

Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Council Newsletter

Shoreline Summary

Issue 9 Autumn 2007

COUNCIL NOW IN THE TOP 5%!

In July this year, The Accreditation Board for Lancashire and Merseyside announced that **Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council** had been awarded the status of "**Quality Parish Council**". This is great news for the Council and the Village alike and is a clear statement to all that the Council is now operating efficiently and to the highest practical and ethical standards. Credit goes to all the Councillors and the Parish Clerk who have worked hard over the last few years to bring the Council's systems and workings up to the level necessary to receive this award. With around 8,500 Parish Councils in England, **Hesketh with Becconsall** has become the 443rd to achieve the coveted status of a "Quality Council". A formal presentation of the award will take place at the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Council's Annual Conference at the end of this month.

The Rural White Paper, '**Our Countryside: The Future. A Fair Deal for Rural England**', set out a number of measures to give local people the opportunity to become more involved in the development of their communities. The Government believes that parish and town councils, as the tier of government that is closest to local communities, have a central role to play in improving local quality of life. Parish and town councils are the democratic bodies with the closest direct links to their communities and as such are ideally placed to contribute to the long-term vision and the priorities contained in the community strategies which principal local authorities are responsible for preparing.

The Government expects principal local authorities and parish and town councils to work together to provide an effective local government for local people. The White Paper proposed a number of initiatives designed to enhance the role of parish and town councils; to develop a framework for partnership working; and to equip parish and town councils to take on a stronger role for the benefit of the local community. A central proposal was the introduction of the new concept of a Quality Parish Council. Quality status equips Parish Councils to take on a stronger role in their communities. It is part of the Government's drive to modernise local government and ensure that all local authorities are more in touch with the people whom they serve. Through this scheme the Government wants to encourage all Parish Councils to reach the standards of the best and, in doing so, to demonstrate their status as the local representatives of their communities.

PARISH PLAN

Residents of Hesketh Bank are invited to attend a presentation which will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 30th October at which the results of the Parish Plan questionnaire survey recently completed by local residents will be made known. These results will inform the content of the Parish Plan which will be produced early in 2008 along with action plans to meet the needs of local residents as identified through the questionnaires. If you would like to join the discussion on what needs to be done in Hesketh Bank with regard to traffic, crime and safety, road safety, the environment, youth facilities, future development, village amenities, conservation and heritage, please come along on the night and join in the debate. The presentation will start at 7:15pm and light refreshments will be served from 7:00pm onwards. For more information, please contact Cllr. Steve Kirby, Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group on 07766 367550.

BUS SERVICES

As many of you will know, the Parish Council have been working hard for nearly two years to improve public transport for the village. We're now delighted at long last to confirm that as from the 29th of October there will be an hourly bus service (Number 303) to and from Ormskirk Monday to Saturday. The timings have been carefully worked out to allow easy connections at Burscough Bridge to the Wigan and Manchester trains. The service is subsidised by Lancashire County Council and we are grateful to them for the funding that has made this possible. Please do your best to use the 303 as all subsidised services are constantly under review. For your convenience, we've printed the proposed timetable overleaf. The service on arriving in Hesketh Bank will go down Chapel Road, Shore Road then back up Station Road.

As an extra bonus we can also reveal that Stagecoach will be upgrading the Number 2 to provide an hourly service in the evenings and on Sunday, and reducing the fares! For example a single fare to Preston will be reduced from £4.90 to £3.00 and a return fare to just £3.30!

BUS TIMETABLE ~ No. 303

Hesketh Bank Shore Road	06:40	07:50	08:55	09:55	10:55	11:55	12:55	13:55	14:55	16:00	17:00	17:47	18:40	—
Tarleton Cock & Bottle	06:46	07:56	09:01	10:01	11:01	12:01	13:01	14:01	15:01	16:06	17:06	17:53	18:46	—
Rufford Hesketh Arms	06:54	08:04	09:09	10:09	11:09	12:09	13:09	14:09	15:09	16:14	17:14	18:01	18:54	—
Burscough Bridge Interchange	07:05	08:15	09:20	10:20	11:20	12:20	13:20	14:20	15:20	16:25	17:25	18:07	19:00	19:25
<i>Burscough Interchange (Train Dep)</i>	07:13	08:25	09:26	10:28	11:26	12:28	13:26	14:28	15:26	16:29	17:30	—	—	19:29
<i>Wigan Wallgate</i>	07:59	08:44	09:45	10:45	11:45	12:45	13:45	14:45	15:45	16:46	17:49	—	—	19:46
<i>Salford Crescent</i>	07:59	09:20	10:17	11:17	12:17	13:17	14:17	15:17	16:17	17:18	18:21	—	—	17:18
<i>Manchester (Victoria)</i>	08:07	09:26	10:24	11:24	12:24	13:24	14:24	15:24	16:25	17:25	18:29	—	—	20:26
Ormskirk Bus Station	07:20	08:35	09:35	10:35	11:35	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:35	16:40	17:40	18:22	19:15	19:40
Ormskirk Bus Station	06:50	07:55	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:03	17:05	17:50	18:23	—
<i>Manchester Oxford Rd (* Victoria)</i>	—	07:16*	08:31	9:26	10:26	11:26	12:26	13:26	14:26	15:26	16:26	17:10*	17:38*	—
<i>Salford Crescent</i>	—	07:11	08:37	09:32	10:32	11:32	12:32	13:32	14:32	15:32	16:32	17:16	17:45	—
<i>Wigan Wallgate</i>	—	07:45	09:04	10:01	11:01	12:01	13:01	14:01	15:01	16:01	17:01	17:43	18:14	—
<i>Burscough Interchange (Train Arr)</i>	—	08:05	09:17	01:17	11:17	12:17	13:17	14:17	15:17	16:20	17:18	18:00	18:32	—
Burscough Bridge Interchange	07:04	08:15	09:20	10:20	11:20	12:20	13:20	14:20	15:20	16:23	17:25	18:05	18:38	—
Rufford Hesketh Arms	07:12	08:23	09:28	10:28	11:28	12:28	13:28	14:28	15:28	16:31	17:33	18:13	18:46	—
Tarleton Cock & Bottle	07:19	08:31	09:36	10:36	11:36	12:36	13:36	14:36	15:36	16:39	17:41	18:21	18:54	—
Hesketh Bank Shore Road	07:24	08:37	09:42	10:42	11:42	12:42	13:42	14:42	15:42	16:45	17:47	18:27	19:00	—

PLAY AREAS

By the time you receive this newsletter, work should be well underway on a major refurbishment of the Station Road Play Area. New fencing was recently installed on the western boundary and this will now be completed along with self closing gates to keep dogs out and make a more secure environment for the children. New equipment, including a roundabout and safer surfacing will also be installed. The total cost will be approaching £25,000 and is subsidised by an £8,000 grant from West Lancashire District Council. In addition the Parish Council will be installing CCTV equipment to monitor the site and taking over the maintenance of the old railway embankment; a tree planting scheme is also being currently worked up for both sides of the road to compliment the planting at the new Booths foodstore.

The Glen Park Drive Play Area will also be having a general clean-up with some of the old trees being removed, the perimeter area grassed and the equipment serviced and repainted. New laws come into effect shortly which will ban dogs from all play areas and we hope that everyone will ensure that this is respected in order to make the childrens' environment cleaner and safer.

BUS SHELTERS

The Parish Council, with the assistance of Lancashire County grants, has now installed three of the new type bus shelters with seating and lighting; another two are currently on order. The raised kerbs at these stops along with the new 'Enviro300' buses operated on the number 2 service by Stagecoach offer greatly improved access.

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.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Congratulations to our Post Office on Station Road which was "Highly Commended" by the judges in the Best Kept Village Competition. This is the first success in many years and hopefully the first of many! Sincere thanks also go again to "Arden Lea Nurseries" in Moss Lane who for the third year running have provided for free, the beautiful hanging baskets around the village.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Iain Ashcroft, 1 Chandlers Croft: **Cllr. Norma Goodier**, 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton:
Cllr. Lesley Jackson, Riversdale, Marsh Road: **Cllr. Chris Jones**, Primrose Farm, Marsh Road:
Cllr. Steve Kirby, 50 Shore Road: **Cllr. Christine McLeod**, Primrose Barn Marsh Road:
Cllr. Paul Sergeant, 108 Moss Lane, **Cllr. Lesley Standish-Gore**, 4 Foxglove Close:
Cllr. Hilary Tompkins, 69 Moss Lane:

PARISH CLERK

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