

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 22nd April, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs L Kershaw (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)
Mesdames H Sephton; D Trippier and J Witter
Messrs P Bannister; C Pickering and K Wareing

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr S Trippier (Chairman); Mrs N M Goodier and Mr R Iddon.

Five members of the Press and Public were present.

MINUTES

57/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 25th March, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Footway Lighting This Parish had not been successful in the allocation of finance for additional footway lighting.

2. LAP&TC - West Lancashire Area Committee Mrs L Kershaw reported on the meeting held on the 12th April, 1996. The Police gave a presentation on the new Ringmaster Scheme which was computer based and would be used to send vital information to relevant sections of the community. It was hoped to use the system to provide direct contact with the 230 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in the Division.

Unfortunately, only one telephone line was available at the present time and it was hoped to increase this to 4 lines. Additional finance was required to enable the extra lines to be provided.

The Police had offered to attend Parish Council meetings to explain the scheme to individual Councils.

It was agreed that the Vice-Chairman of the Council would contact the Police to arrange for a visit to a future meeting of this Council.

3. Resident of Guide Road A further letter had been received from this resident asking that more information be made available on the Notice Boards about Members of the Council. The resident also indicated that the litter he had previously reported as being in Guide Road was still there.

It was agreed that the Clerk be requested to respond to the effect that, following the forthcoming election, a list of Councillors would be placed on the Notice Boards but the Council could not guarantee how long the notices would remain. It was also agreed that the lengthsman be requested to investigate the litter in Guide Road but that the resident be informed that the Council is only responsible for the carriageway and footway with the hedge and ditch the responsibility of others.

4. Bus Shelter - Station Road/Moss Lane Payment had been claimed from the Insurance Company and the Clerk had asked about the damaged concrete bollard.

5. Resident of Station Road A copy of the current years' budget had been sent.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Committee Agendas There were no items affecting this Parish.

b. Other Matters

1. Financial Information A copy of the District Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 1996/97 had been received.

2. Parish Council Elections A list of nominations had been received and was read to the meeting. There were 11 nominations which alleviated the need for an election.

3. West Lancs. Rights of Way and Access Forum The next meeting would be held on the 20th May, 1996 at 7.30pm and suggestions for items would be welcomed. No items were suggested.

4. Meeting with Parish Council Clerks This would now be held after the forthcoming elections.

5. Members' Briefing Bulletin A copy of the latest bulletin for District Councillors' had been received.

2. Other Matters

a. John Moores University, Liverpool Details of a Conference on 'Ponds, Partnership and Practice' had been received together with the latest edition of the 'Pond Life Project' newsletter.

b. National Society of Allotments & Leisure The Society were organising a survey and had requested and been given details of the Clerk.

c. Lancashire Rural Action Three copies of the latest network newsletter had been received.

d. Mr R Iddon Mr Iddon had advised the Clerk that he was not standing for election in May and was also resigning from the Governing Body of Tarleton County School.

e. Resident of Moss Lane A resident of Moss Lane had asked about road safety at the junction of Station Road/Hesketh Lane/Moss Lane/Mill Lane. The Clerk had responded by outlining the recent proposals of the County Surveyor.

f. Lancashire Constabulary A copy of the Divisional Policing Plan had been received and the Divisional Commander had re-inforced his commitment to providing effective, efficient and high profile community policing in the parish during the coming year.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

58/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a. Andrew Coxhead - Work at Allotments | £ 35.25 |
| b. David Halstead - Work to hedge at Centenary Sports Ground | £ 120.00 |

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a. West Lancashire District Council - | |
| 1. 'B' Scheme Grant 1995/96 | £2938.10 |
| 2. Precept - First payment | £7500.00 |
| 3. Concurrent expenditure - First payment | £2355.74 |
| 4. Street cleaning - Balance for 1995/96 | £ 877.50 |
| b. Mr B Watkinson - Allotment Rent | £ 24.00 |

3. Other Matters

NSPCC The Society had requested a donation and suggested a sum of £20.

59/96 RESOLVED:- That consideration of the request be deferred until the new Council considers all such requests later in the year.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The owners of two shops situated at the junction of Station Road and Moss Lane asked about the proposals for waiting restrictions at that junction. The Chairman and Clerk indicated that the proposal had been put forward by the County Surveyor and had the support of the Police. The Parish Council had been consulted but they did not know if the County Surveyor would be consulting the owners of individual premises. A copy of the plan was passed to the two gentlemen who were advised to write direct to the County Surveyor to let him know their views and concerns.

Councillor Miss Draper asked about the item to be taken after the exclusion of the press and public and the Clerk indicated that the item was dealing with legal matters and advice.

Mr Hodge asked what was happening about Mr Wignall on the site adjacent to the Centenary Sports Field and the Clerk replied that it was a matter for the District Council.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

60/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/0231 Display illuminated fascia and projecting signs, Hesketh Bank Post Office, 56 Shore Road (Delegated to Director)

b. No 08/96/0236 Greenhouse cover to container storage area, Briarcroft Nurseries, 115 Moss Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

c. No 08/96/0251 Siting of temporary portable building for office use and provision of car parking spaces, Rear of 410 Moss Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

d. No 08/96/0283 Conversion of barn to dwelling, Nook Farm, Chapel Road (To Development & Planning Committee)

e. No 08/96/0316 Outline - Detached dwelling, Nook Farm, Chapel Road (To Development & Planning Committee)

f. No 08/96/0312 Detached two car garage/workshop, 54 Newarth Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

g. No 08/96/0321 Single storey extension to existing offices to provide restrooms/w.c's, store and workshop. Provision of new pitched roof to replace existing flat roof, 390 Moss Lane (Determined by Director if no objections)

2. Development & Planning Committee - 25th April, 1996

The following items were noted:-

a. Application No 08/96/0042 Conversion of barn/stable to dwelling, Willow Fields Livery Centre, Cabin Road (Recommendation - Granted subject to occupation conditions)

b. Approved since last meeting

1. No 08/96/0394 Reserved matters, Landscaping, Hesketh Lodge, Dib Road

2. No 08/96/0031 Two storey rear extension and attached car port at side, 64 Moss Lane

3. Other Matters

a. Appeal It was noted that an appeal had been made in respect of the following application which had been refused by the Development & Planning Committee:-

No 08/94/0670 Outline - Agricultural Workers' Dwelling, Land adjacent to Long Acres, Guide Road

b. Notification of Applications to Parish Councils
It was noted that an amended system had been introduced, for a trial period of 12 months, following consultation with Parish Councils.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Parking Restrictions The Divisional Police Commander at Skelmersdale supported the Parish Council's request for restrictions at Station Road/Chapel Road and on the Brow of Station Road Bridge.

The Clerk undertook to ask the County Surveyor if he would be notifying the owners of premises affected by the restrictions.

2. Other Matters

a. Bus Shelter Grants 1996/97 The County Council would not be making bus shelter grants in 1996/97.

b. Marsh Road - Footpath sign The Clerk was requested to ask the County Surveyor why a new sign had been sited after the first house and not at the top of the road.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground - Drainage In the absence of the Chairman, Mr K Wareing indicated that he understood that the problems were being caused by tree roots blocking the existing drains. It was agreed to leave the matter with the Chairman.

2. Recreation Ground - Boundary with Belsfield Drive
The Clerk reported that the two residents who had complained about the trees had agreed to pay half the cost of reducing the height of the trees. The Chairman had previously told the Clerk that he felt this was the wrong time of the year for such work.

The Clerk was requested to consult the Arboricultural Officer about this issue and thank the two residents concerned

3. Recreation Ground - Play Equipment In the absence of the Chairman, Mr P Bannister and Mr K Wareing agreed to look at the cradle swing referred to by the Insurance Company and remove it if necessary.

4. Grasscutting A response was still awaited from Mr M Taylor.

5. Station Road Play Area It was reported that a number of wooden slats were missing from the fence whilst others were broken.

It was agreed that Mrs D Trippier and Mrs H Sephton, in consultation with the Chairman, would investigate the problem and report back to the next meeting.

ALLOTMENTS

It was reported that only Mr A Rostron still owed part of the rental for his allotments.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Meeting with Football Club This had been cancelled as the Club were unable to attend on the date suggested. There was still a need for a meeting and the Clerk would speak to the Chairman about dates.

It was also stated that the Health & Safety people had checked the relevant equipment in the Bowling Club but had not been able to check items belonging to the Cricket and Football Clubs.

2. Meeting with Cricket Club Mrs L Kershaw reported on the meeting to discuss the lease and on a subsequent meeting with the Council's Solicitor. At the meeting with the Cricket Club it had been said that the Club were not in favour of football being played on the cricket field.

It was agreed that a further meeting was now required with the Cricket Club and the Clerk would discuss dates with the Chairman.

3. Station Road Hedge This was still with the Chairman and a price was awaited from Mr J R Foster.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Mrs L Kershaw said how much she had enjoyed her time on the Council and thanked everyone for their help. She also thanked those Councillors not standing in the election for their time and efforts on behalf of the residents of the parish.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

61/96 RESOLVED:- 1 That the Annual Parish Assembly be held on Monday, 20th May, 1996 commencing at 8.00pm, and

2 That the Parish Council meeting to be held on that date commences at 7.00pm and, if necessary, continues after the Annual Assembly.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

62/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONTINUED)

Northern Boundary of Site The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from Solicitors in Southport concerning issues in connection with the Northern boundary of the site.

63/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That action be taken to resolve the dispute over the ownership of the northern boundary of the site, and
2. That Mr K Wareing be authorised to make preliminary contact with a suitable Solicitor to represent the Council in this matter.

*Nama Goodie's
20/5/96*

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 20th May, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; P M Stables; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter; P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Thirteen members of the public were present.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was MOVED and SECONDED that Mrs N M Goodier be elected Chairman of the Council.

64/96 RESOLVED:- That Mrs N M Goodier be elected Chairman of the Council for the year 1996/97.

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE.

Mrs N M Goodier made the Statutory Declaration of Office of Chairman of the Council.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was MOVED and SECONDED that Mr K S Wareing be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council.

65/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K S Wareing be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the year 1996/97.

MINUTES

66/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd April, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Bus shelter - Station Road/Moss Lane Payment had now been received for the shelter but no mention had been made of the bollard. The Clerk undertook to contact the Insurance Company again.

2. Parish Council Elections The Clerk reported receipt of the Official Result.

Mrs D M Trippier reminded members that they should be conscious of the fact that they had not been elected by the electorate but by default.

The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council was apolitical and all members were there for the good of the community. It was essential that all members worked as a team for the benefit of the residents of Hesketh Bank.

3. National Society of Allotments and Leisure

A survey had been received which would be completed by the Clerk and returned.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Mr R C Ball suggested that Members of the Council should declare their interests in various activities of the Council which should be registered in the Council's Register of Interests.

The Clerk indicated that the relevant legislation referred to pecuniary interests and, whilst he could advise members of what action they may consider taking, he could not force any member to take action. He suggested, however, that members involved with organisations who leased facilities from the Council may wish not to volunteer to serve on the relevant Committees of the Council.

67/96 RESOLVED:- That the Constitution and Membership of the various Committees of the Council for the year 1996/97 be as follows:-

a. Recreation Committee - 5 Members

The Chairman; Mr B Birkby; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables and Mrs J Witter.

b. Allotments Committee - 5 Members

The Chairman; Mr R Ball; Mrs H Sephton; Mr P Sergeant and Mrs J Witter.

c. Footpaths, Tree Wardens and Environmental Issues Committee - 6 Members

The Chairman; Mr R Ball; Mrs H Sephton; Mrs P Stables; Mrs D Trippier; Mr S Trippier.

d. Centenary Sports Ground Committee - 5 Members

The Chairman; The Vice-Chairman; Mr R Ball; Mr B Birkby and Mrs J Witter.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

68/96 RESOLVED:- That the following appointments be made to Outside Bodies for the periods indicated:-

a. Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils (3)

The Chairman; The Vice-Chairman and Mrs H Sephton. (1996/97)

b. Layfield Charity (1)

Mrs D Trippier. (4 years)

c. Village Hall Committee (1)

Mr S Trippier. (1 year)

d. Lancashire Playing Fields Association (1)

Mr P Sergeant. (1 year)

e. Council for Protection of Rural England (1)

Mr S Trippier. (1 year)

f. Hesketh-with-Becconsall CE School (1 Governor)

Mr J Hunter. (4 years)

g. Tarleton County Primary School (1 Governor)

Mrs P Stables. (4 years)

Mr R Ball asked about the District Council's Access Forum which was meeting tonight.

The Clerk indicated that the Council could send a representative to meetings but were not required to nominate a specific representative. He suggested that a member of the Footpaths Etc. Committee could attend future meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council There were no items on Committee Agendas affecting this Parish.

2. Lancs. Assoc. of Parish & Town Councils

A. Spring Newsletter

i. Repairs to Street Lighting The timetable for repairing street lights was noted.

ii. Councillors' and Clerks' Allowances These had now been standardise with the new rate for vehicles of 1200 cc and above being 43.8p per mile. Most members were unaware that they could claim expenses when on Parish Council business and long serving members indicated that they usually paid their own expenses.

iii. Local Government Review The Secretary of State had approved Unitary Authorities for Blackburn and Blackpool. Shadow elections would be held in 1997 and the new Authorities would become operational in May 1998.

iv. Training Day - Duties and Responsibilities

69/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr B Birkby and Mrs P Stables be authorised to attend the Training Day on Saturday 15th June, 1996 at a cost of £27.50 each.

v. Revision of Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 Some detailed notes had been received which would be studied by the Clerk.

vi. Recommendations for Part Time Clerk's Salaries The Clerk would look at the recommendations and bring forward suggestions, if appropriate.

B. Other Matters

i. NALC Handbook The 1996/97 Year Book had been received.

ii. Local Council Review The May 1996 edition had been received.

iii. CCL News The Spring 1996 edition had been received.

3. West Lancashire Area Committee

A. Representatives on Outside Bodies The list of current representatives had been received.

B. 'Ringmaster' System A Briefing Paper on the system had been received and the Police would attend the next meeting of the Council to explain the system in detail.

4. Other Matters

A. Lancashire County Council A contact list of County Council Officers and an A-Z of Services had been received.

B. West Lancashire Victim Support Scheme An invitation to the AGM on the 12th June, 1996 had been received together with a request for a grant.

70/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Chairman be authorised to attend the AGM of the Association, and

2. That the request for a grant be considered with other requests received later in the financial year.

C. West Lancs Play Association (Ltd) The Association were holding a 'Fun Day' on the 3rd August 1996 and were seeking stall holders.

D. Various Leaflets Leaflets on activities at Dean Wood and Beacon Country Park had been received.

E. Glenpark Drive A complaint had been received from a resident about a thorn bush spreading over the footway and a car parked on the footway. The Clerk agreed to forward the complaint to the County Surveyor and the Police.

F. Good Neighbour Scheme - AGM This would be held on Tuesday, 21st May, 1996 and members of the Parish Council were invited to attend.

G. Best Kept Village Competition 1996 The Chairman had entered the Parish in the competition and included the Post Office on ~~Shore~~ Road in a specific category. Posters had been received and would be distributed. The judging would start in June and the Chairman would welcome ideas to create more interest within the parish.

Mrs D Trippier suggested that the surrounds of the Village Hall required attention and Mr B Birkby indicated that, if material was available, he could arrange to fill in the pot holes on the site. It was agreed that Mr B Birkby and Mr S Trippier be authorised to organise the necessary work.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

71/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- a. Lancashire Association of Parish & Town Councils -
 - i Annual subscription £ 210.17
 - ii Course fees (Mr Birkby & Mrs Stables) £ 55.00
- b. Gary Pitman - Painting bus shelters £ 180.00
- c. CPRE - Annual subscription £ 17.50
- d. Mrs N Goodier - Best Kept Village Compt. Fee £ 7.50

2. Bank Mandate

72/96 RESOLVED:- That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr S Trippier be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Council.

3. Insurance The premium for the Council's main insurance policy with Cornhill Insurance was now due.

73/96 RESOLVED:- That the premium of £ 222.02 be paid to Cornhill Insurance.

It being 8.00pm, the meeting was adjourned to allow the Annual Parish Assembly to be held.

Station

met

The meeting was re-convened at 9.30pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The question of the proposed parking regulations was again raised by members of the public who failed to see the need for such drastic measures. It was suggested the main problem at Station Road/Moss Lane was caused by vehicles parking outside the Midland Bank. In addition, it was felt that the suggestions for the bridge went too near to the shops and the proposed restrictions would only serve to move trade to other areas due to the lack of car parking facilities.

Mr J R Foster indicated that he understood that Alty's had plans to close off the existing car park.

County Councillor R Hodge said that the County Surveyor's proposals nearly always went further than those requested by or acceptable to Parish Councils.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

74/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/0326 2 storey extension to rear elevation - 17 Moss Lane

b. No 08/96/0354 O/L one detached dwelling (including details of siting and means of access) - Land adj. 22 Boundary Lane

At this point Mr S Trippier left the meeting.

c. No 08/96/0360 Single-storey extension to office at rear - 9 Station Road

d. No 08/96/0381 O/L one detached dwelling house and garage (including details of siting and means of access) - Land adj. 86 Chapel Road

STANDING ORDERS

75/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

PLANNING MATTERS (Cont)

2. Development & Planning Committee - 23rd May 1996

A. Applications

76/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on the following applications:-

a. No 08/96/0326 Two storey extension to rear elevation - 17 Moss Lane (Recommendation - Granted)

b. No 08/96/0236 Greenhouse cover to container storage area - Briarcroft Nurseries, 115 Moss Lane (Recommendation - Granted)

c. No 08/96/0161 Use of land for livery, including erection of stable block - Newarth Stables, Newarth Lane (Recommendation - Refused)

B. Old Church of All Saints, Becconsall Lane A report by the Director of Development & Amenities on a Building at Risk report in respect of the Old Church of All Saints was noted.

Mrs D Trippier indicated that the Friends of Becconsall Church were, at the present time, not in favour of the Director's preferred option for the future development of the building.

3. Other Matters

A. Planning Applications Determined Details of applications determined would be supplied to Parish Councils on a monthly basis for display on parish notice boards.

B. Breach of Planning Control - Use of land for storage and parking of vehicles including access from Shore Road This related to premises in Guide Road but no indication was given as to the actual breach.

77/96 RESOLVED:- That the Planning Department be asked for details of the breach in planning control.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Waiting Restrictions The County Surveyor had indicated that notification to individual properties was not feasible although proposed schemes were advertised on the site and in the local press. One letter of objection had been received by the County Surveyor which he would respond to shortly.

Details of proposed schemes for Station Road Bridge and Station Road/Chapel Road had been received and the Council considered these two schemes and gave further consideration to the previously advised scheme for Station Road/Moss Lane/Hesketh Lane/Mill Lane in the light of personal observations made by Councillors and the views of local residents.

78/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the County Surveyor be advised of the following views of the Parish Council in relation to the three schemes:-

a. Station Road/Moss Lane/Hesketh Lane/Mill Lane - No objections to restrictions on the corners of Station Road/Mill Lane (in front of the Midland Bank and round into Mill Lane) and Hesketh Lane/Mill Lane (from bus stop round into Mill Lane) but do not support the proposed restrictions on the corners of Hesketh Lane/Moss Lane and Station Road/Moss Lane.

b. Station Road Bridge - Do not support the proposed restrictions on the bridge.

c. Station Road/Chapel Road - Do not support the proposed restrictions at this location.

2. That the Planning Department be asked if there are any proposals in respect of the existing car park on land currently owned by Alty's.

2. Public Footpath Sign - Marsh Road The County Surveyor had indicated that the sign had been placed at the start of the public footpath.

3. Traffic Calming Measures A number of suggestions were made for possible sites for traffic calming measures.

79/96 RESOLVED:- That an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council to enable a full discussion to be held on this subject.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

A. Drainage The repairs to the drains had now been completed and the Football Club had subsequently undertaken maintenance work on the football pitch.

B. Boundary with Belsfield Drive The Arboricultural Officer had indicated that, ideally, work on the trees should be undertaken in the dormant season.

80/96 RESOLVED That a copy of the Arboricultural Officer's letter be forwarded to the two residents of Belsfield Drive and that they be advised that they must not touch the trees as the Council will undertake the work in the winter.

C. Play Equipment Mr S Trippier had removed the damaged swing seat which he felt he could repair and replace.

D. Agreement for use of Ground by CE School The Clerk undertook to look through his records for a copy of this agreement which had been requested by the Director of Property Services of the County Council.

E. Additional safety surfacing The Chairman undertook to speak to Mr S Trippier about this work which was being financed by a District Council grant.

2. Grasscutting A reply was still awaited from Mr Mark Taylor and Mr P Sergeant undertook to speak to him on behalf of the Council.

3. Glenpark Drive Play Area

A. Complaint Mrs J Witter had received a complaint from a number of residents about nuisances caused by older children. The Chairman undertook to speak to the local Police Officer and the Clerk would advise the complainants of the action being taken.

B. Broken glass Mr Foster was asked to look at this problem and report back to the next meeting.

4. Station Road Play Area - Broken Fence Mrs D Trippier and Mrs H Sephton had compiled a report on the damaged fence. Mr K Wareing undertook to obtain a price for the necessary materials for the next meeting.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

81/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be requested to place this item on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

CENTENARY SPORTS FIELD

1. Refreshment Caravan The Enforcement Officer had written to the Council about the refreshment caravan and enclosed the relevant forms for making a retrospective planning application. The Clerk had forwarded the forms to the Football Club, asked for dates for a possible meeting and advised the Enforcement Officer of the action taken.

2. Cricket Club Lease It was agreed to try and fix a meeting with the Cricket Club on the same day as the meeting with the Football Club.

3. Station Road Hedge The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers had made some proposals about this and other hedges on the site.

82/96 RESOLVED:- That the Centenary Sports Ground Committee be requested to consider the proposals and bring recommendations to a future meeting of the Council.

4. Bowling Club Lease The Bowling Club had questioned the Council's rights to buildings on the site and the clause relating to the access road. The Club had also asked about the possibility of erecting street lights on the access road.

83/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the questions from the Bowling Club in relation to the buildings and the clause relating to the access road be referred to the Council's Solicitor, and

2. That the question of street lights on the access road be considered at a later date.

5. Future Policy on Sports Ground The Chairman was conscious of public concern in the village about the Sports Ground and rumours that, in the past, the Council had acted in an underhand manner.

84/96 RESOLVED:- That a public meeting be held, in the future, to discuss the development of the sports ground.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

85/96 RESOLVED:- That future meetings of the Council be held on the following Monday evenings commencing at 7.30pm:-

17th June 1996;	22nd July 1996;	2nd September 1996;
30th September 1996;	28th October 1996;	25th November 1996;
30th December 1996;	27th January 1997;	24th February 1997;
24th March 1997;	21st April 1997	

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

86/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (Cont)

Mr K Wareing reported on his visit to a Solicitor in Preston who had visited the site and made certain proposals together with his terms for acting on behalf of the Council. The advice was aimed at reaching the quickest solution to the problem of the ownership of the hedge on the northern boundary.

Members of the Council were concerned about the possible cost implications of the action as set out bearing in mind that public money was involved.

87/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the Solicitor be requested to send the Clerk a receipt for the Title Deeds currently in his possession,

2. That the Solicitor's terms for acting on behalf of the Council be accepted,

3. That the Clerk be requested to instruct the Solicitor to respond on the lines of the advice set out in his letter to the Council, and

4. That any response be reported back to the Council before further action is undertaken.

Part 4 of the Resolution was subject to a Recorded Vote as follows:- FOR:- The Chairman, Mesdames Sephton, Stables and Witter, Messrs Birkby, Hunter, Sergeant and Wareing (8)

AGAINST:- Mrs Trippier and Mr Ball (2)

Nama Soobis
17th June 1996
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HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 17th June, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames P M Stables; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; S Trippier and K Wareing

Nine members of the press and public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs H O Sephton; Mr J Hunter and Mr P J A Sergeant.

I.V. BROADCASTING MODULE OR 'RINGMASTER' SYSTEM

(Sergeant M R Bennett, Dianne Hignett - Crime Prevention Officer & Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, and PC M Thackery attended for this item)

Dianne Hignett explained that the 'Ringmaster' was a computerised message-issue system which provided the Police with the facility to furnish selected groups, within the West Lancashire District, with vital information quickly and efficiently via the telephone network. Unfortunately, budgets were restricted and would not allow for the funding of specific projects such as 'Ringmaster'.

Many people were willing to help the Police, particularly Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, which had increased in the district from 90 to 260 over the past 18 months, and the system would provide those groups with a direct communication link with the Police.

Anyone in the district who has a telephone can apply to join the system which can be linked to a maximum of 4 telephone lines and can also take fax messages.

On receipt of information, the Police can select the appropriate group of people and the system will automatically send a message to all in that group. It is also possible to programme into the system times during which group members will accept a message and, if the system gets a 'number engaged' or no reply from a number on the list, it will retry later until the call is answered. The system is capable of delivering 160 messages per hour and the Police can get a print out which shows which numbers have received a call.

It was hoped that all Neighbourhood Watch and Rural Watch Scheme members, schools, commercial and industrial premises, sheltered housing schemes, sub Post Offices, garages and other similar groups would take advantage of the scheme by registering with the Police.

The initial basic cost of the system, including one telephone line, was £4,000 plus VAT and sponsorship had been received to nearly cover this cost. The basic system would, therefore, be installed. Further sponsorship was now required to allow the number of telephone lines to be increased to four.

In response to various questions, the Police indicated that the cost including four telephone lines was £6,500 plus VAT; that the system was currently in use in 34 Police Forces in the UK; that information received would be verified by a Police Officer before being circulated to the appropriate group; that it was another form of intelligence gathering as an aid to the Police to secure a reduction in crime; that genuine individuals would not mind being checked out by a Police Officer if they had been reported to the Police as possibly acting in a suspicious manner; that only 2 persons at the Police Station would have access to the Database; and that once an Application Form had been received from an individual, business or other organisation, the information would be fed into the system and selected information passed via the system as appropriate.

It was suggested that it was a shame that a scheme of this nature could not be funded by the Government.

The Police indicated that they were not allowed to directly ask for donations from Parish Councils.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for a very interesting and informative presentation.

POLICING IN HESKETH BANK

(The Police Officers remained for this item)

PC M Thackery reported on the following issues which had been raised at previous meetings:-

Glenpark Drive He had spoken to the vehicle driver who had started to park the vehicle in the driveway and the County Surveyor had written to the resident about the hedge.

'Riccadonna' The firm had been approached about vehicles blocking the road and a system had been agreed whereby vehicles would park at the bottom of the yard and come up one by one to be loaded.

Glenpark Drive Play Area Most of the children he had seen using the site were in the 8-10 years age range and he would speak to them if they were kicking balls against fence panels. Most of the older children lived in the vicinity of the site and he would speak to them if necessary. He wondered if the Council may wish to consider erecting a 'No ball games' sign on the site.

Parking Restrictions He advised the Council that his original recommendation was for some form of crossing not for double yellow lines but the County Surveyor had opted for the latter.

Shore Road There had been two accidents last week involving young pedestrians. In both cases the vehicles were travelling within the speed limit and it appeared that the pedestrians had been the cause of the accidents. Sergeant Bennett undertook to speak to the Traffic Manager about these accidents and perhaps arrange for a site meeting to be held to discuss if any future action is required.

Mr R C Ball drew attention to the speed of cattle wagons through the village. The problems were caused mainly at weekends and at night and he wondered whether tachograph checks could be made on the vehicles concerned. He believed that certain premises were being used as a change over point for drivers.

The Police indicated that a tachograph alone could not be used to prosecute speeding offences but can be used to support other evidence.

PC Thackery undertook to speak to the Traffic Department about these problems.

The Chairman thanked the Police Officers for their attendance at the meeting.

MINUTES

88/96 RESOLVED:- That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th May, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

Page 5 Item G - Best Kept Village Competition 1996

Line 3 'Shore Road' to read 'Station Road'.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. LAP&TC Training Day Mrs P M Stables and Mr B Birkby had attended the day and felt it had been very worthwhile.
2. West Lancashire Victim Support Scheme The Chairman had attended the AGM of the Scheme and had been the only Parish Council representative present. The address had been given by the Chief Constable who had spoken about domestic violence. The Police now respond to any domestic violence incident and treat them sympathetically.
3. Complaint about resident of Glenpark Drive As reported by PC M Thackery, the resident had been spoken to about the vehicle and written to by the County Surveyor about the hedge.
4. Good Neighbour Scheme - AGM Mrs D Trippier circulated copies of the Annual Report ~~and Balance Sheet~~ to members of the Council and reported that only the same few regulars had attended the AGM.

5. Best Kept Village Competition Mr B Birkby and Mr S Trippier reported that old tarmac was no longer available from the County Council as all contracts were now contracted out. Mr Trippier also reported that the Village Hall Committee had no money available to spend on the upkeep of the Hall and surrounds.

Mrs Trippier reported that no AGM had been held for the past 5 years and the current Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer had not been voted into office.

In response to a question, it was stated that Tree Tops Nursery were paying rent to the Youth Club.

The Clerk was asked to place an item on the agenda for the next meeting to enable the Village Hall to be discussed in more detail.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas There were no items affecting this Parish.

b. Civic Service This would be held in Skelmersdale on Sunday, 30th June, 1996. No member of the Council was available to attend.

c. Members' Briefing Bulletin The latest edition had been received.

2. Health Services Review A copy of the review had been received which had been given to the Chairman. The initial views of the Community Health Council had also been received.

In essence, Accident & Emergency Services and Midwifery would still be available at both Southport & Formby and Ormskirk General Hospitals but specialist services would only be available at one hospital.

A response was not required until later in the summer and residents of the Parish would have the opportunity to attend a presentation in the Parish and further meetings would be held in Ormskirk and Southport.

3. Other Matters

a. Lancashire Playing Fields Association The Parish Council's representative, Mr P Sergeant, was on holiday when the AGM was to be held and no other Councillor was able to attend.

b. Association for the Conservation of Energy The Association was seeking support to a campaign to secure a reduction in VAT on energy saving materials and asking Parish Councils to write to their MP and to the appropriate Government Department.

89/96 RESOLVED:- That the Campaign be supported and the Clerk be authorised to write the necessary letters to the MP and the appropriate Government Department.

c. Environment Agency Correspondence from the local MP regarding this new Agency was noted. It had taken over the functions of the National Rivers Authority.

d. Crossroads AGM This would be held on the 22nd July 1996 at the Derby Day Centre, Ormskirk at 7.30pm. The request for a grant would be considered later in the financial year.

e. West Lancashire Police and Community Forum This would be held on Monday, 24th June, 1996 at Crosshall High School, Ormskirk at 7.30pm.

f. Fire Brigade - Safety Demonstration The Chairman reported the receipt of an invitation from LAP&TC to attend a demonstration at Euxton last week but she had not been able to attend.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for Payment

90/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

a. Hesketh Bank AFC - Water charges	£ 22.00
b. Banks & Wilson - Solicitor's Fees	£ 423.00
c. B W Rimmer Esq. - Clerk's salary & expenses	£ 539.56
d. Lancs. Playing Fields Assoc. - Subscription	£ 10.00

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

Mr A Rostron - Balance of allotment rent £ 4.00

3. Other Matters

Valuation of Assets A firm of Valuers from Preston had written to offer their services to the Council in respect of the valuation of assets for the new Audit Regulations. It was agreed to leave the letter on file for the time being.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Edmondson of Guide Road explained that the access from Shore Road, which was the subject of possible Enforcement Action by the District Council, was already in being as a old brick road.

Mr Edmondson had laid gravel and staff vehicles were parked on the land to alleviate parking problems on Guide Road. An application had now been made to regularise the use of the access and the parking spaces.

The Clerk said he had been unable to get further information from the District Council and was grateful to Mrs Edmondson.

Mr J R Foster indicated that whenever he visited the Play Areas they were being used by younger children. He had mentioned this to PC Thackery. He also indicated that he emptied the litter bins at least once a week.

The Council were advised that the CE School on Shore Road publish a weekly bulletin and it was suggested that the Council may like to provide information for publication, on, say, a monthly basis. The School would require a financial contribution from the Parish Council towards the cost of printing and distribution. It was agreed to discuss the proposal later in the meeting.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists

a. No 08/96/0446 - Two/single storey extensions at rear, 141 Moss Lane

91/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

b. No 08/96/0499 - Demolition of existing farm buildings and construction of one pair of semi-detached and 3 detached dwellings, garages and new accesses, Land off The Brow

92/96 RESOLVED:- That the Planning Department be advised that the Parish Council feels that any development should conserve the character of the area and be sympathetic to the surroundings and that the Council is concerned about the very narrow access road to this site which is not wide enough for two vehicles to pass.

c. No 08/96/0500 - Residential development including public open space, estate roads and new access, Land off Shore Road

93/96 RESOLVED:- That the Planning Department be requested to confirm that 3 acres of public open space will be provided in this development.

d. No 08/96/0512 - Single storey rear extension, 'Milford', Guide Road

e. No 08/96/0516 - Extension to existing garage including provision of pitched roof, 1 Newarth Lane

94/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on these applications.

3. Parking on footways Mr R C Ball drew attention to persistent parking on footways in the village centre and suggested that the local Police Officer should be more vigilant in policing these illegal practices. Some members felt it unfair to criticise the Police Officer in his absence but the Clerk was asked to write to the Officer to request that action is taken.

4. Traffic Calming It was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

5. Temporary Road Closure Station Road had been closed for a number of days to enable a sewer connection to be made. The Clerk had been advised of the closure by the County Council and had passed the information to the Chairman.

6. Bus Services It was reported that since North Western had ceased to operate through Hesketh Bank, there was a two hour gap in the morning Stagecoach service between 0807 and 1011. It was helpful, however, that all buses connected at Tarleton with the service to Ormskirk.

96/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be asked to write to Stagecoach asking for a re-instatement of a bus just after 0900 and to the County Council for information about the subsidy paid on the Southport to Preston route via Hesketh Bank.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Boundary with Belsfield Drive The Clerk had written to the residents concerned.

b. Use of football pitch by School The Clerk had advised the County Council that he could find no trace of an agreement for the use of the football pitch by the school.

c. Paved footpath A number of flags were uneven and the path near to Delta Park was overgrown.

97/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That Mr K Wareing be authorised to spend upto £100 to effect repairs to the path, and

2. That the Clerk be authorised to arrange for the overgrown path to be mown under the grasscutting contract to be discussed later in the meeting.

d. Seat

98/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr S Trippier and Mr K Wareing be authorised to move the seat back to its original position.

e. Inspection It was agreed to fix a date for an inspection by the Recreation Committee at the next meeting of the Council.

2. Glenpark Drive Play Area

a. Nuisances etc The Chairman had visited the site on a number of occasions and each time only younger children had been there. She asked members to keep an eye on the situation. It was also reported that Mr Foster visited the site on a regular basis to pick up broken glass.

b. Letter from resident of Glenpark Drive The Chairman had received a letter from a resident about the untidy state of the play area. The Clerk was asked to advise the resident of the action being taken by the Parish Council.

The Chairman also indicated that the residents had picked up the grass cuttings after the area had recently been mown.

3. Station Road Play Area

a. Fence Mr Wareing reported that approximately £20 - £25 of timber was required to repair the fence.

99/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr Wareing be authorised to purchase the necessary timber to repair the fence together with some extra pieces for use in future and to undertake the necessary repairs.

b. Land adj. to Telephone Box Mr Wareing was asked to make some discreet enquiries as to the ownership of this land.

4. Grasscutting It was reported that, despite several attempts by the Chairman and other members, it had not been possible to contact Mr M Taylor and therefore, the Clerk had contacted Brophy's, who undertook work for the District Council in the parish. The Clerk, after consultation with the Chairman, had asked Brophy's to do an initial cut and to provide a quotation for the remainder of the cutting season.

The quotation was £90.00 per cut plus VAT for all the areas identified by the Clerk on the basis of a 3 weekly cut with strimming undertaken on every other cut.

Concern was expressed about the embankment on Station Road Bridge which was the responsibility of the County Council.

100/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That an order be placed with Brophy's for grasscutting on a three weekly cycle, with strimming on every other visit, at a cost of £90.00 plus VAT per cut,

2. That Brophy's be asked to give special attention to the overgrown path at the Delta Park entrance to the Recreation Ground,

3. That Brophy's be asked to cut the Station Road embankment on a one off basis, and

4. That the County Council be asked about the grasscutting on the areas in the Parish for which they are responsible.

STANDING ORDERS

101/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Council discussed the offer from the CE School on Shore Road to assist in the publication of information about the Parish Council as part of the School's weekly bulletin.

102/96 RESOLVED:- That talks be held with representatives of the School to ascertain the approximate cost to the Parish Council of taking up the offer of publishing information about the Council.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

103/96 RESOLVED:- That the resolution of the Annual Assembly relating to the Centenary Sports Ground, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book, be noted.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Meeting with Football Club It was agreed that the Clerk be authorised to try to set up a meeting with the Football Club for Wednesday, 19th June 1996 and advise the members of the Sports Ground Committee accordingly.

2. Station Road Hedge

a. Immediate attention

104/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr A Coxhead be authorised to cut the front hedge at an approximate cost of £15.

b. Long term action Mr Trippier undertook to copy the proposals of BTCV for members of the Sports Ground Committee.

3. Cricket Club Lease That arrangements for a meeting with the Cricket Club be held in abeyance for the time being.

4. Bowling Club Lease The Council's Solicitor had agreed that references to the buildings should be removed from the lease but that the bias should be in favour of the owner of the land and, therefore, the references to the access road should remain.

The Chairman suggested that the Council should seek the advice of the National Association on the draft lease and ask if the Council were right in upholding their legal responsibility if they set a deadline on the lease being signed.

In response to a question about access across Parish Council land, the Chairman indicated that the Council were not granting any third party access to land over Parish Council owned land.

104/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to seek guidance from the National Association of Local Councils on the draft lease prepared by the Council's Solicitor.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

105/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONT)

Northern Boundary The Clerk reported that no reply had been received from the Solicitor regarding this matter. Some members felt that the Council should continue its action and that the Clerk be authorised to act, if necessary, before the next meeting of the Council.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that, if the reply is not to the satisfaction of the Council, the Clerk be authorised to proceed on the lines suggested by the Council's Solicitor.

Upon being put to a recorded vote, the following votes were cast:-

FOR:- Mr R C Ball, Mrs D M Trippier and Mr S Trippier (3)

AGAINST:- The Chairman, Mr B Birkby, Mrs P M Stables and Mrs J Witter (4)

ABSTAINED:- Mr K Wareing (1)

Whereupon it was declared that the proposal had been defeated.

*Wanna Goodie
12 July 1996*

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 22nd July, 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant and K Wareing

Twenty members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs P M Stables and Mr S Trippier.

MINUTES

106/96 RESOLVED:- That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th June, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

Page 3 - Good Neighbour Scheme - AGM

Line 2 Delete 'and Balance Sheet'.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Victim Support Scheme A copy of the Annual Report had been received.

2. Health Service Review A mobile exhibition would be in St Mark's Square, Tarleton on Monday, 12th August 1996 between the hours of Noon and 6.00pm.

3. Conservation of Energy HM Customs and Excise had replied to the representations of the Council to the effect that the Government were pursuing an alternative policy for improving energy conservation rather than through a reduction of VAT.

The local MP had supported EDM 702 relating to this subject.

4. Environment Agency The local MP would try to clear up the lack of circulation of material about the new Agency.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas

Transport & Amenities Committee - 2nd July 1996

The Committee had supported the County Surveyor's proposals for waiting restrictions in the village subject to this Council's views being considered before a final decision is made.

b. Meeting of Parish Council Clerks The Clerk reported on a recent meeting held at Ormskirk:-

1. Account & Audit Regulations - The Council must appoint a Responsible Financial Officer (RFO); must set up an Asset Register using approximate values or historical costs as appropriate; and must approve a Balance Sheet within 6 months of the end of the financial year. Final guidance notes would be issued in August with courses being run for Clerks in September.

2. Parish Council Expenditure - Four parishes had not applied for concurrent expenditure. Unsuccessful bids for capital grants would have to be re-submitted.

3. Government's Rural White Paper - Parish Reviews would become the responsibility of District Councils rather than the Local Government Commission but this would depend on parliamentary time being available before the General Election in the Spring which was unlikely. This Councils request for two district councillors was still on file and would be dealt with, alongwith other requests, when the district review was undertaken by the Local Government Commission.

4. West Lancashire Local Plan The final date for comments was the 7th August 1996 and, for the first time, objections could be made on the basis of what is not in the plan. It was likely an Inquiry would be held in May/June 1997 and the Plan adopted early in 1998.

Current planning applications must have regard to the policies in the Draft Plan but the Plan is not the sole basis for decisions.

The Plan suggests the conversion of rural buildings for commercial use rather than housing; that for the removal of agricultural dwelling occupancy conditions, evidence of the inability to rent the property rather than sell the property will be accepted; and that two new Conservation Areas will be created at Plox Brow, Tarleton and The Brow, Hesketh Bank.

Mr Andrew Middlemiss would be leaving shortly to take up a post of Director of Planning in Kent.

107/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be appointed as the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) of the Council.

2. Other matters

a. North West Water A meeting would be held about the drought at Ormskirk on the 25th July, 1996 at 5.00pm. The Clerk would attend.

b. Local Council Review The latest edition had been received.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

108/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a. Zurich Municipal - Engineering insurance | £ 186.96 |
| b. Mr K S Wareing - Fencing materials | £ 22.93 |
| c. Mr D Halstead - Flagging on Rec. Ground | £ 89.50 |

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

West Lancs. District Council - Street cleaning £1667.72

3. Requests for Grants

a. All Saints Church - Towards renovations of western face of clock costing £250. It was agreed to leave this request in abeyance until later in the financial year.

b. Village Hall Committee - A request had been received from the Village Hall Committee for the early payment of the rental to enable forthcoming expenditure to be met. The Clerk reported that £100 was included in the Council's estimates for support for the Village Hall Committee.

109/96 RESOLVED:- That an amount of £262.50 be paid to the Village Hall Committee comprising of Rental of £162.50 (13 meetings at £12.50 per meeting) and Grant of £100.00.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr McCormick of Chandlers Croft spoke for the residents of the Croft present about the planning application for development on the 'Hourwatch' site off Station Road. A petition had been submitted by the residents objecting to certain aspects of the application. The main concern was over the provision of an emergency access on to Chandlers Croft which was a cul-de-sac. Two bollards would be erected to prevent vehicular access but these would not prevent cycles, motor cycles and pedestrians from using the Croft. The residents were concerned for the safety of their children and the security of their premises especially as they were prevented from fencing off their properties. Further concerns were that the play area was smaller than originally proposed and no other amenities were to be provided. Also, the play area, emergency access and Chandlers Croft were in a straight line making it easy for children to get from the play area to Chapel Road which was a very busy road and dangerous for children. One of the attractions of purchasing houses in the Croft was because it was a cul-de-sac.

Mrs J Witter, a member of the Development and Planning Committee, indicated that she was to ask for a site visit before the application was considered.

Mr Taylor of Boundary Lane, Hundred End, referred to the traffic problems outside 'Riccadonna'. He said vehicles were virtually fully laden when arriving at the premises and only loaded one pallet. The road was not built for 38 ton vehicles and was becoming blocked by haulage vehicles. He suggested that the residents should be asked for their views on the current situation.

In response to questions, the Clerk indicated that £150 was included in the estimates for burial ground grants and that the public were to be excluded from items 13 and 14 for the reasons stated on the agenda.

In answer to a further question, the Chairman indicated that issues for discussion at the Area Committee of the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils were not discussed by the Parish Council beforehand and the Council had faith in the representatives to cast their votes wisely.

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Weekly Lists The following were considered:-

a. No 08/96/0161 Erection of stable block, tack room and hay store for private use. Newarth Stables, Newarth Lane (To be submitted to Committee)

110/96 RESOLVED:- That no comments be made on this application.

b. No 08/96/0460 Retention of mobile caravan serving refreshments on football match days. Hesketh Bank Sports Ground, Station Road (To be submitted to Committee)

Hesketh Bank Bowling Club had written to the effect that they would not be objecting to the application but wished to point out that services must not, without permission, be attached to the existing Bowling Club services and that the caravan must not interfere with the accepted access road.

A member, who had recently visited the site, felt the condition of the caravan was disgusting and it should meet health and sanitation rules. Another member felt that the Parish Council should object to the application.

The Clerk indicated that the Council could only object on planning grounds and the role of the Council as owner of the land was entirely separate. Any conditions the Council wished to place on the use or siting of the caravan was not a matter for the Development and Planning Committee.

111/96 RESOLVED:- That no objection be made to the application provided it met all statutory requirements. (The above resolution was the subject of a vote of For - 7 votes Against - 1 vote)

c. No 08/96/0487 New vehicular access and additional car parking. The Garage, 6 Guide Road (To be submitted to Committee)

The Clerk reported that this application was in respect of premises which were to be the subject of Enforcement Action.

112/96 RESOLVED:- That no objection be made to this application.

d. No 08/96/0658 Car port and garden fence to side. 62 Moss Lane

113/96 RESOLVED:- That no objection be made to this application.

2. Development and Planning Committee - 25th July 1996

No 08/96/0500 Residential development including public open space, estate roads and new access. Land off Station Road

114/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council fully supports the residents of Chandlers Croft in their objections to this application and urges the Committee to make a site visit prior to considering the application.

3. Applications Determined The following had been determined between 27th May 1996 and 21st June 1996:-

a. No 08/96/0283 Conversion of barn to dwelling. Nook Farm, Chapel Road

b. No 08/96/0316 O/L detached dwelling. Nook Farm, Chapel Road

c. No 08/96/0354 O/L one detached dwelling (including details of siting and means of access). Land adj. 22 Boundary Lane

4. Appeal Decision - No 08/94/0670 - Farm dwelling. Land adj. Long acres, Guide Road The appeal had been dismissed.

5. West Lancashire Local Plan

115/96 RESOLVED:- That the Council requests that consideration be given to the creation of a third new conservation area at Beconsall Lane, Hesketh Bank to start on the west side of the drive to Beconsall Hall and end at the River Douglas, on the basis that the area already contains three Listed Buildings.

6. Planning Appeal - No 08/95/0971 - Residential development. Land adj. Douglas Bank Farm, Beconsall Lane This would be dealt with by means of written statements and a site visit.

7. 'Riccadonna', Boundary Lane (Mrs J Witter declared an interest in this item) It was suggested that the three Parish Councils, Hesketh-with-Becconsall, North Meols and Tarleton, meet with the local residents to discuss the problems at Boundary Lane and that the County Surveyor and Director of Development and Amenities be invited to be represented. The Chairman felt that, whilst this Parish Council should be represented at such a meeting, one of the other Parish Councils should take on the responsibility of arranging and chairing the meeting.

116/96 RESOLVED:- That the Clerk be authorised to write to North Meols and Tarleton Parish Councils to suggest a public meeting between the 3 Parish Councils, the residents of Boundary Lane and representatives of the County Surveyor and the Director of Development and Amenities to discuss the problems at 'Riccadonna' subject to one of the other Councils taking on the responsibility for arranging and chairing the meeting.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

1. Parking on Footways The Clerk had written to the local Police Officer who had the matter in hand.

2. Bus Services Replies were still awaited.

3. Bus Shelters

a. Station Road/Moss Lane The Insurance Company required an estimate of the cost of a new bollard. Mr K Wareing undertook to deal with this matter.

b. Nook Farm, Chapel Road This shelter had been hit by a van. Details of the driver had been passed to the Council of the Police. The suppliers of the shelter had been called out to make the shelter safe and an estimate of repairs had been obtained in the sum of £1225.00 plus VAT.

4. Street Sign The Boundary Lane sign had been taken to Ormskirk by Mr J R Foster.

5. Hedges All had been cut in the past few days.

RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY AREAS

1. Recreation Ground

a. Use of Football Pitch by CE School The Property Services Department of the County Council had written to the Chief Education Officer to see if he wished to formalise the existing agreement.

b. Paved Footpath This had been repaired.

c. Seat This had been moved but people who used it preferred it to be in the alternative position. It did, however, require repairing.

117/96 RESOLVED:- That Mr K Wareing be authorised to ask Mr N Marsden to repair the seat.

d. Weekly Inspection of Equipment The Clerk undertook to ask Mr S Trippier if he had the Inspection Book.

2. Glenpark Drive Play Area

Additional Safety Surfacing The areas had been dug out, both on this area and the Recreation Ground, the new surfacing had arrived and was awaiting the Contractor to return to complete the work.

3. Station Road Play Area

a. Fence The materials had been purchased and the repairs would be undertaken by Messrs S Trippier and K Wareing.

b. Land adj. to Telephone Box Mr K Wareing had this matter in hand.

c. Embankment The grass was overgrown and required cutting. The Clerk indicated that the embankment belonged to the County Council.

118/96 RESOLVED:- 1. That the County Council be requested to cut the grass on the embankment as a matter of urgency, and

2. That the County Council be advised that the Parish Council will take on the cutting of County Council grass in the Parish subject to re-imbusement of the costs involved.

d. Annual Inspection of Play Areas

119/96 RESOLVED:- That the Inspection be carried out on Thursday, 1st August 1996 commencing at the Station Road Play Area at 5.00pm.

ALLOTMENTS

120/96 RESOLVED:- That the Annual Inspection be carried out on Tuesday, 30th July 1996 commencing at 6.00pm.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Chairman was still awaiting details of the costs involved.

VILLAGE HALL

The Constitution of the Village Hall Committee was circulated. Mrs D Trippier indicated that no AGM had been held for years but she would call an AGM this year with a view to winding up the Committee due to lack of interest by residents of the Parish.

The general state of the hall and surrounds was discussed.

121/96 RESOLVED:- That a Vote of Thanks be extended to the ATC for their help in tidying up the hall and surrounds in the past and it is hoped they will continue to volunteer to do likewise in the future.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

1. Meeting with Football Club It was agreed to leave this in abeyance for the time being.

2. Station Road and Other Hedges The Clerk agreed to remind Mr S Trippier about circulating the information to members of the Sports Ground Committee.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

122/96 RESOLVED:- That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Mr R Ball left the meeting at this point.

STANDING ORDERS

123/96 RESOLVED:- That the provisions of Standing Order No 17 be waived to enable the remaining items of business to be dealt with at this meeting.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND (CONT)

1. Leases (Mr P J A Sergeant declared an interest in this item)

The Clerk had asked Rawsthorn and Edelstons for an estimate of the costs to date and was awaiting a response. The National Association of Local Councils had indicated that the leases were acceptable from a local authority point of view but had made one or two suggestions for minor amendments.

The Clerk undertook to speak to Mr Davies of Rawsthorn and Edelstons with a view to obtaining a revised draft lease for submission to the three sports clubs.

2. Northern Boundary The Clerk reported on further correspondence from the Council's Solicitor regarding this issue.

It was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance until the next meeting of the Council.

STREET CLEANING CONTRACT 1997 - 2002

The existing Street Cleaning Contract expired on the 31st March 1997 and the District Council were seeking contractors to tender for the new five year contract from the 1st April 1997 to the 31st March 2002.

The Clerk explained how the current contract was administered and funded.

During discussion on this item, Mr J Hunter and Mr P J A Sergeant left the meeting.

124/96 RESOLVED:- That application be made for the Parish Council to be included on the list of contractors invited to tender for the Street Cleaning Contract for the Parish from 1997 to 2002.

*Nama Joochee
2 September 1996*

HESKETH - WITH - BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on the 2nd September 1996 in the Village Hall, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT:- Mrs N M Goodier (Chairman)

Mesdames H O Sephton; D M Trippier and J Witter

Messrs R C Ball; B Birkby; J Hunter;
P J A Sergeant; S Trippier and K Wareing

Ten members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs P M Stables.

MINUTES

125/96 RESOLVED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd July, 1996, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. North West Water The Clerk reported on a meeting with representatives of North West Water when it had been indicated that there was no danger of water rationing or standpipes in this area as the reservoirs were currently about 70% full.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Council

a. Agendas - Transport & Amenities Committee - 3rd September 1996

A report was included on proposed waiting restrictions at the junction of Shore Road and Guide Road on which the Parish Council had not been consulted. It appeared that the Police agreed with the proposals.

It was indicated by Councillors that no vehicles parked on the junction at present although a van did park further along Shore Road.

126/96 RESOLVED:- That the County Council be advised that the Parish Council is dismayed it has not been consulted on the proposals and that it feels that the proposed restrictions are not required.

b. Members Briefing Bulletin The latest Briefing Bulletin for members of the District Council had been received.

2. LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

a. Newsletter There were no items of interest to the Council.

b. Annual General Meeting . This would be held on Saturday, 9th November 1996 at County Hall, Preston.

127/96 RESOLVED:- That The Chairman and Mrs J Witter be authorised to represent the Council at the AGM of the LAP&TC.

3. West Lancashire Community Health Council - Health Services Review - Transport Implications The Council had been asked for its views on the transport implications of the current Health Services Review.

128/96 RESOLVED:- That the CHC be advised of the various transport options for travelling from the Parish to Ormskirk and Southport Hospitals and that the Council feels that Southport would be the first choice hospital for residents of the Parish.

4. Other Matters

a. Resident of Guide Road A letter complaining about the untidy appearance of the Village Hall Grounds had been passed to Mrs D M Trippier. The letter also asked about proposals to alleviate traffic congestion in the village and the Clerk had answered that particular point. It was indicated that the AGM of the Village Hall Committee would be held on the 21st October 1996.

b. Environment Agency A letter and copy of the Customer Charter had been received.

c. LAP&TC - West Lancashire Area Committee The new Secretary had brought to the attention of the Council the following issues which would be discussed at the next meeting of the Area Committee:-

1. Honorarium for Secretary This was currently £120 and any future amount would be shared between 19 Councils. It was agreed that the Chairman would speak to Mrs L Kershaw, the former Secretary, about the work involved.

2. Representation on Area Committee by District Councillors The Council had no strong views on this issue.

3. Amendments to Standing Orders These would be circulated by North Meols Parish Council.

d. CCL News The latest edition had been received.

FINANCE

1. Accounts for payment

129/96 RESOLVED:- That the following accounts be paid:-

a. A Coxhead - Hedge cutting on Centenary Sports Field - £ 17.63

b. D Dalton - Drainage work on Recreation Ground - £ 1045.75

c. Wicksteed Leisure - Supply and fixing of safety surfacing
- £ 2829.24

2. Receipts The following had been received:-

West Lancashire District Council - Payment for street
cleaning - £ 1667.72

3. Capital Funding 1997/98 Bids were required by the
end of October and the following suggestions were made:-

- a. Shore Road Car Park - New fence
- b. Village Hall - Disabled ramp
- c. Village Hall - Surfacing of car park
- d. Glenpark Drive - Additional play equipment

It was agreed to consider the above, plus any others suggested
by Councillors, at the next meeting of the Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr McCormick of Chandlers Croft again addressed the Council
on the planning application for development on the 'Hourwatch'
site off Station Road. A site visit had been held earlier today
at which there was a debate on various aspects of the
application. It had become clear that none of the locals wanted
the emergency access to Chandlers Croft and they were concerned
at how vehicles, other than emergency vehicles, could be
prevented from using it.

The Chairman, who had attended the site meeting, indicated that,
with a second access off Station Road, there was no need for
the access onto Chandlers Croft and it should be opposed on
the grounds of safety, security and disturbance to the residents.

Mr K Wareing advised that individual letters from residents
would carry more weight than a petition.

Mr McCormick said that letters were being sent to the District
Council and he thanked the Chairman and other members of the
Council who had attended the site meeting and supported the
residents.

Mr J R Foster felt there was a speed problem near the junction
of Guide Road and reported that a street nameplate had been
demolished in an accident.

Mrs H Sephton arrived at this point in the meeting.

Mr Duncan of Moss Lane asked what would be the consequences
of the village losing its village status. The Chairman replied
that, to her knowledge, there were no plans to alter the current
status of the village or the parish.