



# **HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL**

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7:30pm at Booths Café, Station Road, Hesketh Bank.

### **PRESENT**

Councillors Mr Iain Ashcroft; Mrs Diane Earles; Mrs Norma Goodier; Mr Mike Ellis; Mr John Hunter; Mr Steve Kirby; Mr Paul Sergeant (Chairman); Mr Ron Tyson.  
Mr Ian T. Cropper (Parish Clerk)

No members of the general public were present.

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

**APOLOGIES** Cllrs. Kenyon, Maughan

### **MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION No. 40/2016 Carried** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> October are confirmed as a true record.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations were made

### **REPORTS**

**LHB** – Nominations were requested for pin badge awards.

**Public Rights of Way** – Cllr Kirby reported on three paths walked. It was noted that the steps at “The Brow” footpath were in poor condition but it was unclear as to ownership. The Clerk agreed to pursue this with LCC and the possibility of a finger post from Station Road.

Concern was also expressed as to the condition and safety of the Brow wall; Cllr Ashcroft undertook to pursue this with CC Barron.

**Hedge obstruction** – It was reported that the matter had been taken up by LCC Highways and a compliance order issued.

### **CLERK’S REPORT**

#### **MEMBERS**

It was noted that as Mrs McKean, not having attended any meetings since her election, was automatically disqualified under the 1972 LGA from being a Member and that the Clerk had written to her accordingly.

#### **HENRY ALTY**

It was noted that the Heritage Park Group was still pursuing their ambitions. It was further noted that the Persimmon Planning Application could now be considered at the December meeting of the Planning Committee.

### **BUS SHELTER – CHAPEL ROAD**

As previously advised, the replacement shelter had been ordered and would be installed in January 2017

### **HSBC TREE STUMP**

As advised at the last meeting, The Clerk noted that he had not received a response to the Council's letter; it was therefore agreed as a matter of safety, and to avoid any serious accident that the stump should be removed at the Council's expense.

### **SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL**

It was noted that an invitation for Members to attend their Civic Service on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November; no member was available to attend.

### **RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER LETTERS**

The Clerk confirmed that he would be writing to all houses that currently do not receive the Newsletter enclosing a copy of the December issue.

### **WEBSITE**

The Clerk confirmed the launch of the new Website at the beginning of November and that he had already received several compliments regarding this. The site is now compatible with Tablets and Smartphones and compliant with current recommendations.

### **PENSIONS REGULATOR**

The Clerk confirmed that he had completed the Council's obligations under the new in work pensions scheme as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

### **RAIL CONFERENCE – OPSTA**

The Clerk confirmed that he had attended, as a delegate, the Annual "Rail" conference at The Midland Hotel, Manchester earlier in the month and had also attended the AGM of OPSTA.

He expressed concern at the apparent lack of involvement by WLBC in the several Rail issues within the Borough including:-

- New Railway Station in Skelmersdale.
- Re-installation of the Burscough Curves.
- The planned cessation of the direct Manchester Airport service from Southport affecting 5 stations within West Lancs
- Planned electrification of the Southport-Wigan line
- Possibility of a linked Burscough – London service on HS2

It was noted that he had written to the WL Chief Executive expressing these concerns.

### **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY**

The Clerk confirmed that he had arranged for Richard Shirres and Tony Baker to again update the Council with the position with regards to the Outmarsh East programme at the December meeting.

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

Arrangements had again been made for Christmas Trees to be installed at the end of the month with removal on twelfth night. New LCC requirements were delaying the installation of the lighting column fittings although it was hoped this would be resolved by the end of the month

### **CSG NUISANCE**

It was reported again that nuisance and littering were a problem on the Council's CSG carpark. The Clerk had written to the three club chairmen seeking to find a solution. It was agreed that floodlighting be reviewed.

### **PAVILION DOORS**

It was noted that there was still an on-going issue with the builder of the Shore Road Pavilion over water ingress through the main doors when the wind was in a westerly direction.

### **CIL REPORTING**

The Clerk reported that, as required by legislation, the accounting of CIL monies received is now published on this Council's WebSite.

### **BUDGET**

It was noted that two budget heading expenses were underspent namely the progression of 'Local Trails' and the improvement of Public Open Space (POS). The delay in Poppyfields/The Green POS being adopted, was mainly responsible.

The Council's agreed to undertake work in two further areas, namely the 'scrubland' on the south side of The Nurseries from Station Road to the Junction with Ashbrook Close; and the strip of land from Charles Close easterly for about 30 metres that seems to have fallen in no-man's land.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Clerk, having met with Burscough and St Annes Councils, outlined the procedure, anticipated costs and commitments should the Council wish to pursue its own plan. It was agreed that an exploratory meeting be held at 7pm on 29<sup>th</sup> November at Booths cafe

**RESOLUTION No. 41/2016 Carried** that the Clerk's Report and actions are noted and ratified.

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### **PAYMENTS**

**RESOLUTION No. 42/2016 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**

<b>Bank Interest</b>	<b>October 2016</b>	<b>£0.75</b>
<b>Investment Interest</b>	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>£23.36</b>
<b>WLBC</b>	<b>Concurrent Grant 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche</b>	<b>£1,829.00</b>
<b>WLBC</b>	<b>CIL</b>	<b>£4,500.91</b>

The Bank and Investment balances were noted and the Statements signed as correct by the Chairman.

#### **POLICY DOCUMENTS**

**RESOLUTION No. 43/2016 Carried** that the Council Policy Documents as listed below are ratified as written for continued use until November 2018:-

- a) Standing Orders
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Risk Assessment Policy
- d) Community Engagement Policy
- e) Internal Audit Testing Schedule
- f) Policy on The Effectiveness of Internal Control
- g) Play and Recreation Inspection Policy
- h) Training Policy
- i) Freedom of Information Policy

#### **CASUAL VACANCY**

**RESOLUTION No. 44/2016 Carried** that, resultant upon former Councillor McKean ceasing to be a Member, a Casual Vacancy is declared.

#### **BUS SHELTER BOOTHS (Southbound)**

**RESOLUTION No. 45/2016 Carried** that the Council take ownership of the Bus Shelter located on Station Road (East side) adjacent to Booths and that the Clerk is authorised to execute an agreement with LCC to that effect.

#### **BUDGET 2017-2018**

The following matters were considered:-

- Further accruals for Recreation Ground drainage
- Further accruals for Poppyfields POS project
- Street Scene weed control and cleansing.

#### **INSPECTION REPORTS**

Reports was received in respect of the CSG, Glen Park Drive and Station Road facilities.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:50pm.**