

Shoreline Summary

Issue 4 April 2006

MAKING SHORE ROAD SAFER

Thanks to lobbying by your Parish Council, Lancashire County Council has now produced a Draft Scheme to reduce the speed limit on Shore Road and Marsh Road to 50 mph. The Parish Council have been working towards this for some considerable time and now, with the backing of North Meols Parish and the Police, the prospect looks like becoming a reality in the near future. Other bodies have to be consulted and providing no objections are raised by them, the Scheme should go ahead.

We are also looking forward to the stretch of Shore Road from Hundred End Lane to Chapel Road having street lighting installed. Once again this is an initiative of the Parish Council who is underwriting the capital cost, with Lancashire County Council subsequently maintaining the lamps and bearing the cost of electricity.

The third leg of this push for greater safety is to be the Council's purchase of Speed Indicating equipment. (SPIDs) These high-tech units log the approach of every vehicle and display to the driver the speed of his vehicle and whether it is under or over the limit for that stretch of road. They also record vehicle numbers and speeds which will be correlated by the police and provide evidence on problem stretches of road. It is hoped that this will be in use by the summer.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

This year the Parish Council have formed a special committee and devoted a small budget in an effort to tidy up the village for this annual competition. You will remember that we asked residents to tell us which areas they viewed as particular 'Grot Spots'. Top of the list, as you will have seen in the local press, was the old wooden shack on the bridge. WLDC have served an improvement notice on the owners in the hope of making its appearance more acceptable. We are now appealing to residents to do their bit by giving their gardens a bit of extra loving care.

Many of the features of the village such as the West Lancashire Light Railway, the Christian Fellowship Centre and the War Memorial have been entered for Certificates of Merit and councillors will be visiting other sites to offer help if it's needed. Once again we are hugely indebted to Duncan Taylor of Arden Lea Nurseries who will, for the second year, be supplying the shops with flowering baskets. Last year's baskets were truly wonderful yet he tells us they will be even bigger and better this time!

The main judging takes place between 29th May and 7th July with final judging in the second half of August. If you think you can help in any way, please contact Cllrs. Goodier, Ashcroft, Farrington, Plant or Tompkins.

AIR AMBULANCE

The local Air Ambulance benefited with a grant from the Council to the tune of over £900. Many will have seen it in action at Poppyfields over the Christmas Holidays. The Council consider all applications for grants in January each year.

NEW COUNCILLORS

Two new Councillors have joined our august body this year. In March we welcomed Mr Gerard Twigger, a local man whom many of you will know especially through his work with Douglas Cardiac Trust.

Our second recruit is Mrs Margaret Saynor who only recently moved to Hesketh Bank and joined the Council in April.

PARISH ASSEMBLY

Once a year, every Parish in England holds what is known as a Parish Meeting or Parish Assembly as it is called here in Hesketh Bank. Whilst normally organised by the Chairman and Clerk of the Parish Council, that is where the similarity ends as it has nothing to do with the Parish Council. It is a meeting organised for various bodies, such as the Parish Council, local School, District and County Councillors or special guests to report to and answer questions from electors within the Parish. Local residents may also put forward propositions for consideration by the meeting on which a vote is taken. A resolution passed, whilst not legally binding on the Parish Council should normally be considered by them.

This year the Assembly takes place on Monday 8th May and is followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council where the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Committee members are elected. Do think of coming along to either of these meetings or any ordinary Council Meeting which are normally held on the first Monday of the month, with the exception of August, in the village institute. Agenda are published on the notice boards on the preceding Thursday, and on the Council's Website at www.HwBPC.org.uk.

PARISH PLAN

Unfortunately, progress on the Parish Plan has ground to a halt. Personal commitments have meant that deadlines have been missed and work not produced. We are therefore appealing to the village for help! Are you interested in formulating a vision for the future of your community?

This is what Parish Plans are all about. Collecting views on a wide range of subjects from residents and putting together a plan that will help both County and District authorities in their planning of development and services within the area. It also of course tells the Parish Council where their electors concerns are and where they should be concentrating their efforts. If you think you would like to be involved in this, and join a small dedicated group, give Cllr. Steve Kirby or the Clerk a ring.

NEW SPORTING FACILITIES

At the April meeting of the Parish Council, Members were given a presentation by the company leading the realisation of a modern community sports facility on behalf of Hesketh Bank Football Club. An ambitious plan on land adjacent to the Centenary Sports Ground will provide modern facilities for players including changing and showering accommodation as well as all weather pitches and car-parking. The Parish Council will be debating at the May meeting the Club's application for a grant.

INFORMATION

Don't forget, the Council's main notice board is located adjacent to the Spar Shop on Station Road where all the legal and other information regarding the Council is displayed. Subsidiary notice boards with details of meetings are located at the Shore Rd Car Park, Hundred End Lane, and Moss Lane/Station Rd corner. The Council's Website at www.HwBPC.org.uk has a wealth of information including contact details for all your Councillors, the Minutes of recent Council meetings and all Planning Applications within Hesketh Bank; have a look, sign the visitors' book and leave us your comments.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Richard Plant, Chairman ~ 1 Silverdale, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Iain Ashcroft ~ 1 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Christine Farrington ~ Birch Tree House, Shirley Lane, Longton

Cllr. Norma Goodier ~ 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton

Cllr. Steve Kirby ~ 50 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Margaret Saynor ~ Dunkirk Farm, Shore Road, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Paul Sergeant ~ 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Lesley Standish-Gore ~ 4 Foxglove Close, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Hilary Tompkins ~ 69 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Gerard Twigger ~ Long Acres, Guide Road, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Joan Witter ~ 43 Church Road, Tarleton

PARISH CLERK

Ian T Cropper ~ 40A Glenpark Drive, Southport PR9 9FA ~ 01704-506795 ~ Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk