



HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 9th May 2016 at 7:30pm at Booths Café, Station Road, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT

Councillors; Mr Iain Ashcroft; Mrs Diane Earles; Mr Simon Kenyon; Mr Steve Kirby;
Mr David Maughan; Mr Paul Sergeant (Chairman); Mr Ron Tyson;
Mr Ian T. Cropper (Parish Clerk)

No members of the public were present.

COUNCIL MEETING

CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 09/2016 Carried that Cllr. Paul Sergeant is elected unopposed. Cllr Sergeant publically read, and signed, a declaration of Acceptance of Office.

ACCEPTANCE of OFFICE

The Clerk confirmed that all members present, and Cllr Goodier, had signed their declarations of Acceptance of Office.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs Norma Goodier

VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 10/2016 Carried that Cllr. Iain Ashcroft is elected Vice-Chairman unopposed.

APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 11/2016 Carried that appointments (*as per the appendixes*) are confirmed. It was noted that the Tarleton Academy Community Relations Committee has ceased to exist.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION No. 12/2016 Carried that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 11th April 2016 are confirmed as a true record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations were made

CO-OPTION

RESOLUTION No. 13/2016 Carried that Mr John Hunter is offered the vacant seat on the Council.

REPORTS

Chairman's Annual Report - (See Appendix)

Best Kept Village Working Group – It was noted that judging would commence on 4th June. It was agreed that the Lengthsman's duties should be directed to the specific entered areas. The Clerk was requested to make arrangements to have the roads swept immediately prior to the judging date and also query the non receipt of posters.

CLERK'S REPORT

VAT

It was noted that the Clerk had reclaimed £7,456 VAT from expenditure in the year to March 31st 2016.

CONFIRMATION of THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETANCY

The Clerk confirmed that with 82% of the new Councillors being elected, the Council continues to be able to operate the "General Power of Competency".

BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It was noted that the Labour group continue to hold control of the Borough Council.

CENTENARY SPORTS GROUND

Members were apprised that the resurfacing and marking out of the access roadway was now complete. It was noted that highway grade surfacing had been used at the entrance area in an effort to reduce the heavy scouring which had occurred there. The total cost over the past 30 months of upgrading the whole facility including CCTV, new drainage, fencing and signage as well as major roadway and surfacing repairs was reported to have been approx. £31,000.

HENRY ALTY PARK

It was noted that the Land Trust had now produced their report and this is available to Members as a strictly confidential document as the contents could prejudice ongoing negotiations.

The Clerk noted that he was meeting with John Harrison, head of planning at WLBC, during the week with a view to determining a view on the amount of CIL that might be made available to the scheme. The Parish will be able to allocate its own CIL money from the scheme that will be in the region of £90,000. However, as a bare minimum, it is calculated that the Land Trust will need an endowment pot in the region of £M0.5. The Clerk noted that he would also be meeting with the Chairman of Alty on Thursday looking to agreeing a deal in principle on the value and transfer of the land. This of course will be subject to ratification by this Council, the Land Trust and WLBC. The Borough will also have to agree to the detail of the proposed leisure and business development

INTERNAL AUDIT

It was noted that Mr Trevor Rimmer will again be conducting the Internal Audit during week commencing the 23rd of May.

WLBC CAPITAL FUNDING APPLICATION

It was noted that the Council's application for a grant towards the U3A developing a 'Digital Inclusion' programme has been rejected as it was considered a Revenue Funded scheme rather than Capital which the Clerk disputed.

COUNCIL WEBSITE

Members were apprised that this continues to have a good hit rate of between 50 and 70 visitors per day. This will be re-vamped over the summer to comply with current recommendations including making it "mobile friendly".

VIRAN MEDICAL CENTRE

The Clerk had been advised that Dr Hindle would not be moving to the old chip shop as the NHS had pulled funding. He is still hoping to stay at Hesketh Lane but negotiations are on-going.

LCC PROW DELIVERY

The Clerk confirmed that he had again opted the Council into this scheme. The Council would initially receive £250 towards vegetation clearance

CODE OF CONDUCT SEMINAR

Members were reminded that this annual seminar is being held on 12th July 6:30pm at the WLBC Offices. It is expected that all Parish Councillors will attend.

RESOLUTION No. 14/2016 Carried that the Clerk's Report and actions are noted and ratified.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

PAYMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 15/2016 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

Bank Interest	April	£1.00
Investment Interest	May	£30.00
WLBC	CIL re Chapel Road	£4,125.91
WLBC	Concurrent Grant (1st Tranche)	£1,829.00
HBAFC	Pavilion Contribution	£300.00

HBALGA ACCOUNTS

RESOLUTION No. 16/2016 Carried that the HBALGA accounts 2016 are noted.

INSPECTION REPORTS

A report were received in respect of the Shore Road Recreation Grounds.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:05pm

Appendix 1.

	ASHCROFT	BALDWIN	EARLES	KENYON	GOODIER	KIRBY	VACANCY	MAUGHAN	McKEAN	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		3
Risk Assessment Working Group	X										X		2
Henry Altys Park Task Group Member	EO					X		X		EO	X		2
Recreation Areas Inspection Members		X			X			X		X			4
LHB / BKV Working Group			X			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 2016

The present Council has just completed another productive and successful four year term. Martin Forshaw and Julie Lancaster have decided not to re-stand for election and we wish them both well in the future and thank them for all their hard work. We welcome new member Simon Kenyon to the council and will now have to co-opt another member to fulfil the other vacant position.

Personally this will be my 6th term as a Councillor spanning over 20 years although still some way behind Councillor's Ashcroft and Goodier.

Looking back over the last four years in September 2012 we became the first council in West Lancashire to achieve 'General Power of Competence' under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. Later that year the then Mayor & Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor and Mrs Paul Greenall presented engraved Jubilee Medals and Certificates of Appreciation on behalf of the Parish Council to members of the local community who had made a significant contribution to the well-being of the village.

In 2013 the Council's Permaculture site at the Poor Marsh on Shore Road was awarded the prestigious 'Best Practice' award by the Lancashire Environment Fund. Also at Shore Road work started at the Council's Recreation Ground to build a new changing facility which was officially opened by the New Mayor our own Councillor Ian Ashcroft in March 2014. The building was financed by the Parish Council in partnership with the Football Club, West Lancashire Borough Council and local business.

In February 2014 on Valentine's Day the Council launched the Love Hesketh Bank campaign which we use to celebrate and promote the village and at the same time opened a Facebook page and Twitter account. Our thanks go to Councillor Diane Earles for her work which has continued with Annual Awards now being presented to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the village.

In the summer of 2014 Councillor Steve Kirkby began the project of developing a Village Trail and to kick start it with 'Walk a Country Mile' following a path that was to become the first part of the Trail. The trail was completed by March 2015 and launched with a guided walk over the route with local historians briefly telling the story of the area and an impressive notice board was unveiled outside Booth's Supermarket. Also in March 2015 work was completed to improve the drainage and re-surface the main carpark at the Council's Centenary Sports Ground and in addition high definition CCTV was also installed. Last week the road and entrance to the ground was also re-surfaced.

In September 2015 we narrowly missed the awards in the 'Best Kept Village' competition coming 4th in the Large Village Section. However we did win a Certificate of Merit and a Shield for the Council's Public Garden in front of the Community Centre on Station Road against 71 other entries in the region. Our thanks go to Councillor Ron Tyson for his work with the sub-committee responsible for the competition. Earlier in the year as part of the Love Hesketh Bank Campaign we ran a best kept garden and best kept allotment which was won by local residents Mr & Mrs Clark and John Birchall respectively. The Village continues to develop and we await the development of Alty's site in particular but we will continue to push forward our ideas as part of the Linear Park and remain actively involved.

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-Beconsall and look forward to at least the next four years and hopefully beyond.

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.

