

Shoreline Summary

Edition Number 20 ~ October 2010



I can't believe that it is now very nearly October, whatever happened to July and August (and for that matter September), in fact where has summer gone? The old saying 'the older you get the faster time passes' is proving to be very true in my case! My memory of summers were long hot sunny days throughout the summer 'months', now summer seems to be two weeks in June followed by weeks of warm, wet, humid weather and believe it or not, a water shortage and hose pipe ban!

You can normally guarantee rain when it's Southport Flower Show week and it is to be hoped that the winner of the Parish Councils 'Win Tickets for the Flower Show' competition, featured in the last edition of **Shoreline Summary**, benefitted from a dry day. Seven entrants got the correct answer to the question 'what is the botanical name of the Pot Marigold?' - **Calendula officinalis**; it's a member of the daisy family Asteraceae and is commonly used in cooking. Congratulations go to Mrs Holly Kirkham of Holwood, Shore Road, Hesketh Bank whose entry was the first drawn from the hat. All the Councillors hope that you enjoyed your visit.



THANKS TO

Arden Lea Nurseries Ltd who has again kindly donated the hanging baskets that brightened up the village during the summer and for stocking the large planter on the corner of Moss Lane which has added a splash of colour to that area.

Booths and the Eric Wright Group for the care and consideration they have shown to the local community in minimising disruption during the construction of the new store. Congratulations too on a modern eco friendly building that I know we are a looking forward to using when it is open.

THE POWER OF WELLBEING

Your Parish Council last month achieved another significant milestone. In addition to the Government's "**Quality Status**" which this Council was awarded two years ago, we are now the first Parish Council in Lancashire and Merseyside to have satisfied the legal requirements to use a piece of Legislation commonly referred to as "**The Power of Wellbeing**". This legislation removes the financial constraints on how a Parish Council can support its community by allowing it to undertake any project that will enhance the general wellbeing of the community. Our Councillors have undergone specific training to ensure that this Power is used wisely and for the common good.

ANONYMOUS MAIL

From time to time, Councillors and the Clerk receive anonymous letters or become aware of emails with just a name attached. In line with other Public Authorities we do not respond to any queries or issues raised unless we have the sender's full name and address or other contact details. We are always happy to supply information about any of the Council's activities or investigate problems or complaints where the Council has the authority to do so; if we can't help, the Clerk will try to point you in the right direction. If you wish to be kept up to date with any significant news or WebPage updates, just send a blank email to Updates@HwBPC.org.uk with the words "Update Me" in the subject box and you will receive an email with an appropriate link whenever new information is published. If you know anyone who doesn't receive this newsletter we can supply an electronic copy.



ORMSKIRK MARKET DAY BUS

News reached us in September that the trial period of the **2c (Thursdays Only)** bus service to Ormskirk Market starting at Hoole Lane Banks and stopping at Hesketh Bank, Tarleton, Mere Brow, Holmeswood, Rufford and Burscough will continue for a further 12 months as a direct result of the personal intervention of County Councillor Malcolm Barron. We thank him and to ensure his efforts are not in vain please spread the good news as far and wide as you can as the continuation of the '**Thursday Market Bus**' will be under constant review and may be withdrawn at any time unless the requirement for 15-20 people regularly using the bus is met. The old adage 'use it or lose it' is very true in this case.



The timetable is: Banks Hoole Lane 0930; Hesketh Bank Shore/Chapel Roads 0938; Tarleton Cock & Bottle 0945; Mere Brow Legh Arms 0951; Holmeswood Methodist Church 0956; Rufford Hesketh Arms 0959; Burscough War Memorial 1005; Ormskirk Bus Station 1015. The return journey will leave Ormskirk around 1300-1330 allowing for approximately 3 hours in Ormskirk.

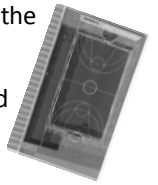
BALL COURT – VILLAGE HALL SITE



The Ball Court in finished and the official opening has taken place. Members of the Village Hall Committee together with representatives West Lancashire Borough Council, who funded the facility through a 'Big Lottery' Grant and Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council, who have supported the project and have installed a state of the art CCTV system, already operational. The Parish Council will shortly be undertaking landscaping work to the paved area at

the front of the Village Hall Site plus installation of attractive wrought iron gates which will greatly enhance the appearance of that area as well making it more secure.

All 8 to 13 years old young people were invited to come along and join in, a Sports Development Officer was on hand to help them enjoy using the Ball Court.



RUFFORD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE - WALL OF SILENCE

Despite previous commitments to involve local residents more in decisions which affect them, Lancashire County Council made no attempt to consult with Hesketh with Beconsall Parish Council, or indeed any other Parish Council in Lancashire, over their review of domestic recycling in the County and their subsequent decision to close the Rufford facility.



The Parish Council therefore held a special meeting in June at which we agreed to write a formal letter of complaint to the County Council and to seek the support of other Parish Councils in Lancashire for a further letter of complaint to be sent on their behalf from the Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC).

These letters were duly sent, but we still await a proper explanation from the County Council as to why they failed to consult with affected local councils on both the review and the specific decision to close the Rufford facility. Could it be that they have no credible explanation for not following their own protocols on consultation, clearly defined in the much heralded Parish Charter? Hopefully we may have some answers by the next Parish Council meeting.



DOG FOULING

As residents of Hesketh Bank are probably aware there is a persistent problem with dog fouling. The areas that seem to be most affected are Station Road, Rankin Avenue/Sidney Avenue/Cherry Vale, Granville Avenue, Boundary Lane, Moss Lane, Chapel Road, Shore Road and Shore Road Sports Field. The fact that residents allow their dogs to use this area as a toilet is particularly unpleasant. The field is there for the use of the young people of the village, including HBFC junior teams and by the very nature of the activities on this field there is more likelihood of slips and trips which could result in a child coming into contact with dog faeces.

What sort of dog owner are you?



Public enemy



Regular retriever

Dog fouling is unsightly, unpleasant and potentially dangerous. I am sure you will have seen on television recently the story of the two year old toddler who stumbled and put her hand down into dog faeces then rubbed her eye. The television pictures were quite shocking; her eye was swollen and badly inflamed. Dog faeces can cause an infection in humans called Toxocarasis, which can cause blindness in children. This little girl was being treated with three different antibiotics but doctors could not be sure that her sight would not be affected.

Please be a responsible dog owner - bag it and bin it!
www.camden.gov.uk/cleanstreets

This is something we want to avoid in Hesketh Bank.

Free poop scoop dog bags are available upon request from the Clerk to the Parish Council at the Parish Council Meeting held in Hesketh Bank Village Hall on the first Monday of the month, except August, or the Dog Control Enforcement Officer at West Lancashire Borough Council (telephone: 01695 577177) and there are a number of dog waste bins around the village. Failure to clean up after your dog is an offence for which YOU may receive either a FIXED PENALTY NOTICE of £75 or be prosecuted in the Magistrates Court which could result in a Criminal Record and a FINE of up to £1,000.

Now is the time to stop this problem for good. The Parish Council are asking all residents to report any offenders by contacting the Dog Control Enforcement Officer at West Lancashire Borough Council by telephone (01695 577177) or by using the online dog fouling offence report at www.westlancs.gov.uk. A questionnaire will be sent for you to complete and return to WLBC. This will improve the chances of catching those responsible. All complaints are treated in the strictest confidence and complainants remain anonymous.



If you would like to apply for the information pack which comes complete with the questionnaire, 'clean up after your dog' posters and an information leaflet please phone West Lancashire Borough Council leaving your full details and a pack will be sent to you.

We do appreciate that the majority of dog owners are responsible and we thank them for cleaning up after their dogs, making the village a cleaner and safer place to live.

CBM PACT PRIORITY UPDATE

Pact Priorities For August 2010 For Tarleton & Hesketh Bank Were:

1. **Using Mobile Phones Whilst Driving Station Road, Hesketh Bank and Hesketh Lane, Tarleton**
- Numerous drivers reported in and around these areas by the road traffic policing unit. High visibility patrols were deployed in the area utilising operation Pathway. This is an operation carried out by Lancashire Police whereby patrols are to pay particular attention to vehicle offences in their area.
2. **Speeding Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank –**
When available a high visibility patrol was in the area using traffic calming measures and liaising with the Road Traffic Police Unit.

- 3 **Anti Social Behaviour: The Becconsall Play Area and the (MUGA) Multi Used Games Area, Village Hall Site** - These areas were unusually quiet.

Pact Priorities For September 2010 Tarleton and Hesketh Bank Are:

1. **Anti Social Behaviour:** Near the phone mast by the sports bar, Hesketh Bank, between 10pm and Midnight, mainly at weekends.
2. **Cycling without lights:** Hesketh Lane Tarleton and Station Road Hesketh Bank between 7pm and 10pm each evening.
3. **Road Closures outside the new Booths Store, Station Road, Hesketh Bank:** Between Sunday the 5th September and Sunday 12th September 2010. Possibility of Anti Social Behaviour and driving due to road closure and diversions.

**HESKETH BANK ALLOTMENTS AND LEISURE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION - HBALGA
The Poor Marsh - A Brief History**

The Allotment site in Hesketh Bank is approximately four acres of land situated on Shore Road, almost opposite All Saint’s School, and is known as Hesketh Bank Poor Marsh. There is no definitive documented history relating to The Poor Marsh, or indeed the name itself, although it is thought it got its name either because it was used to provide food for the poor people of the village or because of the poor state of the soil many years ago when its proximity to the tidal waters of the River Ribble was much greater than it is today.



The land, once owned by Lord Hesketh, was leased from him by the Parish Council until the Hesketh Family’s ‘Great Sale’ in September 1915 when, as far as can be established, it was purchased by a local lady who continued to lease the land to the Parish Council. It appears that upon her death it was bequeathed to Blackburn Hospital, in trust, and the Parish Council continued to lease the land and use it as allotments. In 2004, whilst looking through papers passed on to him by his predecessor the current Clerk to the Council discovered that no rent had been paid for a number of years. Enquiries were subsequently made at the said hospital but no record of the bequest was found. Consequently the Parish Council applied to the Land Registry for possessory rights to the land, which were granted, giving Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council ownership and control of the Poor Marsh site which has been used as allotments since before ‘The Great Sale’ 95 years ago.

Lot 73
Coloured Print on the Plan.
Rent Charge of £10 per annum charged on Land
situate on the North side of Shore Road opposite the School,
now in the occupation of The Hesketh Parish Council, and comprising an area of
4a. 3r. 29p.
or thereabouts

No. of Plan.	Occupier.	Description.	Approximate Areas.	
			Acres.	Total Area.
454	Hesketh Parish Council	Arable	4.985	4 3 29

The value last year was 27 11s. 8d. This rent charge is variable with the price of corn in like manner as a Tithes Rent charge.

What has yet to be established is how long the site had been leased from the Hesketh Family before they sold it! If anyone reading this can shed further light on the history of the Poor Marsh, or has any recollections, photos, or any other snippets of information please contact HBALGA via their web site www.heskethbankallotments.co.uk. It is important that we learn as much as we can about the site so that it can be documented for posterity.

THE POOR MARSH TODAY

Until very recently the site was divided into 20 plots, each measuring over 900 sq ms, making them manageable only with machinery and most were being operated on a semi-commercial basis.

With allotment keeping becoming more fashionable and economically necessary the Parish Council had an expanding waiting list for plots and decided that the site needed to be redeveloped. A working group of three Parish Councillors was set up and the Council commissioned Groundwork Lancashire West & Wigan to undertake a feasibility study. The working group held a meeting of existing allotment holders, residents on the waiting list and anybody interested in having an allotment which was extremely well attended with a great deal of enthusiasm to see the site being available to more people. A Steering Group was formed soon after and following a site visit by Groundwork, who advised that 50+ modern allotment sized plots of between 200 and 250 sq ms (the size calculated to sustain a family of four with their vegetables needs) plus a few smaller more easily accessible plots for the less able could easily be accommodated, the steering group were raring to go.



By mid June the site had been ploughed and tilled, phase one plots marked out and crops planted. Look out for Hesketh Bank Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Associations (**HBALGA**) stall at Hesketh Bank Village Show where they will display their wares and be on hand to talk to you about being an allotment holder.

The Parish Council and Steering Group would like to thank Huntapac Produce Limited who provided the tractor and man power to plough and till the site, Henry Alty Limited who donated the timber for marking out the plots, Alan Baybutt & Sons Limited for supplying a tractor to deal with the rapidly growing weeds and Merseyside Discount Sheds for the generous discount offered to the allotment holders.

The redevelopment of the allotment site will be completed in 3/4 phases with one third of the site earmarked as an exciting Permaculture scheme, funding permitted.

Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council currently rent the plots to individual plot holders, however it is intended that the Steering Group form the basis of a Management Committee and the allotments will become self managed by an elected committee.



Stage 1 – Preparing the land

Stage 2 – Marking out the Plots



Stage 3 - The Growing is underway

Stage 4 – What a blooming site



GET INVOLVED

The Hesketh Bank Allotments and Leisure Gardeners site has recently gone 'live' www.heskethbankallotments.co.uk so now is the time to get involved and help us in the creation of what is hoped will be, in just a few years, one of the best examples of community allotments in Lancashire.

If you are new to gardening, have had green fingers for years or now find yourself with more leisure time, you are invited to join us and help establish the allotments for the community for years to come. If you would like to know more about us, when the next meeting is or to put your name on the waiting list please ring Parish Councillor Maureen Baldwin – 01772 814457 or e-mail moandterry@talktalk.net.

PERMACULTURE

What is Permaculture? - Permaculture was developed in the mid 1970's by two Australian ecologists, Bill Mollison and David Holmgren, and is about "Earth care, people care and fair shares". Their idea was to create stable agricultural processes which did not poison the land and reduce biodiversity. To give you a better understanding of what Permaculture is all about an example is outlined below.



Offshoots - The Offshoots Permaculture Project began in May 1997 and is housed in the old walled garden of Towneley Hall in Towneley Park, Burnley. The site, which had previously been a council depot and tree nursery, is now a thriving 1 acre organic fruit and vegetable garden which boasts 5 different forms of eco-friendly buildings that are renewably powered and is used daily as a result of lots of hard work from legions of dedicated volunteers.

- Offshoots are a Community Project managed by Groundwork Pennine Lancashire on behalf of the Offshoots Voluntary Management Committee, which is made up of local people who are all actively involved.
- Offshoots have achieved charitable status through the Permaculture Association.
- Offshoots involves people from the whole community, either through the composting project, as visitors to the site, as volunteers, or through colleges and schools running training courses –
- Offshoots are for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

Subject to a feasibility study it is hoped that a project similar to Offshoots will occupy an area of the Poor Marsh in Hesketh Bank as part of this exciting redevelopment of the site.



PARISH COUNCIL:

- Cllr. Iain Ashcroft 1 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Maureen Baldwin 5 Rankin Avenue, Hesketh Bank
 Cllr. Paul Blane 92 Station Road, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Norma Goodier 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton
 Cllr. Chris Jones Primrose Farm, Marsh Road, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Steve Kirby 50 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank
 Cllr. David Maughan, 52 Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Richard Plant 12 Granville Avenue, Hesketh Bank
 Cllr. Paul Sergeant 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Ron Tyson Lansdowne, Shore Road Hesketh Bank
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