



HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 8th May 2017 at 7:30pm at Booths Café, Station Road, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT

Councillors; Mrs Diane Earles; Mr Mike Ellis; Mrs Norma.M.Goodier; Mr John Hunter; Mr Simon Kenyon; Mr Steve Kirby; Mr David Maughan; Mr Paul Sergeant (Chairman); Mr Ron Tyson; Mr Ian T. Cropper (Parish Clerk)

Two members of the public were present.

COUNCIL MEETING

CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 07/2017 Carried that Cllr. Paul Sergeant is elected unopposed. Cllr Sergeant publically read, and signed, a declaration of Acceptance of Office.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ashcroft and Kenyon.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 08/2017 Carried that Cllr. Iain Ashcroft is elected Vice-Chairman unopposed.

APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 09/2017 Carried that appointments (*as per the appendixes*) are confirmed.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION No. 10/2017 Carried that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10th April 2017 are confirmed as a true record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Hunter and Sergeant declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 21 as officials of the Hesketh Bank AFC.

REPORTS

Chairman's Annual Report - (See Appendix)

Best Kept Village Working Group – An update was given.

Public Rights of Way (PROW) – It was agreed that the Clerk would formally request that the Environment Agency permit seating to be installed on the newly refurbished out sea embankment.

CLERK'S REPORT

VAT

It was noted that the Clerk had reclaimed £8,396 VAT from expenditure in the year to March 31st 2017.

CONFIRMATION of THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETANCY

The Clerk confirmed that the Council continues to be able to operate the “**General Power of Competency**”.

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It was noted that the Conservative group now hold control of the County Council and that Cllr Malcolm Barron continues to represent the area.

HENRY ALTY PARK

It was noted that Persimmon had not at the time submitted an appeal and that the opportunity still existed for them to submit a supplementary amended application.

INTERNAL AUDIT

It was noted that Mr Trevor Rimmer will again be conducting the Internal Audit during week commencing the 22nd of May.

WLBC CAPITAL FUNDING APPLICATION

It was noted that the Council's application for funding to illuminate the CSG Car-Park was still awaiting adjudication.

COUNCIL WEBSITE

Members were apprised that this continues to have a good hit rate and that during the month the clerk had received nine compliments regarding the newly formatted site. In addition he had received two compliments regarding the Allotment site.

FLY TIPPING

As a result of CCTV surveillance and examination of waste left, the Clerk had traced one offender who had been written to. Members agreed with the Clerk's proposed action.

POLICING

Members were advised that following a recent incident at the CC, he had supplied video and stills from the CCTV system to the Police.

BUS SHELTER – Station Rd/Rankin Avenue – South bound

The Clerk advised that he had now had settlement from our insurers and was currently negotiating, along with North Meols and Tarleton PCs a new deal for shelters at a considerably lower price than the current supplier.

PLAY AREAS

It was noted that the Annual Inspections were carried out in April and the Clerk was currently evaluating the work required. It was also noted that because of concerns raised, the Clerk had also had the Poppyfields area inspected which had raised a number of issues and the general state of the area and the adjacent POS. The Clerk

had forwarded a copy to the Borough Council expressing the Parish Council's concerns as most people presume that either the Parish or Borough are responsible and are not aware of the adoption issues.

There were some issues regarding the fencing between All Saints School and the Council's adjacent land.

It was also noted that the Council is receiving repeated complaints from the residents of Beconsall Gardens and others regarding the playing of ball games (*which are officially banned*) at the Station Road Play Area. Trees have been uprooted, swings damaged, balls allegedly damaging adjacent property and young toddlers being hit by balls. It was agreed that all Members would endeavour to inspect the area as frequently as possible.

SHORE ROAD CAR PARK/RECREATION GROUNDS

It was noted that the car park which is provided for users of the recreation grounds and play areas was now used extensively by school staff, visitors to the school and parents/guardians. Whilst it was agreed that this was preferable to on-street parking, the amount of wear was increasing considerably. In addition it is the Council's intention during the ensuing 12 months to carry out a major overhaul of the recreation ground and car park drainage, the system which also drains some of the school land. Presently, the School/County Council, whilst enjoying the benefits, does not contribute to the maintenance of any of these areas. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Head Teacher advising that whilst we do not have any intention to look for a financial contribution at present, this may have to change in the future.

RESOLUTION No. 11/2017 Carried that the Clerk's Report and actions are noted and ratified.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

PAYMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 12/2017 Carried that payments of Accounts made since the last meeting are ratified and the Invoices now presented on the Payments Schedule are approved and that the Clerk is authorised to complete the appropriate electronic transactions.

RECEIPTS

WLBC	Precept (1st tranche)	£34,002.00
WLBC	CIL Contribution	£4,370.40
WLBC	Concurrent Grant 1st Tranche	£1,626.00
Insurance Claim	Bus Shelter Station Road	£4,232.62
Bank Interest	April	£10.13
Investment Interest	May	£18.40

PALS ACCOUNTS

RESOLUTION No. 13/2017 Carried that the PALS accounts 2017 / Budget 2017-18 are noted.

FOOTBALL CLUB LEASE

RESOLUTION No. 14/2017 Carried that the Lease between the Council and Hesketh Bank AFC be varied to re-designate the area within the present lease marked for the purposes of changing facilities and, inter-alia, to approve in principle the building of new changing facilities subject to the acceptance of proposed plans.

INSPECTION REPORTS

Reports were received in respect of the Shore Road Recreation Grounds, Glen Park Drive and Station Road

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:35pm

Appendix 1.

	ASHCROFT	HUNTER	EARLES	KENYON	GOODIER	KIRBY	ELLIS	MAUGHAN	PLANT	SERGEANT	TYSON	CLERK	
Chairman										X			1
Vice Chairman	X												1
Community Centre Representative Trustee						X							1
Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc Appointee										X			1
Environmental & PRow Member						X							1
Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee					X								1
Shoreline Editor							X						1
Recreation & POS Committee	EO			X	X			X		EO			3
Planning Committee	EO				X			X		EO	X		
Risk Assessment Working Group	X										X		2
Recreation Areas Inspection Members		X						X		X			4
LHB / BKV Working Group			X			X					X		4
Payment Authorisation Members	X					X		X		X			4
Security Matters incl CCTV												X	1

Notes:

The Community Centre Representative Trustee is appointed to represent the views and objectives of the Council. The representative is expected to report back to the Council and keep the Council fully apprised of the work of the Trustees.

The Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc Appointee is a Nominee of the Council and can act as he/she thinks fit. Reports are expected to Council as appropriate but at least annually.

The Environmental & PRow Member is specifically charged with bringing to the Council any matters within the powers of the Council affecting the local environment and reporting requirements on Public Rights of Way for consideration under the LCC delegated scheme.

The Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee is a Nominee of the Council and can act as they think fit. The representative is expected to report back to the Council at least annually.

The ShoreLine Compliance Editor is charged with gathering copy and producing print ready artwork

The Recreation & POS Committee is appointed with full Executive and delegated authority to discharge their responsibilities within budget and without reference to the full Council

All Working Groups should formulate costed propositions for presenting to Full Council for authority to action.

Appendix 2

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017

The present Council has just completed another productive and successful year after ten unopposed councillors were elected in May 2016 which left us with one vacancy to fill.

In June we co-opted John Hunter to the council who had previously served as a councillor some years before. Maureen Baldwin then resigned through health reasons a month later and was replaced in September by Mike Ellis. Finally in November Jillian McKean also ceased to be a member and we co-opted another ex-councillor and past Chairman, Richard Plant earlier this year. The Council's meeting place is now firmly established in Booths and a new Council notice board is now in use located behind the basket checkout. The contact details of Councillors and the Clerk along with the Agenda of forthcoming meetings, local Planning Applications and our Newsletter can now be found.

Looking back over the past 12 months we began in June by entering the Best Kept Village competition and as part of that, and our continued "**Love Hesketh Bank Campaign**", we once again ran our own '**Best Kept**' competition as well which saw judges tasked with finding the best front garden, business premises and allotment in the village.

We narrowly missed out on the awards for the Best Kept Village for the second year running finishing in 4th position once again in the Large Village section. However in our own 'Best Kept' competition the three judges, Liz Tyson of "Landsdowne Camping", Duncan Taylor of "Arden Lea" and David Rose, Chairman of "Southport Flower Show", announced the winners with John Birchall being awarded the best allotment for the second year running, the residents of 7 Meadow Lane winning the best front garden and the winner of the best kept business premises, R&J Wright Haulage. Our thanks go to Councillors Ron Tyson and Diane Earles for their work with the sub-committee responsible for the competitions.

In December we again marked Christmas with illuminated trees on most of the commercial premises in the centre of the village along with decorative features on the village centre lighting columns. Our thanks to those traders who once again supported the scheme and also to Duncan Taylor of Arden Lee Nurseries for supplying and fitting the beautiful festive wreaths on the lighting columns.

Also in December the West Lancashire Borough Planning Committee refused Planning Consent for the long awaited development of the former Alty's brickworks and railway site in the centre of the village. The decision was against the advice and recommendation of the Chief Planning Officer of the Council and seemed to be against some matters that had already been approved at the 'Outline Planning' stage. I therefore don't think we have heard the last of this development.

In February the Love Hesketh Bank Award winners were announced with all eight being recognised for their efforts over the years putting a lot into the village and its various organisations. The eight individuals being Martin Forshaw, Andy Simpson, Pat Hankin, Jennifer Wright, Maureen & Terry Baldwin, Harry Edmondson and Kant Wong.

In March we were informed that there was a strong possibility that we would lose the provision of GP services within the village due to the pending closure of the existing practice. To date despite several meetings with the various interested parties this has not yet been resolved. It would appear that in the not too distant future a temporary site at Tarleton will be put into place which is obviously not an ideal situation for our residents.

Last month we commissioned a new scheme to enhance the general appearance of the village by appointing a 'Lengthsman'. The contract for this work was won by "BP Maintenance". In my role as Chairman I thank all the Council past and present for the hard work that they voluntarily undertake for the whole community within the Parish of Hesketh-with-Becconsall.

Finally I also thank our Clerk Ian Cropper for his continued support and guidance to myself and all the other councillors he has dutifully served under over the years and long may this continue.

