

Minutes of the Witney & District Twinning Association Committee AGM Meeting on Monday 31st July 2017

Present: Mike Breakell, Margit Kail, Mark Pengelly, Jenny Smith, John Thornton, plus members Jeanette Baker, Hilary Warner, June Tayler and Jane Cambell

Apologies of Committee Members: Francine Barnby, Andy Wolf, Jim King, Tony Perkins, Eleonore Bruyere

Welcome: The Chairman Mike Breakell opened the meeting by welcoming all those attending.

Chairman's Report: Mike Breakell gave his report on the past year, including the resignation of Francine Barnby from the Twinning Committee and explained his decision to step down as Chairman. The report is attached.

Treasury Report: Due to Tony Perkins absence John Thornton presented the Treasury Report prepared in advance by Tony Perkins. The association has had an opening balance of £4646.17 with an income of £732 and expenses of £696.89 leaving a final balance of £4628.90.

French Rep's Report: Mike Breakell read out Eleonore's report in her absence which covered the events of the past year and summarised the possible events of the upcoming year.. Her report is attached.

German Rep's Report: Margit Kail provided a report on the relationship and joint experience that the Witney Twinning Association has enjoyed with Unterhaching including the visit in May that Mike Breakell and John Thornton did to attend the 25th anniversary of the Twinning Association of Unterhaching.

Newsletter: The committee discussed the frequency of the newsletter and how it is best presented. The committee agreed to discuss this further in the next committee meeting to dig deeper into what level of reporting would be useful. Jeanette Baker suggested to not send out the newsletter as an attachment but rather as a link to the website.

School Exchanges: The committee discuss briefly why the school exchanges had been struggling in the UK but agreed to continue to work with schools to grow this aspect of the association's work.

Funding: Jeanette Baker explained that the committee could apply for more funding providing the association could prove the funds would be used to benefit the community. Applications could be made as a whole for the year, or for individual larger projects.

Election of Officers: With Mike Breakell standing down as Chairman an election took place to replace him. As there was only one candidate, John Thornton, who had put himself forward, Chris Banford was happy to propose John Thornton as the next Chairman with Jenny Smith seconding the motion. There were no further changes to the officers with the main roles remaining the same.

Vice Chairman - Eleonore Bruyere

Treasurer - Tony Perkins

Committee Secretary - John Thornton

Press Secretary - Jenny Smith

German Representative - Margit Kail

French Representative - Eleonore Bruyere

Website design and IT - Mark Pengelly

The meeting closed at 20:45 hours

Minutes prepared and written by John Thornton, 2nd August 2017