

**YATE & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION
TWINNED WITH BAD SALZDETFURTH**

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday 17th March 2017 at 19:30

Officers and Committee present

Martin Monk	Ruth Boulton	Sue Walker
Rick Boulton	Alison Hardill	Penny Spiller
Gill Latham	Wully Perks	Ian Blair
David Hardill	Pam Pearce	
Kath Williams	Mike Pearce	

Also present: Gordon Williams, Laurence Walker, Alan Spiller, Rafael Pepiol and Councillor Chris Edmunds

Apologies Lesley Killock

2. Minutes of January's meeting: Minutes approved as true record

3. Matters arising: to include Report /Review of events since last meeting None

4. Communications and Correspondence - PS received letter from Yate Town Council asking for meeting dates to be set for the next year which after having confirmed with the committee she will reply to.

Also been notified by YTC the council twinning reps will now be Chris Edmunds and Ian Blair.

5. Treasurer's report: Report circulated - Twinning finances very good. Expenditure since last meeting room hire, flight ticket for MM for official visit to Germany and tickets for PS & AS to attend British and German Conference on behalf of Yate Twinning.

6. Welcome Cllr Chris Edmunds – Chris reported on the recent 'official' trip to Bad Salzdetfurth. Chris thoroughly enjoyed his first visit to BS and the experience of staying with a German family. There was much discussion regarding the future ways for the Twinning Partnership as many people have visited each other many times and visited lots of local places of interest, the suggestion has been made to try a joint holiday together to the Island of Crete. A date to be agreed but arrival and departure dates of each group could be slightly different if necessary. Chris and Thomas Stelzer are communicating regarding school holidays etc. MM has since heard from Waltraud a meeting has been held in BS and they are thinking of the trip being early May, this wouldn't fit with our term times and CE will speak to Thomas about this.

SW reported she stayed with Reinhard Nipp, he is still keen to keep twinning going, this way would perhaps encourage more people to join us as many people are not

keen to stay with hosts in Germany.

The plan is for each of us to travel from our local airports and meet in Crete at a 4 star hotel either for 7 or 10 days. RN will try to find an agent at his side to work things out but prices will not be released until October.

Much discussion took place regarding the need to keep twinning going, other twinning groups are having similar difficulties, there appears to be a need to try something different, this could be the way forward. PS thinks it is a good idea but feels Yate Twinning should try it first before inviting other people/groups to join us. MM disagrees and would like to get as many people involved as possible.

Some committee thought discussion should be had with all twinning members whether to go ahead with this trip, others thought the purpose of having a committee is to make such decisions. After much talk it was decided to invite all members to the next Twinning meeting on Friday 21st April, email to be sent out asap to all members, should they not be able to make the meeting let MM know of their thoughts/interest. PP advised she would put this on the web site, but it was thought this should be left until after the meeting, PP disagreed with this decision, so a vote was taken and decision made this should not go on the web site at this stage.

AS thinks it should be made clear that this is the way forward, coach trips, as much as we enjoy them are likely to be a thing of the past and this is trying a new way forward, reverting back to the past ways are not likely to happen.

MP asked what would happen to our finances as we raise money for the exchange visits, MM said the money raised was to further the interest of twinning in whatever directions it may take us. SW said we can decide on the funds when we know where the future will take us.

6. Membership matters, to include Web-site update Monthly reports have been sent out. PS queried that the web site domain charge is due as it's usually every two years, PP to check with Mark Reynolds.

7. Programme of events:

Proposed talk at Heritage Centre DH still trying to get a speaker, has contacted Bristol University and Hannover Twinning or he could give a talk himself. It was agreed that DH should go ahead and arrange whatever he thought was best.

Saturday 22nd April St. Georges Day at Yate Heritage Centre – Yate Twinning will have a stall DH to get the banner made which was agreed on at a previous meeting and AS agreed his gazebo can be borrowed. It was decided the stall would be to promote twinning only and perhaps give out some Schnapps. LW, AH, PS, AS, RB RaB, and KW to take times at the stall.

Boat Trip to be on The Matthew decision made for a Fish and Chip evening on Friday 9th June PS to make the booking, email to be sent to all twinners advising PS needs to know numbers by the end of March.

BBQ - AH and DH haven't been able to arrange anything as yet but will have something for the committee by the May meeting.

8. Next Committee meeting: Friday 21st April 7.30p.m.

Any other Business

PP advised Sodbury Twinning are holding a Taste of France evening meal on Saturday 8th April.

Visitors from France for the Sodbury Twinning will be arriving on Friday 2nd June until Monday 5th June, more hosts are required for the 15+ people that will be arriving.

The meeting finished at 9.00p.m.