

Shoreline Summary

Edition Number 22 ~ February 2011

It has been a long cold winter with just about the whole gamut of seasonal weather sent to try our patience and forbearance.

What have been particularly noticeable throughout this winter are the short dark gloomy days when it seems that there have barely been any daylight hours! At long last it appears that spring is just around the corner – my garden is full of rapidly blossoming snowdrops, a sure sign that the seasons are changing.



In addition to the brightly lit Christmas Trees, supplied and installed by your Parish Council, which helped give the Village its festive feel and appearance over Christmas you will, I am sure, have noticed the attractive and elegant decorations adorning the new feature lamp posts installed in the village and over the old railway bridge. Thanks go to Duncan Taylor of Arden Lea Nurseries for donating and installing them and Councillor Hilary Tompkins whose idea it was – they made quite an impact and were greatly appreciated by many residents.

It was with great sadness that the Parish Council recently learned of the death of retired Parish Councillor Christine McLeod and sends their condolences' to her family. Christine was co-opted to the Parish Council in April 2007 and resigned in March 2010 in anticipation of moving to Southport. She will be remembered for her work on the Parish Council on behalf of the Village and for organising a Farmers Market in All Saints Church Hall at the end of May 2008, which raised an invaluable £500 for the Douglas Cardiac Trust.



Hesketh Bank Children's Centre

The Hesketh Bank Children's Centre is now open next door to Hesketh with Becconsall All Saints C of E Primary School on Shore Road, Hesketh Bank telephone 01772 815021. It offers a range of services for parents and carers of children aged 0 – 5 years and children with additional needs up to age 11 which includes a home visit service offering advice and support on: Breastfeeding, Health Lifestyles, Emotional Health, Parenting, Children's Routines and Child Accident Prevention. Their aim is to offer support and link with other services, in order to enable families to thrive and children to reach their full potential.



For more information contact The Hesketh Bank Children's Centre direct on the telephone number above.

Lancashire Police Authority Launch Loop – 'Lancashire Opinions on Policing'

LOOP is Lancashire Police Authority's online space enabling residents to air views about policing – go to www.getintheloop.co.uk. If you are visiting, please feel free to contribute to any of the discussions or surveys we are holding.



On LOOP you can complete monthly online surveys, catch up with news/views about police issues, view videos and photos, listen to pod-casts and get involved in on-line discussions about neighbourhood issues such as tackling anti-social behaviour.

 Comment	 News / What's On	 Tune In	 Gallery	 Surveys		 Results	 Follow Us
Grab a brew and read all the latest news & views	Catch up with what's new and what's on	Have your say on all the latest videos and podcast	Have a nose at what we've been up to	Air and share your views on our current surveys	Curious about our findings?	Results	Feedback

Design a Garden Competition



Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council having agreed to create and maintain a garden to enhance the area at the front of the village hall site, which is currently paved and in need of care and attention, invite residents, of any age, to design a cost effective, low maintenance, accessible and visually pleasing garden area that can be enjoyed by all residents and the users of the Village Halls.

If you are interested in submitting an entry please contact The Clerk, Mr Ian Cropper, either by e-mail Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk or telephone 01704 778005. A site meeting will be arranged for all interested parties to discuss the brief. The winner of the competition will not only see their garden design take shape but will also win an appropriate prize.

Stop Press Stop Press - Parish Council Precept to be reduced

The Parish Council unanimously voted at their meeting on 7th February 2011 to reduce the Parish Council Precept by 2.0%. This takes the level of the Parish Council Precept paid by households to that of 2004.

Measures To Combat Flooding In Hesketh Bank

In the summer of 2007 parts of the UK were devastated by floods, causing £3bn of damage and flooding 55,000 properties. Since those events unfolded two years ago, the Government has been taking steps to ensure that the five million people living in flood risk areas are better protected.



Whilst Hesketh Bank escaped the worst of the flooding then, a large area remains at risk and residents quite rightly want to know what is being done to combat the risk. So what has been done?

In the wake of the 2007 floods a review was undertaken by Sir Michael Pitt and his report concluded that many of the existing measures aimed at dealing with coastal erosion and flood control and response were rooted in the 1940s. Gaps were identified, particularly in relation to surface water flooding. The world of flooding and drainage is complex, with a number of agencies responsible, for example, in Hesketh Bank, Lancashire County Council currently has direct responsibility for road and footpath drainage. Once the water drains away it becomes the responsibility of the water company - in our case United Utilities. Smaller streams and watercourses are overseen by West Lancashire Borough Council. When water finally reaches the main streams and the river, the Environment Agency takes the lead. In addition, private landowners have legal obligations to maintain watercourses that run through or alongside their land.



In response to the lack of clarity of responsibilities Sir Michael Pitt's report produced 92 recommendations, many of which have now been adopted in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Under this new legislation, the Environment Agency will take a strategic overview for flood management, but it will be up to the County Council to take the lead role for the management of flood risk within Lancashire, particularly surface and groundwater and small watercourses that do not fall within the Environment Agency's remit.

The County Council is charged with developing a Flood Risk Management Strategy which will involve, amongst other things, working with partner agencies e.g. the Environment Agency and District Councils to develop Surface Water Management Plans for all areas within Lancashire.

To this end they are gathering information on where local flooding problems exist. If you wish to register your concerns about any such problems in your vicinity, and you are able to provide detailed information on the frequency and extent of the flooding, please contact Mr Ian Cropper, Clerk to the Council, 01704 778005



Trustees Wanted!!!

Local Charity Villages in Partnership, based in Croston, is looking for volunteers to join as Trustees. If you have a few hours a month to spare to help this small local Charity, please give us a call.



You will also be required to attend Board Meetings - usually held the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month. If you are interested or would like to know more information, please contact the office on 01772 603591 or email vip@villagesinpartnership.org.uk

For more information about the Charity, visit www.villagesinpartnership.org.uk

Villages in Partnership Community Grants Programme, Spring 2011

Is your community group looking for funding????

The VIP Grants Programme is open to local groups to apply for up to £500 for worthwhile community causes. For more information or to apply for a grant, call 01772 603591 or email vip@villagesinpartnership.org.uk **Closing Date for completed applications: Thursday 31st March 2011**

Bank Hall Plans

A friend of mine recently went for a cycle ride and found himself at Bank Hall, Bretherton. Whilst there he spotted a planning application notice, which upon closer inspection was for "The shell repair and refurbishment of Grade 2 Listed Bank Hall into 12 residential dwellings and associated enabling development comprising 23 residential dwellings on the former orchard site" - it struck me that this is perhaps the type of development that could be investigated for the Becconsall! And whilst on the subject of the Bec - **Who dun it?** It is a mystery - who has taken a can of red spray paint to the front of the Bec pleading 'Save Me'? There are a number of rumours circulating - I wonder if we will ever know?

Parish Plan Review

Remember the Parish Plan? It is four years since work started on the production of the Parish Plan and three years since it was launched. A small working group of Parish Councillors are undertaking a review and want to enlist a small number of residents to join us. If you are interested in helping to assess the plan and look at the way forward please contact The Clerk, Mr Ian Cropper either by e-mail Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk or telephone 01704 778005.



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 - Cllr. Hilary Tompkins 69 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

PARISH CLERK Ian T Cropper, Providence Place, 125 Roe Lane, Southport, Lancashire, PR9 7PG Tel: 01704 778005

Fax: 02030 511934 Email: Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk

