

Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Council Newsletter

Shoreline Summary

Issue 10 Winter 2007/08

QUALITY STATUS

Following on from the Council's achievement in attaining Quality Status, as announced in the last 'Shoreside Summary', the Parish Clerk was invited to a formal presentation at the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Council's Annual Conference held at Park Hall. Gordon Johnson Chairman of the Accreditation Panel presented our Clerk, Ian Cropper, with the certificate. Gordon, a former Chief Executive Officer with Lancashire County Council, noted the importance of Parish Councils working to this level of competence in preparation for new powers to be granted to our grass-roots level of government under the Local Government and Public Involvement Act 2007.

As part of its new image, the Council has produced a new motif based on elements of the old Coats of Arms of the Hesketh and Becconsall families. Consideration was given to applying for a formal Grant of Arms, but at a cost in the region of £5,000, this was considered to be an inappropriate use of finances. The motif is simply being registered as a trade mark and will be used on all official Council papers and signs etc. The Motif utilises the black band (bend) with three sheaves of corn (garbs) on a silver (argent) background from the arms of the Hesketh family (which came to them through marriage with the Fittons of Great Harwood in the 13th Century) along with the stylised clam-shell and Maltese cross of the Becconsalls signifying the fruits of the sea and land.



PARISH PRECEPT

At the January meeting of the Parish Council, the Budget for the 2008 / 2009 financial year was set keeping the increase in the Parish Precept well below inflation at just 2%. For a Band 'D' home in Hesketh Bank this will mean an increase of only 90 pence over the whole year.

PLAY AREA UPGRADE

The Station Road Play Area, built on the old station goods access road, has now had its upgrade completed at a cost of £24,000 including an £8,000 grant from West Lancashire District Council. Work has included complete fencing of the site to make a safer environment for the children using the site and also deter dogs from entering the area. Don't forget, it will soon be an offence to take dogs into childrens' play areas and offenders lay themselves open to on the spot fines.

The work has also included several new items of equipment including an ever popular roundabout along with the complete overhaul of the swings, rocking horse and climbing frame. All equipment is now surrounded by Safer Surfacing complying with the latest ECC standards.

It is hoped, as funds and grants become available during 2008 to enhance the whole bridge area with new planting and hard landscaping to complement the new Booths Food-store and give Hesketh Bank a real village centre.

SHORE ROAD

As we go to press, work is at long last under way for the installation of continuous road lighting from Hesketh Bank through to Hundred End. Lanterns are being installed on the existing United Utilities' poles with steel lamp stanchions filling in the gaps. This should go a long way to improve safety over this particularly dark section of road. This is the third scheme that the Parish Council have undertaken in an effort to improve safety on this road. We have also been fortunate in having a complete safety study undertaken by Lancashire County Council, the results of which were recently published. This should result in improved signage, road markings and carriageway repairs along with a permanent vehicle operated speed warning sign on the approach to Hesketh. The junction around the Brow Wall will be closed for a few days in mid February to allow res-surfacing works to be completed.

TARLETON HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SPORTS

New rates for the hire and use of the THS Sports Hall and Swimming Pool apply from 1st January 2008 and still offer great value for money.

Sports Hall:	Full Hall £30 p/h	Half Hall £15 p/h	Badminton Court £7.50 p/h.
Swimming:	Lane Swim £2.25 p/h	Public – Adults: £1.60	Children: £1.20 Under 5's: 60p.

Full details of the times available, and club activities, can be found on the "Information" page of the Parish Council Website or by telephoning 817907.

POST OFFICES SAFE

Good news came at the start of the year with the surprise announcement that Shore Road Post Office was not on the closure list. Most people had presumed that Station Road was safe but even John was surprised at the decision not to place his shop on the list. This is great news for the Hesketh end of the village and we hope that residents will support John in keeping this excellent facility viable.

303 BUS SERVICE

The new bus serving Tarleton Rufford Burscough and Ormskirk has still been experiencing timing difficulties resulting in some irregular performance. However, our friends at LCC are working closely with the service provider "Click" to try to resolve the situation by removing the 'lay-over' time at Hesketh Bank and see the service operating in a continuous loop as originally envisaged; it is expected that an amended timetable will be put into operation during February. In the meantime, please try to support this service wherever possible to ensure that it becomes a regular feature.

BRITISH LEGION COLLECTION

This year's 'Poppy Day' collection raised nearly £2,100 in Hesketh Bank and Tarleton. Our thanks to all the collectors, schools and businesses that made this excellent contribution possible.

DOG FOULING

It will soon become an offence to allow your dog to defecate in any public place or a place where the public have access to. West Lancashire District Council (WLDC) are preparing four new "Dog Control Orders"; the maximum fine on conviction will be £1,000. The Parish Council has also been instrumental in looking for an additional Order to totally exclude dogs from childrens' play areas. WLDC will soon be carrying out consultation on this and the Order should become operational soon. Don't forget WLDC offer free bags for the collection of dog faeces which can be collected from the Council offices or email the Parish Clerk if you would like bags delivering.

ELECTIONS

Have you considered standing for the Parish Council? The whole Council is up for election this coming May. If you'd like some details as to what a Parish Council does and the powers it has, and think you could contribute to your local area, why not contact the Parish Clerk?

BOOTHES

Regretably, owing to the substantial delay caused by the enforced hunt for endangered species on the site, the planned building and opening date for the new Food Store has been put back, possibly to 2010. Booths management however, always mindful of their altruistic heritage, are endeavouring to start work on the infrastructure, including the roads and some of the car-park later this year in order to improve the overall appearance of the site and offer parking facilities for residents.

HESKETH BANK PARISH PLAN COMMUNITY FACILITIES ACTION GROUP

The results of the Parish Plan have shown that a high percentage of the respondents wanted a wide variety of Community Facilities available to them in the Village. With this in mind the **Community Facilities Action Group** (CFAG) has produced a calendar of events taking place in the Village up to April. We apologise if your event has not been included, however in April a calendar of events up to the end of 2008 will be distributed and we will shortly be launching a photo competition so that a colourful and wholly local full events calendar can be produced for 2009. If you have any Hesketh Bank events you want included in our calendar for April–December 2008, or for 2009, please email them to tee@tndnet.co.uk

On Easter Saturday we are holding an 'EGGSTRAVAGANZA', an evening of fun and games for all the family plus 'Hesketh Bank's Got Talent' open mic' 7-11pm at Hesketh Bank Village Hall, £2 per adult and £1 per child, tickets available from Top Shop Newsagents, bring your own picnic.

February

Friday 8 th	Christian Fellowship Youth Concert, 8pm
Saturday 9 th	Hesketh Bank Village Hall Committee Valentines Dance, 7–11pm. Village Hall
Saturday 16 th	Supper Dance, come and enjoy a pleasant evening of dance, 7.30-11.30pm. All Saints Church Hall
Sunday 24 th	All Saint Family Service (for Education Sunday) with parade, 10.30am

March

Sunday 2 nd	All Saints Church Mothering Sunday Service, 10.30am
Saturday 15 th	Supper Dance, come and enjoy a pleasant evening of dance, 7.30-11.30pm, All Saints Church Hall
Good Friday 21 st	Event Day at West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road
Saturday 22 nd	CFAG Event 'Eggstravaganza' a family evening of fun and entertainment, 7-11.00pm, Village Hall
Easter Sunday 23 rd	Steam Train Open Day at West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road
Easter Monday 24 th	Event Day at West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road
Sunday 30 th	All Saints Church Family Service with parade, 10.30am
Sunday 30 th	Steam Train Open Day at West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road

April

Sunday 6 th	Friendly Engines Day at West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road
Sunday 13 th	Steam Train Open Day at West Lancashire Light Railway, Station Road

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cllr. **Paul Sergeant** (Chairman) 108 Moss Lane, Cllr. **Iain Ashcroft** 1 Chandlers Croft, Cllr. **Hilary Tompkins** 69 Moss Lane, 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. **Lesley Standish-Gore** 4 Foxglove Close

PARISH CLERK

Ian T Cropper, 40A Glenpark Drive, Southport PR9 9FA. Tel: 01704-778005 Fax: 02030-511934 Email: Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk