

# COMBERTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 7.30 in the Village Hall

### Committee members present:

Paul Hardy (Chairman)  
Amanda Bacon (Treasurer)  
Glynis Ellis (Secretary)  
Brenda Brown

Peter Mitton  
Ann Webb  
Stephanie Young

### Members present:

Jean Bacon  
Liz Bland  
Margaret Hardy  
Barbara Mitton

Steve Webb  
Malcolm Wright  
Nerys Wright

### 1. Apologies for Absence

John Bland, Claire Cart, Rachel Cooke, Godfrey & Pauline Curtis, David Ellis, David & Jane Hughes, Sandra Hyde, Ailish Meadows, Caroline Mulderij, Janet McCabe, Chris Westgarth, Mags & Rob Wilkinson, Suki Williams.

### 2. Minutes of the A.G.M held on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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

### 3. Matters arising unless in the agenda

There were none.

### 4. Chairman's report

A copy of this is attached. It was agreed that the visit to Le Vaudreuil was excellent. Our being in costume impressed the French and was hopefully a good advertisement for the Jumelage whose membership is also down in numbers at 41. Brian was thanked for organising the coach and overcoming difficulties when our usual firm could not offer a Eurotunnel crossing. The visit from Le Vaudreuil was successful and Ann was thanked for organising the venue in Meridian School. At the moment it is difficult to arrange more than a visit every other year due to dwindling membership and financial constraints, but we should try to change this next year as it is the twentieth anniversary. We will try applying for grants, including one to put on something special when our visitors come here.

### 5. Secretary's report

We have 44 members including one life member plus 8 children. One new family joined, and one joined and one plus two children joined for the visit. Five members did not renew this year. We had sad news earlier this year. John Gresham, one of our early members, died suddenly in February. The family had contributed much to twinning, and Gillian was moved by the many cards and messages from people in Comberton including those from our members past and present.

### 6. Treasurer's report

Copies of the accounts were circulated (attached), including a comparison of years 2013-17 January to December. 2018 shows the account to date. The balance is £1,488.63, and it was

noted we are in a similar place financially to previous years. The accounts for 2018 have been audited by Lesly Wells, Chartered Accountant and the treasurer will send the chairman a signed copy. The accounts were adopted, subject to the auditor's signature, proposed by Peter Mitton, seconded by Brian McCabe and passed by all members present.

The change of cheque signatories is ongoing. It was agreed to set up a sub committee for grant applications. Brian McCabe and Malcolm Wright agreed to be on this and we need one other.

#### 7. Election of Committee Members

Stephanie Young is standing down but the rest of the current committee members (see above) and Rachel Cooke in her absence were all re-elected, proposed by Steve Webb, seconded by Barbara Mitton, and agreed by all members present. There were no other nominations and the committee needs to co-opt at least one other member.

#### 8. Adoption of the revised Constitution.

The 2018 Constitution, previously circulated, was adopted with one change to Item 17: 'one quarter' was changed to 'one sixth'. It was proposed by Margaret Hardy, seconded by Brenda Brown and all agreed. Paul was congratulated for his work in producing this excellent updated document.

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

The date for the visit from Le Vaudreuil will probably be April 5-7 tbc. Suggestions to celebrate the twentieth anniversary included a meal at a college. This is being researched but more ideas will be welcome. It was agreed that yearly visits would be preferable and one suggestion on how to overcome the difficulties of filling a coach would be to travel independently on a given date, car sharing where possible, in the intervening year.

#### 10. Suggestion for any future fund raising/social events

Godfrey and Pauline Curtis will host the BBQ at Manor Farm on Bastille Day, Saturday July 14<sup>th</sup>. Peter has organised the quiz for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November. It should be publicised more widely in other villages to increase numbers. Brenda has offered to host a bring & share party in mid-January tbc. The meeting agreed to a change of venue for the Annual Dinner in 2019. Brenda has contacted some venues and the committee will research this further. A suggestion for fundraising was to organise a beer/wine/cider festival including French drinks.

#### 11. Date of next AGM: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 to be confirmed by Village Hall Lettings Secretary (Stephanie).

#### 12. Any Other Business

Godfrey Curtis has offered to compile an album of photos of the Medieval weekend. Glynis was thanked for her work throughout the year.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.