

BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 14th January 2026
in The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Members Present: Cathryn McGurk Judith Hamilton Marianne Davies
 Tina Walker Lesley Kay Paul Ellwood

	Action
1. 100 PLUS CLUB – JANUARY 2026 DRAW The January draw was made by Judith. Winner of the 1st prize of £63.60, ticket number 40, Craig S Winner of the 2nd prize of £31.80, ticket number 4, Collette R Winner of the 3rd prize of £23.85, ticket number 80, Richard M Winner of the 4th prize of £15.90, ticket number 2, Lisa H It was agreed at the last meeting that this year prizes would be awarded for 1st to 4th numbers drawn only with the 5th prize cancelled since it was only for a nominal sum.	
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Owing to work commitments apologies for absence were received from Richard.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Interest was declared by Tina Walker in her capacity as a local councillor but there was nothing contentious on this month's agenda.	
4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 5th November 2025 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.	
5. MATTERS ARISING <u>POGB</u> - No further developments to report on the outline planning application other than fund raising is continuing. 2026 calendars are available to buy at the usual outlets to help fund the costs of the environmental consultants helping fight the cause. <u>Village Pond</u> - Marianne reported that The Lancashire Wildlife Trust had started to spray the Environment Agency approved herbicide and would continue the work after the winter die-back. Hyndburn Councillor Zak Khan had sourced funding to pay for a small bench to be placed in the cobbled area in front of the pond, in grateful thanks for all the support Councillor Marlene Haworth had given to villagers and to the village Committee. <u>Recreation ground Footpath</u> - Marianne's efforts to create a more	

substantial footpath between the recreation ground and Kendal Row has not been abandoned despite the length of time it's taking to organise. After many efforts, Marianne had met, on site, with a Footpaths officer who fully supported her proposal and agreed to meet with her suggested contractor. After the meeting she, and the Footpaths officer were, and still are, waiting for a quote from the contractor for the work agreed. On receipt of the quote Marianne will appeal to the National Lottery for her funding application to be accepted for progressing to the next stage since ownership of the footpath and the necessary LCC support was now agreed. <u>Replacement Give Way sign on the B6232 Moors Road</u> In view of the current closure of Old Haslingden Road resulting in extra traffic on the Grane Road and the major works now started to improve motorway junction 5, following discussion at the last meeting Marianne had contacted LCC's Highways Department asking for the carriageway Give Way sign to be re-painted on the B6232 at the bottom of the village to hopefully make it easier for village traffic to leave and enter the village. Marianne reported having made several phone calls asking Highways to re-paint the sign but no sign of any action yet, nor any response received to her request. Marianne agreed to continue chasing.	Marianne Marianne
6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED No correspondence had been received.	
7. TREASURER'S REPORT AND SOCIAL EVENTS EXPENDITURE Judith's Treasurer's latest report was circulated and discussion took place around the amount of money spent on Christmas village social events. Popularity of the village Over 60s meals had waned since many pensioners hadn't ordered Christmas meals in 2025. Considering the amount of Committee funds spent on the Children and Over 60s' parties, without the benefit of extra funding, and school staff time cooking and sorting the delivered meals, it was felt that this year we should cancel the delivered meals and concentrate time and money on the two Christmas parties. <u>Agreed</u> – To ask the manager if they plan on donating funding to the village, to revert to donating their Christmas cheque to the Village Committee to help fund the Children's and Over 60s parties rather than to the school. The school is fully in support of this idea. Discussion took place on whether or not the Village Committee should fund a Christmas meal for committee members in the Dog Inn restaurant. Unable to agree, a vote was taken with two members voting for a meal to be paid out of Village Committee funds and four members voted for members to pay for their own meals. Therefore it was agreed that if Committee meals were arranged, then costs would be borne by the individuals and not from Village Committee funds.	Judith

8. COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - AND 2026 AGM DATE Year 2026 meeting dates were agreed to be kept as Wednesdays at 6.00 pm in the Dog Inn. All villagers are invited to attend to offer suggestions and hopefully help at social events were practical. This years AGM will be held at a date in April to be agreed.	
9. FEEDBACK FROM OTHER AUTUMN WINTER SOCIAL EVENTS <u>Remembrance Day</u> – Poppies on lamp posts, displayed and paid for from Committee funds – very well received and many positive comments in the village and posted on Facebook. <u>Halloween Events</u> – All went well and thanks given to Committee members for serving and supplying the refreshments. <u>Firework display</u> – Well attended as usual. £165 profit was made by the village Committee from the event. <u>Christmas parties</u> – Although not as many children attended this year, those that did attend enjoyed the day. <u>Over 60s party</u> – Although all enjoyed the afternoon, improvements were discussed to be made for this year's party which will be held instead of Over 60s school meals made and delivered to their houses owing to lack of demand.	
10. SUMMER MARQUEE COMMITTEE EVENT IDEAS The Dog Inn Board had arranged for a summer marquee to be erected, as held in previous years, and invited the Village Committee to arrange and hold an event. All ideas would be considered and discussed at next month's meeting.	
11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS There was no other business to discuss.	
12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – The next will take at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 4th February 2026 in the Dog Inn.	