

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

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday 21st April 2017 at 19:30**

Present:

Officers and Committee:

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, Mike and Marg Robbins, Linda Ellis.

**1. Apologies** Lesley Killock

**2. Minutes of the March meeting:** Approved as true record

**3. The Future of Exchange Trips:**

MM asked for people's thoughts on the future and the proposal of trip to Crete next year.

The following discussion went....

One email already received although difficulties understood, a holiday together would not be the same as visiting each other's towns and thinks visits to Bad Salzdetfurth should continue even if we stay in hotels.

As it is very clear Germans not coming here with no exchange visit this year, therefore we must decide how we deal with this.

Twinning is not ours to call a halt to as it's through the Town Council the partnership has been made.

MM read out his thoughts which told how at the recent official meeting the Germans say it's time for a change to ensure the twinning continues.

MM recommended we proceed with the proposed trip for next year and asked if members agreed.

Suggested if we meet friends in Crete it can then be followed up by seeing each other in our home environment.

Holiday in Crete does not fit with our constitution... advised whilst we may not be exchanging, the school has just had their visit to Bad Salzdetfurth so the exchange is still happening there.

Suggested the holiday in Crete may result in new friendships being made and encourage new visitors to Yate.

Think we should give it a go.

One year is okay but this should not form a pattern for every year.

Bristol/Hannover is also experiencing similar problems and people are choosing to stay in hotels with only a small number staying with hosts.  
Next trip should be organised by us and not Germany always take the lead and this should be discussed at next meeting.  
Crete was decided on because it wouldn't be too expensive a holiday to encourage more to join in.

It is known there is some upset as this is in term time which does not encourage young people but having a holiday in school holidays would increase the price and deter people from going.

Will links and visits with Poland and Spain continue?.. as far as we know.

Disappointment expressed that we were encouraged to visit Germany last year whilst Polish visitors were there, but we weren't given the opportunity to mix with them.

Will we be given the opportunity to mix with the Germans whilst in Crete?.. this is up to us to make it happen.

This trip could work in another way and could encourage people to join us.

The official visit next year is the time to discuss future exchanges.

Being on holiday with the Germans we should be able to spend more time with them compared to when we visit their homes and then go out on day trips on our own.

A proposal was put to the meeting that in the interest of maintaining the link with Bad Salzdetfurth we join the party going to Crete in 2018. This proposal was voted 13 to 2 against.

Being a majority vote MM said we now have more decisions to make how long do we want to go for? 7 days were decided, with joint coach trips.

PP asked if somebody would like to write something for the web site MM advised for PP to promote the trip on the web site. MM proposed a £200 deposit was requested and asked how many people were interested and 14 hands were raised. LE asked if trip was only for members MM said anyone welcome. Discussion was held as to when numbers should be in by; PS suggested that places be reserved using twinning money to initially book 10 places and then deposits paid to the twinning account.

PP Told of a boat trip with Chipping Sodbury/Cesson on 4<sup>th</sup> June with Penny Lane Boats boat paid for by Sodbury Twinning but buffet £17.50 per head 3 hour cruise.

MP said very good job thank you Martin.

**4. Next Committee meeting:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 7.30p.m.

## **5. Any other Business**

DH has trying to arrange a lecture with Ann Kennard of Bristol/ Hannover group, date and venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8.45