents of small children in buggies.

This section of the path forms part of the Heritage and Nature Trail which is one of the main features within the Park for which guided tours are offered. The section concerned is one of the more heavily used parts of the Trail and ends at a picnic site with a particularly attractive view along the full length of the lake.



The work was all done last Autumn by Heritage Park volunteers and went very smoothly. The grant was used to buy materials and to hire a mini-excavator, dumper and roller. Even with the use of this equipment, there was still a lot of manual work involved for the volunteers as working space was restricted by trees and great care was taken to minimise disturbance to the wildlife.

If readers have not visited the Heritage Park then they are encouraged to do so to see what a wonderful asset there is on our doorstep and the exciting developments that are taking place there. The site is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11.00 - 4.00 and Group visits can be arranged by calling 07393 326051.

A spokesperson for Beconsall Heritage Park commented: 'Our volunteers are doing a huge job in bringing the site into sound stewardship. To continue this work we need to be able to sustain them with materials and equipment. This grant opportunity came just at the right time to enable us to improve this important section of path. We would like to thank the Parish Council for making the grant available and look forward to continuing to work with the Council in this way'.



Keeping The The Henry Alty Way Clean and Enjoyable for Everyone



Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council is proud of the significant investment made in developing The Henry Alty Way, the riverside walk along the River Douglas. This popular route is a valued community asset, enjoyed by walkers, families, and responsible dog owners, and it plays an important role in promoting health, wellbeing, and appreciation of our local environment

Unfortunately, the Parish Council has received an increasing number of complaints regarding dog fouling along The Henry Alty Way and in other parts of the village. A small minority of dog owners are failing to clear up after their pets, which is causing understandable frustration and detracting from the enjoyment of this much-loved local facility.

Dog fouling is not only unpleasant and unhygienic — it is also against the law.

Penalties for Dog Fouling

Under current legislation, anyone who fails to clean up after their dog may face:

- A Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100
- If prosecuted through the courts, a fine of up to £1,000

These penalties apply to all public areas, including footpaths, pavements, green spaces, and riverside walks such as The Henry Alty Way.

.How Residents Can Help

The Parish Council encourages all dog owners to:

- Always carry dog waste bags
- Clean up after their dog immediately
- Dispose of waste responsibly in a dog waste bin or take it home

Residents who witness dog fouling and wish to report it can help by:

- Noting the date, time and exact location
- Providing a description of the dog and owner
- Reporting the incident to West Lancashire Borough Council, which is responsible for enforcement

Incidents can be reported via the council's website:

www.westlancs.gov.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council uses information provided by residents to investigate reports and take enforcement action where appropriate.

Working Together as a Community

The Henry Alty Way was created for everyone to enjoy. By acting responsibly and showing consideration for others, we can help keep this riverside walk — and our village as a whole — clean, safe, and welcoming.

Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council thanks residents for their cooperation and continued support in protecting our local environment.

Tree Safety Work Across the Parish



Hesketh and Becconsall Parish Council wishes to advise residents that a programme of tree safety management work is currently ongoing across the parish.

The Council has a duty to ensure that trees under its responsibility are safe and well maintained, in order to protect residents and the public and to comply with the requirements of its insurance cover. Trees are being inspected and, where necessary, will be cut back or pruned to remove any safety risks.

In some cases, and only where a tree cannot be made safe, removal may be necessary. Any trees that do have to be removed will be replaced, where appropriate.

Residents may notice work taking place and are thanked for their patience and understanding while this essential safety work is carried out.

Hesketh Bank Best Kept Competition 2026

Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council will once again be running its annual 'Best Kept Garden' competition.

How the Competition Works

Although there may be some wonderful back gardens, only gardens that can be seen from the pavement, can be judged for obvious reasons. However, in addition to gardens that might be picked out by the judges, for the last four years we have invited residents to nominate gardens that they think deserve to be considered including their own.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Overall design and appearance.
- Health of plants.
- Cleanliness and tidiness of the garden.
- Colour and choice of plants.
- Plants that attract birds and insects including wild flowers.

2026 Judging Categories

- Best Kept Formal Front Garden
- Best Kept Cottage Front Garden
- Best Kept Frontage – Hanging Baskets and Tubs
- Best Kept New Build Property Front Garden
- Best Kept Community Space

Each category winner will receive £50 of gardening vouchers. Certificates for the winners and two Highly Commended certificates in the Front Garden category.

JUDGING SCHEDULE

1. 1-14 June 2026 – Judging commences
2. 19-30 June 2026 – Shortlist compiled
3. 1-8 July 2026 – Final judging of shortlisted entries
4. 10 July 2026 – Winners and Highly Commended entries announced



If you would like your garden or street to get involved this year, it's time to get planting, mowing and pruning!

Crowds Brave the Wind and Rain for the Remembrance Service at All Saints Church

Parish Councillor Joan Witter lays a wreath at the monument to the fallen in the grounds of All Saints Church.



Your Parish Councillors

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