

BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 7th August 2024
in The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Members Present:

Marianne Davies Cathryn McGurk Dean Ellwood
Richard Hollingworth Tina Walker

	Action
1. 100 PLUS CLUB – AUGUST 2024 DRAW Owing to Judith's absence from the meeting the August draw had been made the previous day. Winner of the 1st prize of £58.10, ticket number 153 – Geoff F Winner of the 2nd prize of £33.20, ticket number 93 – Leah C Winner of the 3rd prize of £24.90, ticket number 34 – Geraldine C Winner of the 4th prize of £16.60, ticket number 168 – Linda T Winner of the 5th prize of £8.30, ticket number 154 – Duncan	
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Sean Starkie and Judith Hamilton submitted their apologies for absence.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Tina, as a member of the Dog Inn Board and a Hyndburn Councillor submitted a declaration of interest but there we no contentious or conflicting items on this month's agenda.	
4. MINUTES OF THE 3rd JULY 2024 MEETING FOR APPROVAL The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.	
5. MATTERS ARISING <u>Syke Mill Garden Attention – Plants cut back</u> – the work was carried out successfully, helped and supported by the mill, despite one village Facebook and personal objection. <u>White lines at the bottom of Belthorn Road</u> – Marianne agreed to contact LCC about the problem and found that it was a Blackburn with Darwen issue. It had been reported to BwD Council for a third time but the problem road lines had still not been corrected. <u>Recreation ground grass cutting</u> – Item deferred until the next meeting. <u>Hedgerows at the top of the village</u> – The issue of necessary cut-back work the responsibility of LCC was discussed and agreed that the hedges didn't need cutting this year.	

POGB – Fundraising by the group is continuing to help pay the environmental consultants working to help stop the proposed industrial development.

Village Social Events Dates

Children's Halloween Party – 17th October,
Firework Display – Monday 4th November (tbc) and
Christmas parties – Children's, Saturday 7th December and
Over 60s, Sunday 15th December

Belthorn Days Facebook Page Tim Rowling, one of the administrators of the village Facebook page, attended the meeting to explain the workings of the page together with Facebook's rules and regulations.

Tina set out the committee's concerns regarding the recent negative and hurtful posts, especially those targetting the village committee and committee members when they are working to improve village life, its environment and to maintain standards for the benefit of all residents. Marianne stated recent examples.

All agreed that most people only want to read local news, pub adverts, social events and positive posts as on other local villages' Facebook pages.

Tim explained why, although not popular, anonymous posts cannot be deleted on open Facebook pages such as Belthorn Days, but agreed to talk to Jennie about tightening up on the rules and regulations on negative, biased and nasty comments, especially those targetted at committee members who are working hard for Belthorn. Tim was thanked for attending and both were thanked for their work in administering Belthorn Days Facebook page.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – No correspondence had been received other than a Public Liability Insurance quote discussed at item 7 below.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT – Judith's Treasurer's report had been circulated electronically. The Dog Inn Board had queried funding raised for different issues which would be discussed with Board member Tim Eccles.

Public Liability Insurance – Judith had received a quote from last year's company for Public Liability Insurance that was being considered and passed back to the committee for agreement.

Our Public liability insurance requirements are to be discussed at the next meeting when Judith could be present.

8. VILLAGE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION – AMENDMENT

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

9. MEMORIAL GARDEN UPKEEP – Bernadette had requested funds for a water carrier to water the plants in the memorial garden. The village committee had undertaken the care and maintenance from Hyndburn Council for Bernadette to improve the overgrown garden. Thanks were passed to Bernadette for all her hard work in transforming the garden into a beautiful floral area for the village. The Committee agreed to fund a water carrier.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS Tina explained her disappointment at the Dog Inn Board's incomplete arrangements for the recent belated Christmas party held for village volunteers.	
11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting is to be held as soon as everyone can get together taking into account holidays etc.	