



HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 8th May 2018 at 7:30pm at Booths Café, Station Road, Hesketh Bank.

PRESENT

Councillors; Iain Ashcroft; Jeff Christie; Mike Ellis; Norma.M.Goodier; John Hunter; Steve Kirby; David Maughan; Richard Plant; Paul Sergeant (Chairman); Ian T. Cropper (Parish Clerk)

Two members of the public were present.

COUNCIL MEETING

CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 10/2018 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 Tyson & Earles.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION No. 11/2018 Carried that Cllr. Iain Ashcroft is elected Vice-Chairman unopposed.

APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 12/2018 Carried that appointments (*as per the appendix 1*) are confirmed.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION No. 13/2018 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 Ellis and Kirby declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 20 as Trustees of the Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

REPORTS

Chairman's Annual Report - (See Appendix 2)

CLERK'S REPORT

VAT

It was noted that the Clerk had reclaimed £8,533 VAT from expenditure in the year to March 31st 2018.

CONFIRMATION of THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETANCY

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

BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It was noted Cllr. Ashcroft had been re-elected for the Hesketh with Beconsall Ward

HENRY ALTY PARK

It was reported that at the request of the “Light Railway”, Cllr Ashcroft and the Clerk had met with their Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

The Clerk reported that there appeared to some serious degree of difference in the information previously received from Mr Fairhurst and that presented by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Railway which the Clerk was now pursuing.

INTERNAL AUDIT

It was noted that Mr Trevor Rimmer would be conducting the Internal Audit during week commencing the 28th of May.

PLAY AREAS

Members were advised that the Annual Inspections were carried out in April by the “Play Inspections Company” and noted that most of the work required was already in hand with the exception of the “Cradle Swing” at Station Road where wear in the structure now required replacement at an estimated cost of £1,500; It was agreed that this should proceed As previously advised, he advised that he had the Poppyfields Play area inspected as the Council would hope to take this over in the near future. The Clerk noted that he was concerned at the number of issues identified and the general state of the area and the adjacent POS. He had again forwarded a copy to the Borough expressing the Council’s concerns as most people presume either the Parish or Borough were responsible and are not aware of the adoption issues.

It was also noted that since installing the “*No Ball Games*” notices at Station Road, the Council had not received any further complaints from Beconsall Gardens residents.

SHORE ROAD RECREATION GROUND

Members were advised that the work was now substantially complete on the new drainage although some levelling would be required along with verti-drain spiking and sand banding to improve the overall texture and drainage of the ground.

HESKETH BANK FOOTBALL CLUB

It was reported that the Clerk had now reached agreement with the club that investigation works, at the club’s cost, must be completed as part of the overall scheme. Initial drain works have revealed issues with the connection to the combined sewer in Station Road which is being further investigated. In addition investigations were being carried out into the possible use of a surface water drain that services the Cricket Ground pond, 3G pitches and the Sports Centre and properties to the North of the Sports Ground.

The Clerk advised that he would be preparing an “Agreement” in respect of additional rent and capital payments for execution by the Club and Council as previously agreed by the Council.

MICRO-PUB

The Clerk reported that he had been approached by the operator of a Southport based Micro-Pub company who are investigating the possibility of opening such a venture in Hesketh Bank. He is presently looking at the old Chip-Shop on Station Road.

CSG CAR PARK LIGHTING

It was noted that this had been completed at the beginning of May as was the transfer of the power supply for the CCTV from the Cricket Pavilion to ensure a greater security.

MOBILE PHONES BASE STATION.

The Clerk advised that he was in discussion with EE/H3G as to the possibility of a Base Station on the CSG for their network and will bring any proposals to the Council in due course; this would avoid a mast being erected on the highway or near to residential properties. It was noted that the Telefonica base station accommodating O2 and Vodafone at the CSG had boosted the Council’s income over the last ten years by in excess of £53,000 whilst ensuring the mast was at some distance from residential property.

COUNCILLOR TRAINING

Members were again advised that the annual Standards training event will be held on Tuesday 19th June at 6:30pm at the Council offices in Ormskirk; members are expected to attend!

RESOLUTION No. 14/2018 Carried that the Clerk’s Report and actions are noted and ratified.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

PAYMENTS

RESOLUTION No. 15/2018 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	CIL Contribution	£6,051.81
WLBC	Concurrent Grant 1st Tranche	£1,423.00
Bank Interest	April	£0.60
Investment Interest	May	£66.82

CLERK’S CONTRACT

RESOLUTION No. 16/2018 Carried that Clerk’s Contractual Remuneration package is amended in line with the Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government settlement as at April 2018 equating to a 2% increase.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

The planned report could not be given owing to technical difficulties.

Members were apprised of the Trustees change in plans with regards to the development of the site. It was noted that the Trustees would no longer be requesting the Council to become 'Custodian Trustee'. It was also noted that plans were being reviewed to avoid the selling off of part of the site for finance and that an application to the Borough for CIL monies was being made as an alternative source of funding.

Concern was expressed by two Members and the Clerk that such an application for CIL funds could prejudice the Council's long standing resolution for funding of the Linear Park development. It was further suggested that such an application could be regarded as a conflict of interest for the Trustees who are also Parish Councillors.

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 8:40pm

APPENDIX 1

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2018

The present Council has just completed another productive and successful second year in office since being elected in May 2016.

In June following the resignation of Cllr Kenyon we co-opted Jeff Christie as his replacement.

In late May of last year we were informed that the Viran Medical Centre would close at the end of June. A new provider **was appointed** to deliver GP services for their patients. The practice is now situated in the car park at Tarleton Health Centre and this arrangement was to be a short-term contract of 12 months, with the potential to extend it by a further six months. It will be interesting to see what the eventually out-come will be,

In June we again entered the Best Kept Village competition and as part of that, and our continued "**Love Hesketh Bank Campaign**", we ran our own '**Best Kept**' competition. This saw judges tasked with finding the best front garden, business premises and allotment in the village. The winners each received two tickets to the "Southport Flower Show" as main sponsors of the competition and they were as follows – the winners of the best front garden were the owners of the property at **34 Becconsall Lane**. The business premises were **Leighton Watkinson Oils** and the best allotment was **Plot number 15**.

In September we were given a presentation by the Environment Agency, RSPB and Natural England which described the workings behind the first breach of the former outer sea wall at Hesketh Outmarsh East which successfully returned a large area of land to salt marsh.

As predicted, after planning was refused in December 2016, approval was finally given for the development of the former brickworks site by the West Lancashire Planning Committee at their October meeting. The scheme provides for some 212 houses of various sizes spread across two areas of the Alty's site.

December saw Cllr Mike Ellis taking over the job of producing the Council's Quarterly newsletter. We owe a big thank you to Cllr. Diane Earles who was the instigator of the new style publication taking over the "*Shoreline Summary*" which was first launched in 2005.

In January work began at the Shore Road Recreation Ground to replace faulty land drains. This was part of the major works costing £37,000 to overhaul the site including the reduction of the hedge to School Fold and the re-surfacing of the Council's car park. Towards the end of February early March work also started at the car park at the Centenary Sports Ground with the installation of security lighting which is now in place.

The three recipients of the Love Hesketh Bank Award winners this year were awarded to Mary Scambler who has been a driving force in the community from youth clubs to improving the general area around All Saints Church and Church Hall. **Trish Whitehead** for all the good work she does as a Friend of Becconsall Old Church and **Tarleton Fire Fighters**.

I would like thank all of the members of the Council for the hard work they voluntarily undertake for the whole community within the Parish of Hesketh-with-Becconsall and look forward to the next 12 months and beyond. Finally I would also like to thank our Clerk, Ian Cropper for his continued support and guidance to myself and all the councillors.

Paul Sergeant

APPENDIX 2

	ASHCROFT	HUNTER	EARLES	CHRISTIE	GOODIER	KIRBY	ELLIS	MAUGHAN	PLANT	SERGEANT	TYSON
Chairman										X	
Vice Chairman	X										

Community Centre Representative Trustee			X								
Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc Appointee										X	
Environmental & PRoW Member						X					
Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee									X		
Shoreline Compiler/Editor							X				

Recreation & POS Committee	EO			X	X			X		EO	
Planning Committee	EO				X			X		EO	X
Risk Assessment Working Group	X										X
Recreation Areas Inspection Members		X						X		X	
LHB / BKV Working Group			X			X					X
Payment Authorisation Members	X					X		X		X	
Security Matters incl CCTV											

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.

The Planning Committee is charged with determining Planning Matters that may arise between normal Council Meetings.

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