

BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 7th May 2025
in The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Members Present: Cathryn McGurk Judith Hamilton Marianne Davies
 Tina Walker Lesley Kay Dean Ellwood for part

	Action
<p>1. 100 PLUS CLUB – MAY 2025 DRAW</p> <p>The May draw was made by villager, Dave Fairweather</p> <p>Winner of the 1st prize of £58.10, ticket number 64 – Kirsten D</p> <p>Winner of the 2nd prize of £33.20, ticket number 148 – Jean B</p> <p>Winner of the 3rd prize of £24.90, ticket number 120 – Deborah G</p> <p>Winner of the 4th prize of £16.60, ticket number 81 – Wendy E</p> <p>Winner of the 5th prize of £8.30, ticket number 27 – Chris B</p>	
<p>2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Sean Starkie and Richard Hollingworth submitted apologies.</p>	
<p>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Interest was declared by Tina Walker in her capacity as local councillor regarding item 5 on the agenda concerning a proposal by Committee member Sean Starkie for the village garage open space recreation land.</p>	
<p>4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 2nd April 2025</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>5. MATTERS ARISING</p> <p><u>POGB</u></p> <p>A detailed update on works carried out by the POGB team was provided in the latest edition of the village Dog Life newsletter.</p> <p><u>Village Pond</u> – Marianne explained her frustration at not being able to find an organisation willing to provide man-power to wade in and remove most of the bull-rushes threatening to take over more of the pond. Funding in principle was provisionally guaranteed by Prospects Foundation and discussions held with Lancs Wildlife Trust to carry out the work but no response from them regarding actually carrying out the work.</p> <p><u>Recreation ground</u> - Marianne also reported on her on-going discussions with Hyndburn Council to create a more substantial footpath path between the recreation ground and Kendal Row. She had received a</p>	

<p>quote for a tarmac path of £28k from Hyndburn BC for which no funding was available, and an alternative quote of £13,140 from The Wildlife Trust for a recycled, aggregate path which HBC were happy with.</p> <p>Provisionally funding from Lancs Enterprise Fund could be available for 75% of the cost leaving 25% funding still to be secured before she could start completing application forms. Hyndburn Council have been requested to fund the remaining 25%, of approximately £3,300. A decision is awaited.</p> <p>If the Council was unable to fund the balance It was suggested we approach the National Lottery together with a small contribution from Village Committee funds.</p> <p><u>Recreation Ground benches</u> – Volunteers will stain and paint the benches.</p> <p><u>Get Belthorn Active</u> – Walk leaders are sought from locals who are willing to lead a small group of villagers around local paths. Anyone interested is asked to contact any Committee member. A request will be posted on Belthorn Days website.</p> <p><u>Garage Site recreation area's open space land</u> – Following last month's meeting regarding a post on Belthorn Days website questioning plans from residents behind 174 – 180 Belthorn Road to take over (rent or buy) the grassed area of the land, enquiries have been made questioning the exact proposal and the Council's reaction.</p> <p>On behalf of the Committee and residents, Tina - Councillor Walker had objected to the take-over of the open space stating that this area should remain Council-owned and not be allocated to just three or four residents. She is awaiting a response from the Council. Residents will be informed of the outcome of the Council's decision.</p>	<p>Marianne</p> <p>Paul / Judith</p> <p>Tina</p> <p>Tina</p>
<p>6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</p> <p>In response to the request from the POGB group to lobby MPs, Marianne advised of a letter received from Hyndburn MP, Sarah Smith with a good, detailed copy letter attached setting out the MP's objections to the planning application for the building of industrial units on moorland on behalf of local residents.</p>	
<p>7. TREASURER'S REPORT</p> <p>Judith's Treasurer's report had been circulated electronically. She detailed money banked, expenses paid and profits/losses made on recent events. Easter Monday event made a small loss of £13 with donations on Day Day totalled £23.</p> <p>An App for a phone to connect to a card payment machine will not now be needed for this summer's events.</p>	
<p>8. MEMORIAL REFURBISHMENT FUNDING</p>	

<p>Marianne highlighted the fantastic effort made by Bernadette at the now beautiful Memorial garden and asked Tina to try to find out exactly when, this year, the Memorial garden refurbishment would take place to allow Bernadette time to try to ensure the plants were not damaged in the process.</p> <p>Judith planned on donating a water butt to Bernadette for the Garden.</p>	<p>Tina Judith</p>
<p>9. REMEMBRANCE DAY PLANS FOR 2025</p> <p>After last year's Remembrance Day service, the committee suggested discussions take place with local members of the Royal British Legion for a village displays similar to ones displayed in other villages.</p>	<p>Marianne / Tina</p>
<p>10. SPRING SOCIAL EVENTS</p> <p><u>Easter</u> – All events arranged were well attended and again considered very successful. Clive Carroll was thanked for running the Easter Egg hunt on Easter Monday and for his donation towards the eggs.</p> <p><u>May Day parade</u> – Once again the attendance on the day was excellent, with children followed by parents taking their turn at dancing round the maypole. Pizzas and drinks were available afterwards.</p> <p><u>Summer Social Events</u> – The marquee outside the Dog Inn is due to be erected on the 16th June with an exciting programme of events listed in the latest of edition of the Dog Life newsletter.</p>	
<p>11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>There was no other business to discuss</p>	
<p>12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting, will take place at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 4th June 2025 in the Dog Inn.</p>	