

# Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Council Newsletter

## Shoreline Summary

Issue 16 November 2009

Welcome to the first edition of your bi-monthly Parish Council Newsletter. It will alternate with the 'Champ Local', which will be introducing you to your Parish Councillors over the coming editions and we hope you enjoy learning more about them. The Newsletter will continue to bring you news from the Parish Council and a little of what is happening in the Village

### **JOBS FOR THE BOYS... AND GIRLS**

#### **SITUATIONS VACANT**

A new initiative to help ease the unemployment situation locally was unveiled last month by the Parish Council ~ A Local Vacancies Notice Board has been erected outside Country Larder on Station Road and has already proved to be an efficient and popular way of providing local labour for local businesses. Employers can advertise vacancies for up to 3 weeks and are encouraged to make a small donation to cover administrative costs. If you wish to advertise a vacancy, please contact Ian Cropper, HwBPC Parish Clerk on 01704 778005.

### **HESKETH BANK MOVING FORWARD**

A number of developments have either taken place or are currently on going in the Village since the last newsletter.

- . A new restaurant has opened in the Old Nat West Bank building on the bridge ~ aptly named 'The Old Bank Restaurant'
- . The Isherwoods site on Station Road is now fully open and offers: All weather floodlit sports facilities; Body Pulse Gym; Locker Room Restaurant and Boots Barred Sports Bar.

These additions and the enhancement they bring to local facilities are very welcome. After a delay whilst new plans were passed the 'ground work' is now underway in preparation for the much anticipated Booths Supermarket; it is hoped that the store will be open towards the end of 2010.

It is not the only groundwork being undertaken in that area of the village – West Lancashire Borough Council were successful in obtaining funding from INSPIRE (a North West Regional Government initiative to help improve the overall environment of local areas). As Hesketh Bank will shortly have a new Booths Store in the Village the Borough Council earmarked a sum of money for the footpaths to be upgraded to match the area surrounding the supermarket. It is hoped that there will be sufficient funds available to provide some new street furniture and planters.

Last, but by no means least, we must congratulate Top Shop on their 'new look'. The shop is modern, spacious, light and airy. The only thing that remains unchanged is the warm and friendly welcome you get.

### **NEW BALL COURT AT VILLAGE HALL SITE**

Following on from the impressive development by Isherwoods, it looks as though there will soon be another excellent facility for local youths to enjoy.

Planning permission has now been given for the provision of a fenced Ball Court between the Band Hut and the Front Hall on the Village Hall site. The Ball Court can be used for a range of sporting/leisure activities including football and basketball and a key condition of its provision is that the facility is available free of charge.

The development is the result of a joint initiative between the Village Hall Trustees and the Parish Council and is funded by West Lancs Borough Council from the Big Lottery grant they were awarded for sports initiatives. Work is expected to start early in the new year, with completion due during the summer.

Following consultation with local residents a number of security improvements will be incorporated. It is hoped to provide gated access to the site and CCTV monitoring will be installed by the Parish Council.

This new facility is a long awaited and a most welcome resource for the youth of the village. Let's hope they use it well and show due consideration for the neighbouring residents.

### **RICH VISION FOR THE POOR MARSH**

There is currently an unprecedented demand for allotments in Hesketh Bank and with this in mind the Parish Council has advised the current tenants of the allotments on the Poor Marsh that there is a need to redesign the area to create more allotments that are traditional and user friendly.

The Parish Council Allotments Committee is currently exploring a number of exciting new initiatives that are happening in the development of Community Allotments.

## POLICING /YOUTH NUISANCE IN HESKETH BANK

Like many local areas the Village has suffered a number of incidents involving young people and unfortunately at times the police appear to be slow in responding or don't respond at all.

With this in mind Councillors Baldwin, Blane and Tompkins met with Chief Inspector Dean Holden at the end of September to discuss the main areas of concern. During a full and frank discussion Chief Inspector Holden explained that Lancashire Constabulary were facing financial cut backs and do not have the finances or human resources to cover individual villages on a daily basis. Priority areas in the Division are Skelmersdale and Ormskirk which have a much higher serious crime rate and although Hesketh Bank has been noted as an area with an anti- social behaviour problem it is not seen as a drug or serious crime hot spot. He also advised that a rescheduling of working hours is currently being undertaken which will mean that 2 police officers will be available for more working shifts throughout the year.

Councillors discussed with the Chief Inspector a number of other issues all of which he would discuss with Sergeant Appleton. A number of options were discussed that could help to 'police' the situation and the Parish Council is currently investigating these together with our neighbouring parishes of Tarleton and North Meols.

## VILLAGES IN PARTNERSHIP

VIP is now based in the Community Centre, Castle Walks, Croston PR26 9RH.

If you have a project that requires help with finding funding please contact us on 01772 603591.

**Charity Shop News** - Second Time Around is due to be re-located very soon at Unit 8, The Carrington Centre, Eccleston. The VIP Charity Shop in Longton is located at 2B Franklands, Longton, PR4 5PD. We always require donations and volunteers. Come along and find a bargain!!

**Health Trainer** - VIP currently has a **FREE** non judgemental and confidential Health Trainer Service, funded by Central Lancashire NHS. Frances Gaskell, will provide you with choices and information on services and activities in your area that can improve your health and wellbeing. Ring 01772 603591 if you would like more information.

**Help Direct** - Villages in Partnership are pleased to announce that they are now working alongside Help Direct to provide help and support with the following examples: Health & fitness · Home & garden · Learning & leisure Managing finances · Mobility & transport Community groups and involvement · Relationships and families Phone VIP or Help Direct on 0303 333 1000, (quoting Villages in Partnership Referral).

## DOG FOULING

The issue of dog fouling is still a big problem in Hesketh Bank. Please be a responsible owner and clean up after your dog - please 'bag it and bin it'.

If you suspect someone of not cleaning up after their pet please either speak to a Parish Councillor or ring the Dog Control Enforcement Officer at West Lancashire Borough Council on 01695 585353. Sometimes you have to be a 'nosey neighbour' to keep the area where you live a nice place to be.

## SAVE THE 'BEC' UPDATE

Following the Public Meeting about the 'way forward' for the campaign to save our local hostelry from becoming yet another building site a small working group was formed to explore more fully a number of ideas that had been put forward during the meeting.

The working group has very recently held their first meeting, which was supported by members from the Southport Branch of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) who have extensive knowledge of saving pubs for the local community. Another meeting of the working party is scheduled for early November when the research they have undertaken will be drawn up into an action plan.

## 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. Christine McLeod Primrose Barn, Marsh Road, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Richard Plant, 12 Granville Avenue, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Paul Sergeant, 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

Cllr. Hilary Tompkins 69 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank



## PARISH CLERK

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