

COMBERTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at 7.30 in the Village Hall

Committee members present:

Paul Hardy (Chairman)	Rachel Cook
Amanda Bacon (Treasurer)	Peter Mitton
Glynis Ellis (Secretary)	Ann Webb
Brenda Brown	Stephanie Young

Members present:

Jean Bacon	David Hughes
Liz Bland	Jane Hughes
Godfrey Curtis	Barbara Mitton
Pauline Curtis	Caroline Mulderij
Margaret Hardy	Steve Webb
Ann Housden	Chris Westgarth
Mark Housden	Also present: Johnny Curtis

1 Apologies for Absence

John Bland, David Ellis, Pauline & Stephen Grounds, Sandra Hyde, Simon Jones, Brian & Janet McCabe, Louise Povey, Jane Reed.

2 Minutes of the A.G.M held on the 25th June 2016

The minutes were accepted as a true record and approved by all members present, proposed by Margaret Hardy, seconded by Rachel Cook.

3 Matters arising

Item 4: The grant referred to was a one-off grant for set up. Grants have not recently been applied for although it may be possible to apply for community grants.

4 Chairman's report

A copy of this is attached. Discussion ensued – suggestions and actions arising from the various items are noted on a separate attached list. Ann Webb was thanked for her excellent job matching visitors to hosts. Brian McCabe and Paul were thanked for all their work on the cancelled visit, a difficult task in their first year of taking on their roles. Paul was thanked for all he had done during his first year as Chairman.

5. Secretary's report

As agreed at the last AGM members were given the option of paying into the bank account online. This proved popular for paying subs, the dinner and the visit, although it made recording payments more complicated. This should be easier in the future.

Membership is as follows:

21 households renewed, 1 still to pay (37 adults including 1 life member, 4 children).

5 households are not renewing (8 adults, 4 children), one may return if visits are feasible.

I am waiting on renewal confirmation for 3 households.

6 Treasurer's report

The treasurer handed out copies of the accounts (attached), including a comparison of years 2013-16 January to December. 2017 shows the account to date. The balance is £2,164.24 not

including a £20 mislaid cheque and £20 to come. The 2016 visitors' dinner apparent loss is due to payment for the visitors coming from funds, as is the usual practice. The accounts for 2016 and 2017 have been audited by Lesly Wells, Chartered Accountant. The accounts were adopted, proposed by Rachel Cook, seconded by Godfrey Curtis and passed by all members present.

7. Election of Committee Members

The current committee members (see above) were all re-elected, proposed by Pauline Curtis, seconded by Steve Webb, and agreed by all members present. There were no other nominations.

8. Future Twinning Visits (two or one a year, time of year, viability, etc)

A show of hands (13 for, 7 against) suggested a preference to keep to two visits a year, depending on numbers and funds. Our French counterparts would prefer this, and it would keep up the momentum. School holidays are not necessarily better for families as they may have other holiday commitments, and travel costs rise. We should revert to our later departure time as although it might be possible to leave earlier by children leaving after afternoon registration, this would not be viable for adults involved in education. Perhaps we should focus on adults as recent attempts to attract families have not been successful due partly to the downgrading of French in CVC and feeder schools. See attached list for further suggestions.

The meeting agreed to accept the invitation to visit Le Vaudreuil 8th to 10th June 2018 to coincide with the millennium celebration of their church, a weekend of medieval festivities. This was proposed by Paul Hardy, seconded by Mark Housden

9. Suggestion for any future fund raising/social events

Godfrey and Pauline will host the BBQ at Manor Farm on Thursday July 6th. We should have boules games. Peter is organising the quiz which has been booked for 18th November. The meeting agreed to return to the Park Restaurant for the 2018 dinner.

Ann Webb will have flyers to distribute at Pudding in the Park. We should have a presence at the Church Fete, possibly with boules. It was suggested we have a publicity secretary.

9. Date of next AGM: 13th June 2018 to be confirmed by Village Hall Lettings Secretary (Stephanie). It was agreed to have this after the June visit to review it.

10. Any Other Business

None

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.