

## COMBERTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting at CVC on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2002

### Present

Malcolm Wright (Chairman)	Paula Hollick
Ivan Brown (Secretary)	Richard Horne
Marion Fraser (Committee Member)	Ken Jackson
Paul Hardy (Committee Member)	Mavis Jackson
Janet McCabe (Committee Member)	Dorothy Morison
Jean Bacon	Lillian Swift
Brenda Brown	Tony Tate
Derek Catlin	Jane Wakelin
Mary Catlin	Andy Weise
Betty Cole	Lorraine Weise
Pauline Grounds	Laura Weise
Margaret Hardy	Mike Winney
Gillian Hefferland	Nerys Wright

### Apologies for Absence

Max Bacon	David Gresham
Harry Browne	Catherine Gresham
Mark Collins	Simon Hothersall
Mel Collins	Cathy Hothersall
Charlotte Collins	Laurence Hothersall
George Collins	Grace Hothersall
Brian Cook	Andrew Hollick
Margaret Cook	Brian McCabe
John Gresham	Peter Mitton (Treasurer)
Gillian Gresham	Barbara Mitton
Alice Gresham	Chris Westgarth

### Min 1: Minutes of last AGM on 10<sup>th</sup> May '01

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

### Min 2: Matters arising from previous Minutes

Min 4: It had been agreed to amend Item 7 of the Constitution so as not to limit the number of times members could stand for re-election to the Committee. It was agreed to further amend this item so that the second sentence should read: "Elected Committee Members shall normally serve for 4 years, but may then stand for re-election".

Min 8: It had been agreed that the Committee should consider changing the timing of our visits to Le Vaudreuil and their visits to Comberton. Visiting in September and being visited in May were suggested, rather than vice versa as in the past. Visiting and being visited in alternate years was also suggested, in order to reduce the workload on Committee Members and host families. These suggestions have been discussed with the French and there was mutual agreement that visiting only in alternate years was likely to break the momentum of developing friendships between Combertonians and Valderoliens. There was some reluctance to reverse the order of our May/September visits, because starting this arrangement would mean one of us hosting twice in succession or one of us missing a visit. The meeting agreed that Comberton should take the initiative and propose hosting both in September '02 and Spring '03, then visiting in September '03. After some discussion it was further agreed to suggest that the French visit in 2003 should be earlier than May; either 28-30 March or 4-6 April and that our visit to Le Vaudreuil next year should aim for the weekend of 26-28 September. These proposals will be discussed with the French during our visit on 24-26 May.

### Min 3: Chairman's Report

Malcolm Wright reviewed the Association's activities over the past year. He reported that we had a good visit to Le Vaudreuil in May '01, with a full coach. Boules had been played at the Three Horseshoes in July. The visit by Le Vaudreuil in September was enjoyable and the line dancing evening on Saturday was fun, as was the Chariots of Fire race on Sunday morning, in which the joint Comberton/Le Vaudreuil team again took part. The Quiz in November attracted a large crowd and

made a good profit. The 40s-style dance in February was also a well-attended and enjoyable event and showed a substantial profit. Forty-one members attended the second Annual Dinner in March. It was disappointing that only 38 members had booked on the forthcoming visit to Le Vaudreuil, although it was possible that a few members of the Tennis Club would be joining us. Malcolm thanked all the Committee members for their hard work during the past year, especially Peter Mitton and Marion Fraser for organising the quiz and the dance, Ivan Brown for his secretarial efforts and Paul Hardy for his work on the newsletter and other documents. Lillian Swift was thanked for arranging the visit by Le Vaudreuil's Rowing Club to St Ives.

#### Min 4: Secretary's Report

Ivan Brown reported that 7 adults and 4 children did not renew their membership for 2002, but 2 adults and 2 children joined the Association, so our membership now stands at 60 adults and 20 children, from 34 households in Comberton. Everyone had been given an updated Membership list and was asked to correct any errors or omissions and to e-mail Ivan the dates of birth of any children on the list where this information was not shown.

#### Min 5: Treasurer's Report

The Account of Income and Expenditure for the year 1/1/01 to 31/12/01 had been distributed by the Treasurer. In his absence, he had provided Ivan Brown with information on which to report the current financial position of the Association up to the present date. Our balance stands at £2628.48, with the balance of 38 coach fares at £1710 to come shortly and the balance of the coach hire charge at £1777.50 to pay in June, plus the driver's expenses. When these are cleared we should have a balance of around £2500 to support expenses expected for the visit by Le Vaudreuil in September. There were no questions on the Treasurer's report, but a question was raised on the expense for Combertonians of hosting visits by French families with several children. The point was made that the French are subsidised by the State, whereas we have to pay for all the entertainment when Valderoliens visit Comberton. It was agreed that the Committee should discuss possible ways of dealing with this problem.

#### Min 6: Recruitment of new Members

The Chairman has been putting a lot of effort into recruiting new Members, especially families with young children. He reported that a package of information on the Association was being compiled, to be given to anyone who enquired about joining the Association. It was agreed that the Committee should discuss the possibility of extending the catchment area for Association Membership.

#### Min 7: Entertainment programme for Le Vaudreuil's visit in September

It was agreed to change the usual format of entertainment for this weekend. Individual hosts will be responsible for entertaining their visitors all day on Saturday. There will be a get-together on Sunday at Meridian School. It was agreed that hosts should bring a picnic for themselves and their visitors and Malcolm Wright will arrange entertainment by a jazz group, similar to that which entertained the public gathering at Meridian last June.

#### Min 8: Suggestions for future activities

It was agreed to repeat the successful programme of social events organised last year, including boules, a dance and a quiz.

#### Min 9: Any other business

1: Tony Tate reported finding it unacceptable that helpers with the line dancing were "pushing children off the dance floor". Marion Fraser explained that they were concerned that sudden changes of direction by the dancers might injure young children, but some helpers may have been overly brusque.  
2: Brenda Brown reported that Nicole Cisse was looking for pen pals for two boys in Le Vaudreuil. Lillian Swift agreed to pursue this.  
3: Paul Hardy wondered whether the Membership fee of £5 pa for adults was now too low. In view of our reasonably strong current financial position and the need to attract more Members, especially families with young children, it was agreed not to increase the fee for the present.

#### Min 10: Date of next meeting

It was agreed to hold the third AGM in May 2003, at a date to be decided next year.