

Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Council Newsletter

Shoreline Summary

Issue 7 January 2007

SHORE ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The CCTV installation is now complete at Shore Road. This high-tech system constantly monitors and records video over the whole of the recreation ground, play area and school; the pictures being fed out over the internet to a monitoring station. The installation has been designed specifically for the Parish Council and All Saints School by "Black Box" of Leyland who won the contract against four other contractors including national companies. The Parish Council have also been fortunate in securing a £3,000 grant towards the cost of the work from West Lancashire District Council.

The installation has come as a direct response to residents concerns in respect of unsocial behaviour by a few youths around the area. Further discussions on the possible location of a Skateboard ramp at Shore Road have been put on hold until the April meeting of the Parish Council.

SHORE ROAD SAFETY



A new Speed Indicating and Recording Device (SPID) was delivered to the Council in early January and many of you may have seen it deployed on Shore Road adjacent to Glen Park Drive. The device observes all traffic passing it and records the details of every vehicle. The device locks on, through radar, when the vehicle is approximately 150 yards distant and analyses its speed which it then displays to the oncoming driver. If the speed of the vehicle is below the limit for that location it also shows a smiling face; a sad face is shown if the driver is breaking the law.

The first analysis of data unfortunately showed that 39% of motorists were travelling at over the permitted 30mph and 5% were travelling in excess of 40mph. This is especially concerning as All Saints School is only a few hundred yards away; we will be monitoring the situation over the coming months and keeping the police advised. The device will also be appearing in due course at locations on Station Road and Moss Lane.

The second prong of the Parish Council's initiative to improve the safety on Shore Road should also be in place during January with the speed limit on the de-restricted stretch of Shore Road being reduced to 50mph; this will also continue on Marsh Lane in Banks. The final assault on safety will start during the Spring with the installation of street lighting to the whole length of Shore Road; this will also include the upgrading of some of the existing isolated lanterns on the road.

BUS SHELTERS

As we reported in the Autumn "Shoreline Summary" the new bus shelter at Hundred End was completed in time to offer some protection as the weather grew colder and windier. It is very rewarding to the Council to receive grateful comments from users, thank you.

As we go to press, two more shelters are due to be upgraded, the shelter at Pardoe Close/Chapel Road will be replaced with a more modern type including lighting and a raised kerb as will the one adjacent to All Saints Church which was recently fatally damaged by a passing bus. Finally, a new shelter is planned opposite the chapel in Chapel Road for Southport bound buses. All these upgrades have been made possible through grants from Lancashire County Council to whom we are very grateful.

DARK NIGHTS AND SAFETY

We are aware from various sources that cyclists, especially children, are putting their lives at risk during the dark evenings by not displaying the mandatory lights and reflector on their bikes. Not only is this illegal but it is extremely dangerous, especially when dark coloured clothing is worn as well. We appeal to parents to make sure that their children's bikes are correctly equipped and that they wear light coloured clothing or better still the reflective strips.

CHRISTMAS TREES

We trust you all enjoyed the illuminated Christmas Trees provided by the Council again this year. Our special thanks to Vernon Ogden (Electricians) who quickly solved one of the connection problems at The Village Store without charge.

PUBLIC FORUM

At the Council's meeting in January, a new way of operating the Public Forum, or Public Participation as it used to be called, was agreed. It was hoped that this will provide a more satisfactory way to deal with observations or queries from the public. The procedure, which is detailed below, will be adopted

1. A period of 15 minutes will be provided before the commencement of each Council Meeting (including Committee Meetings) for a Public Forum.
2. The period of 15 minutes may, at the discretion of the Council, be extended where it is considered that a major issue(s) warrants this.
3. The Public Forum will be chaired by the Clerk to the Council.
4. Members of the public may address the council on any one subject pertaining to the agenda, or any other matter, for a maximum of 3 minutes.
5. Questions by members of the public shall be limited to matters of fact to which the Clerk shall provide answers. Should the information requested be unavailable at that time, it will be communicated as soon as practicable after the meeting.
6. Supplementary questions are not permitted.
7. Questions which the Chairman of the Forum considers vexatious or harassing will not be permitted.
8. Questions to individual Councillors will not be permitted although in special circumstances, the Chairman of the Forum may ask a Councillor to respond.

Members of the public are reminded that:-

- a) They may enquire of the Clerk at any time, by telephone, letter or email, on any matter related to Council business. Persons requiring a written reply must give a written request.
- b) It is impracticable for the Clerk to have all the Councils files and documents to hand at Council meeting. It is advisable therefore, that questions are sent to the Clerk at least five days prior to meetings, should a response be required at the meeting.
- c) Should they wish to discuss a matter with a Councillor, they should contact him/her outside the meeting.

COUNCIL MEETINGS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

A new timetable of Meetings was agreed at the January meeting which should help members of the public to be more aware when matters of interest might be discussed. Check one of the notice-boards or the website on the Thursday prior to the meeting for details of the agenda. Don't forget, you can have an email sent to you each time the website is updated – just send an email to **WebUpdates@HwBPC.org.uk** with "updates please" in the subject box.

- a) **Council Meetings** will be held on the first Monday of the month unless that day is a Bank Holiday in which case the meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month. Meetings will not be held during August.
- b) **Planning Committee Meetings** (if these are required) will be held following Council Meetings as above and on the third Monday of the month. Meetings will not be held during August..

In addition, the Council are considering whether to hold alternate meetings at a different venue, possibly All Saints School on Shore Road in an effort to make the Council more accessible. Please let the Clerk know what you think of this idea.

PARISH PLAN

The Parish Council has now tried on two occasions to get a Parish Plan off the ground. The idea of a Parish Plan is to consult the complete village as to how they see or hope the Parish will develop. Once these views have been received and correlated, they are compiled into a plan of action. Both District and County Authorities are keen to see these plans develop and they are obliged to take them into account when planning the future spatial strategy for an area.

Could you help plan the future of Hesketh Bank? A public meeting is being planned at 7:30pm on the 15th of February at the Village Hall. Do come along to see if the idea of producing a plan for the future of the Village appeals to you.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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| Cllr. Richard Plant, Chairman 12 Granville Ave, 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

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