

BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd August 2022
at 6.00 pm in The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Members Present:

Marianne Davies Tina Walker Catheryn McGurk
Collette Riding Judith Hamilton

Also Present: Sean Starkie, Andy Harwood, and Craig Steele for part

	Action
1. 100 PLUS CLUB – AUGUST 2022 DRAW The August draw was overseen by Sean Starkie Winner of the 1 st prize of £59.50 – ticket number 1, P Elwood Winner of the 2 nd prize of £34.00 – ticket number 126, Mr & Mrs Gerrard Winner of the 3 rd prize of £25.50 – ticket number 17, N Bland Winner of the 4 th prize of £17.00 – ticket number 103, Mr Gallagher	
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mel Egan, Lesley Dunn, Yvonne Brown and Graham Slater sent apologies for absence.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.	
4. MINUTES OF THE 5th JULY 2022 MEETING FOR APPROVAL The minutes of the meetings were agreed as a correct record.	
5. MATTERS ARISING <u>Hyndburn Garage Site</u> – For the benefit of newcomers to the meeting Tina set out the issue of planning permission granted for a double garage on the village garage site in contravention of Hyndburn Council's garage site rules. Tina is still awaiting a response from the Ombudsman regarding her complaint and the way it was dealt with. Andy felt the suggestion of re-surfacing the spare land on the site for school parking wasn't practical. Sean would like the remaining green space to be used by local residents to cultivate and suggested discussing it with the Council. The committee was in agreement with the idea. <u>LCC Funding Update</u> - Craig considered the quote received for the notice board for outside the pub. He will submit it for consideration to next week's Dog Inn Board meeting asking for a decision to be made on their contribution to the costs and report back to the village committee. Craig also suggested the Board be asked to consider holding regular up-date meeting with the village committee to discuss ideas, suggestions, issues and for general up-dates.	Craig Craig

School Parking – Marianne reported her discussions with the Irwell Line bus company about the bus regularly missing out Belthorn and continuing along the Grane Road rather than get stuck in badly parked traffic at school finishing time. The manager acknowledged that it was an on-going problem and unfortunately there was little he could do about it. He was unable to change the bus timetable because of the effect on timetables but would discuss the issue with regular bus drivers instructing them to drive through the village, covering the stops as set out in the timetable. He offered to write again to the school Head urging her to deal more strongly with those parents or guardians parking without consideration and regularly ignoring her requests.

Yvonne had agreed to once again ask the school to encourage parents to continue travelling up the road out of the village after dropping off children rather than turning round to drive down past the school out of the village adding to the congestion.

Catheryn explained how the school had arranged a weekly gathering of children at the bottom of the village to walk up to the school. It was suggested that they arrange that more regularly if teachers could be available to accompany the children.

Memorial Garden – A small group of green-fingered volunteers were awaiting the consent of Hyndburn Council for the village committee to take over responsibility of care and maintenance of the memorial garden, as agreed at last month's meeting, before the voluntary group could start work

Marianne reported that unfortunately it took some time for her to receive a phone call back from Hyndburn Council to discuss the request. A meeting was held between her and the Parks Department foreman at the garden. He stated that the it badly needed attention and agreed the idea in principle. Following an e-mail request to the Head of Parks Department setting out cost savings to the Council and tax payer, we were asked to submit a risk assessment. Marianne requested a risk assessment template from one of the other groups giving us an idea of exactly what was required in terms of 'risk' . That was still awaited and had been chased up.

Overgrown Hedges – A quote had been requested from a local to carry out the work. The farmers deny ownership of the hedges as does Lancashire County Council, therefore the hedge continues to grow forcing walkers at the top of Belthorn Road further into the road.

From memory, Marianne indicated that the hedges were laid by the Lengthsman employed by LCC's West Penning Moors Officer at the time. Therefore in her view LCC was responsible for cutting the hedges.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

No correspondence had been received.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Judith circulated her report. Again very few changes since last month.

8. SUMMER SOCIAL EVENTS

August Dog Show and Family Fun Day – was to be held on Bank Holiday

<p>Monday, 29th August but since no-one could guarantee being available on that date to run it, it was suggested, for various reasons, it be held instead on the morning of Sunday 11th September if it could be changed. It would take place at the Dog Inn and judged by Hyndburn Councillor Susan Hayes. Light refreshments would be available, provided by the village committee.</p>	
<p>9. BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN'S LOCAL PLAN - PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL UNITS ON GREEN BELT UPDATE</p> <p>The Protect Our Green belt Team are currently gearing up for the meeting with the planning inspectorate. This is an independent review to take place in late summer and early autumn for which they have submitted reports and prepared representations. They will also have professional representation as well as members of the community in attendance to voice concerns.</p> <p>This is unfortunately a very long drawn out process but they really need our continued support. The local plan process alone is likely to continue well into 2023.</p>	
<p>10. VILLAGE POND – OVERGROWN WEEDS.</p> <p>Marianne suggested work be carried out to clear the overgrown weeds at the front of the pond. This is to be considered at the next meeting.</p>	All
<p>11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p><u>New Members</u> – Sean Starkie and Andy Harwood requested membership of the village committee. They were gratefully accepted onto the group</p> <p><u>Change of Village Committee meeting days</u> – owing to the Dog Inn closing earlier on Tuesday nights it was agreed that future meetings be held at the same times on the first Wednesday of every month instead.</p>	
<p>12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting following an AGM will therefore be held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 7th September in the Dog Inn.</p>	