

# BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023  
at 6.00 pm in the Dog Inn, Belthorn

## Members Present:

Marianne Davies    Yvonne Brown    Graham Slater  
Tina Walker        Leslie Dunn

**Also Present:**        County Councillor Peter Britcliffe and Councillors Marlene Haworth and Zak Khan

	Action
<p>1. 100 PLUS CLUB – AUGUST 2023 DRAW</p> <p>The August draw was overseen by Hyndburn Councillor Zak Khan</p> <p>Winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £58.45 - ticket number 92, Lawrence &amp; D</p> <p>Winner of the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of £33.40 - ticket number 98, Judith H</p> <p>Winner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of £25.05 - ticket number 8, Jamie E</p> <p>Winner of the 4<sup>th</sup> prize of £16.70 - ticket number 9, Joseph Mc</p>	
<p>2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Sean Starkie, Cathryn McGurk and Judith Hamilton submitted apologies for absence.</p>	
<p>3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p> <p>Tina Walker, as a member and Yvonne as Secretary of the Dog Inn Board submitted declarations of interest but there was no contentious items on this month's agenda.</p>	
<p>4. MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>th</sup> JULY MEETING FOR APPROVAL</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES</p> <p><u>Pond Notice Board</u> - Judith had arranged for a villager, Chris Holden, to build a replacement notice board for the pond area. It has now been completed ready to have wood stain applied and looks great. Judith to be asked to thank Chris for his efforts.</p> <p><u>Village Teenagers' Youth Club</u> – Yvonne's reported that only two teenagers attended at the last session, therefore the August session was cancelled until everyone is back from holiday, and schools re-start in September. Marianne suggested a one-off dance class, held as some of the girls suggested, if a volunteer teacher could be enlisted and the event publicised.</p>	Judith

<p><u>Village School Foundation Stone</u> – Cathryn had arranged for Chris Nuttall to move the stone to the School but as she was on away no-one knows whether or not it had been moved.</p> <p><u>Recreation Ground Overgrown Grass</u> – The Council hadn't cut the grass for some time, mainly because all the recent rain had left the grass too wet to cut. Sean to be asked to check if the village petrol lawn mover stored in Judith's garage is suitable for him to cut some of the grass. Councillor Britcliffe volunteered to check with Leisure to find out what was happening.</p>	Cathryn
<p>6. CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Marianne reported having received yet another e-mail from the Charity Commission changing access instructions to their web site.</p>	
<p>7. TREASURER'S REPORT</p> <p>The Treasurer's report had been circulated electronically and circulated at the meeting for information. Hyndburn Councillors had kindly funded the eradication of rats from the village pond area and a cheque presentation photo was taken in the Dog Inn.</p>	
<p>8. PROTECT OUR GREEN BELT FIGHT – UPDATE</p> <p>Marianne and Leslie, having attended the previous night's POGB meeting to discuss progress to date and proposals going forward, reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite a recent report in the Lancashire Telegraph, releasing local land from the Green Belt is not a 'done deal'. Following the February formal Hearings, both BwD Council and the POGB group had been asked to provide modifications to their plans;</li> <li>• The group's campaign to fit the criteria to become a recognised Biological Heritage Site continues;</li> <li>• £600 had been requested, and agreed, from the remaining just under £3,000 funds for Calista Mulligan to hold a one-hour meeting with a specialist London lawyer for advice going forward;</li> <li>• Fundraising continues and a request for suggestions for fundraising events was made.</li> </ul> <p>Following an explanation of how the recent Highways report, undertaken at the quietest possible traffic times, County Councillor Britcliffe advised of a meeting he was due to attend with LCC's Chair of Highways at which he would raise this important issue. Marianne was asked to remind him.</p>	Marianne/ C Cllr Britcliffe
<p>9. SOCIAL EVENTS</p> <p>Yvonne set out some of the village social events to be held from August Bank Holiday until the end of November. The list of social events will be circulated with these minutes.</p> <p>Councillors advised of the Accrington Soap Box Challenge to be held during summer in the Town Centre. Date to be confirmed.</p>	

<p><b>10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Marianne asked the Councillors the position on the non-collection of Bulk Waste. The meeting was advised that there is now a five-week wait for items to be collected owing to new rules requiring councils to apply for a licence to carry out the work. A licence has now been approved for Hyndburn Council at a cost of £80K which requires a 1% increase on next year's Council tax.</p>	
<p><b>11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next Committee meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023.</p>	

**ADDENDUM:** Hyndburn Councillor Zak Khan contacted me after the Committee meeting to advise of his discussion with the Council's Portfolio Holder regarding:

- Addressing the fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour at the top of the village, in Hyndburn Borough, by sourcing suitable security cameras;
- Catching up on bulk waste collections;
- Cutting the grass on village pathways and recreation ground.