

COMBERTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of first Annual General Meeting at CVC on Thursday 10th May 2001

Present

Malcolm Wright (Chairman)	Paula Hollick
Ivan Brown (Secretary)	Brian McCabe
Peter Mitton (Treasurer)	Sally Maynard
Janet McCabe (Committee Member)	Barbara Mitton
Ann Webb (Committee Member)	Mandy Ray
Angela Ayling	Lillian Swift
Jean Bacon	Jane Wakelin
Dick Bason	Andy Weise
Sheila Bason	Lorraine Weise
Derek Catlin	Chris Westgarth
Mary Catlin	Bob Whelan
Ruth Furnival	Rosemary Whelan
Mavis Jackson	Mike Winney
Margaret Hardy	
Andrew Hollick	

Apologies for absence

Max Bacon	Pauline Grounds
Brenda Brown	Paul Hardy (Committee Member)
Harry Browne	Ken Jackson
Mark Collins	Tony Tate
Melanie Collins	Isobelle Tate
Marion Fraser (Committee Member)	

Min 1: Chairman's Report

Malcolm Wright summarised the formation of the Association and the events which have taken place so far. It was agreed that this account of CTA's early days should be kept updated and circulated to all new Members.

Min 2: Secretary's Report

Ivan Brown reported that the Membership now stood at 82, comprising 63 adults and 19 children, with 37 households involved.

Min 3: Treasurer's Report

An audited balance sheet showing income and expenditure from September 1999 to the present date was distributed at the meeting. Cash in hand was £803.15, with the £23 per person balance of coach fares still to come and the balance of coach hire and other expenses for the forthcoming visit to Le Vaudreuil still to be paid. There is a need to raise funds before the visit by Le Vaudruil in September. David Gordon was thanked for auditing the accounts.

Min 4: Acceptance of Draft Constitution

A draft Constitution had been agreed by the Committee and distributed to all Members before the meeting. It was accepted, with the proviso that Item 7 limiting Committee Members' terms of service to 2 consecutive periods of 4 years should be relaxed, as it is often difficult to find enough people with spare time to serve on committees.

Min 5: Suggestions for future activities

Harry Browne suggested the need for French conversation classes in order to improve communication with our partners in Le Vaudreuil. Margaret Hardy has details of a group who are planning to meet fortnightly in Members' homes, with the emphasis on understanding and speaking French.

Suggestions for fun and fund-raising activities included: a Boules night at the Three Horseshoes, a BBQ in July (although finding a date which did not clash with other local clubs' BBQs might be difficult) and a quiz night in November.

Min 6: Recruitment of new Members

There is a need to recruit new Members, especially those with young families, in order to improve the matching of hosts and visitors during exchange visits. Possible ways of doing this were suggested; eg via Meridian Primary School, our Twinning Association website, and Barton school. The Committee will explore these possibilities.

Min 8: Any other business

The next visit by Valderoliens will be from 21st to 23rd September 2001. They have always visited during that month and we have always visited them in May. It was suggested that we might change this arrangement, so that we each experience the other's countryside at different times of year. Given the time and effort required to arrange visits of 50+ people, it may be preferable in future to agree annual visits alternatively by and to Le Vaudreuil, with other visits being arranged privately by Members to suit their own convenience. This suggestion will be discussed in Committee and with the French.

Min 9: Date of next meeting

It was agreed that May was a convenient month for future AGMs and the date will be confirmed in good time for the 2002 meeting.