

BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 3rd June 2026
in The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Members Present: Judith Hamilton Marianne Davies Paul Ellwood
Tina Walker

Also Present: Hyndburn Councillors Zak Khan, PC Molly Charnley and PCSO
Annie

	Action
1. 100 PLUS CLUB – JUNE 2026 DRAW The June draw was made by Judith during the meeting. Winner of the 1st prize of £63.60, ticket number 70 - R Cameron Winner of the 2nd prize of £31.80, ticket number 11 - Pete & Julie Winner of the 3rd prize of £23.85, ticket number 2 - Lisa H Winner of the 4th prize of £15.90, ticket number 35 - Gill P	
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Lesley Kay sent apologies.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Interest was declared by Tina Walker and Zak Khan in their capacity as local Hyndburn councillors but there was nothing contentious to be discussed on this month's agenda.	
4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 6th May 2026 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.	
5. MATTERS ARISING <u>POGB</u> - Nothing new to report other than that fundraising is continuing. <u>Pond Bench</u> – It was agreed that installation of the bench at the front of the pond could wait until work to remove bulrushes from the pond is complete since access to the pond area would be needed. <u>Pond Bulrushes</u> – The Lancs Wildlife Trust officer had visited the pond, was pleased to see the increased water level after the drainage problem had been resolved and offered to undertake another spray session of pesticide treatment. Meanwhile Steve Ratcliffe mentioned to Marianne about discussions having taken place between neighbour Andy and himself to site a digger with a 60 ft reach, on the road/pavement in front of the pond to clear the bulrushes, remove the bulrushes/silt by loading it onto a wagon for transporting to Andy's land for disposal. That would be without the danger of any vehicles/machinery entering the pond.	Zak

9. POLICE – NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Zak introduced the Community Police officers followed by Tina explaining her idea of setting up a Village Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in light of recent spate of burglaries from Belthorn garden sheds. They responded by advising of their on-line “In the Know” a Lancs Constabulary message website giving or receiving information of all problem or criminal activities in our or other nearby areas. They suggested that we become involved in that forum. Zak, in his position of Hyndburn councillor and Leader of Hyndburn’s Opposition, has contact with Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and offered to register on the “In the Know” scheme together with another member of our group. PC Molly’s e-mail address is 4321@lancashire.police.uk and Annie’s e-mail address is 7858@lancashire.police.uk Community Police Officers regularly attend local community groups and they agreed that an officer would be allocated to attend our village Committee meetings on a regular basis to listen to any Committee or villagers’ issues/problems they may be able to help with. They also suggested we produce a questionnaire on the subject to be circulated to all villagers. This was agreed and would be discussed at the next Committee meeting.	Zak/Tina
10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS <u>Memorial Garden</u> – Bernadette had requested funding for plants for the Memorial Garden and Judith agreed to allow her enough for her needs. Zak reported having chased up the agreed funding for the upgrade and repair of the village memorial garden which he advised would be carried out as one job by the contractor before the village Remembrance Day Service. Zak would let us know when the work was due to start. The Recreation ground grass had just been cut and Zak asked whether or not we wanted the goal posts to be set up again. It was agreed that they need to be replaced. <u>Village Buddy System</u> - It was agreed that the informal “Buddy” system set up during Covid to help people in need of help with shopping etc, was a good idea. Tina therefore suggested we re-create a village system where a small number of volunteers agree to take part by listing their telephone number for any villager to ring for help in times of need. AGREED – practicalities and action to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.	Zak Tina All
11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will take place at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 1st July 2026 in the Dog Inn.	

