

COMBERTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 22nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Friday 10th June at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Present *committee members

Paul Hardy* (Chairman), Glynis Ellis* (Secretary), Margaret Hardy, Caroline Mulderij*, Ann Webb*, Steve Webb, Janet McCabe, Brian McCabe*, Pauline Curtis, Godfrey Curtis, Liz Bland, Janice Sutton, Neil Banks, Ailish Meadows*, Brenda Brown*, Paula Brown arrived Item 4, Barney McCullagh* arrived Item 5.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Amanda Bacon*(Treasurer), Jean Bacon, John Bland, Rachel Cook, Johnny Curtis, Linda & Philip Dennis, David Ellis, Pauline & Stephen Grounds, David & Jane Hughes, Sandra Hyde, Peter & Barbara Mitton, Colin & Dorothy Morison (even if there had been zoom link), Richard Mulderij, Marie Simpson, Chris Westgarth, Stephanie Young, Malcolm & Nerys Wright, Jan Durkin
- 2. Minutes** of the 20th AGM (error – 21st AGM) held on the 22nd September 2021 – previously circulated by email accepted as a true record, proposed by Godfrey Curtis, seconded by Margaret Hardy.
- 3. Matters arising** from previous Minutes unless on the agenda:
Item 5: the constitution has not yet been revised
- 4. Chairman's report** (previously circulated and see attached). See separate sheet for actions.
Insurance - Urgent – we are not covered for travel abroad
May visit: all agreed it was a success. Brenda, a founder member, thought the BBQ had the sense of excitement of the early days. The French song and polo shirts showed our visitors commitment to twinning. Jane and David Hughes wanted their thanks noted in their absence for the work of the committee over the past year, in particular the Twinning weekend and future visit planning. Thanks should go to them for the drop-in coffee session and to Barney for entertaining us at the BBQ
Jubilee stall: footfall was disappointing partly due to weather and our isolated position but there were a number of discussions which might lead to some future interest as people took flyers. There were no takers for the workshop (with activities made by Caroline for an event postponed due to covid).
- 5. Secretary's report:** We currently have 45 members (including 1 life member) plus 5 children comprising 27 households. 4 members did not renew but we have two new members. There were two committee meetings where we agreed to re-introduce membership fees in January as proposed by the 2021 AGM; made arrangements for the January zoom party, the weekend visit from Le Vaudreuil and proposals for a return visit and a presence at Comberton Jubilee celebrations. Secretary apologised for the recent flurry of emails but there has been a lot going on in a short space of time.
- 6. Treasurer's report.** The accounts 2013 – 2022 previously circulated, were summarised by Paul in the Treasurer's absence. The balance is £2,650.04 despite the visit from the French as we did not pay for venue, outside catering or entertainment for the communal event. Paul and Glynis received a signed copy by email. The accounts were accepted by all subject to the audited accounts being dated and a note to say who the auditor is, proposed by Brenda Brown, seconded by Ann Webb. Paul suggested that although we need to keep a reserve of at least £1500, up to £1000 of the balance could be deployed to subsidise the next trip, if committee approve.
- 7. Election of Committee members:** The current members were re-elected en bloc, proposed by Liz Bland, seconded by Steve Webb and agreed nem con. There were no other nominations. Paul would like to stand down as Chairman after six years but has agreed to stay for another year. He was congratulated for taking the association through two difficult years and for his work on policies and updating the constitution.
- 8. Future plans**
 - a. **Visit to Le Vaudreuil.** The quote from Richmond's is currently £2,600 for the coach plus £2,000 for Eurotunnel compared with £2,900 in total in 2019. This would mean a cost of approx. £130 per adult for the

weekend plus child costs unless we could subsidise children completely. Brian will investigate further with Richmonds, including the cost of going by ferry. Is this good value for a weekend in France or should we postpone until May when costs *might* come down although a suitable date e.g. May bank holiday might be more expensive. A show of hands showed no strong preference.

- b. **Social Events.** Peter Mitton has booked the quiz for November 12th in the Village Hall. Paula Brown will do a French cookery workshop for members as part of an evening in the Village Hall which could also be French language learning and fun activities for children e.g. treasure hunt. This would help us satisfy the conditions of the grant. Date set for Saturday 2nd July tbc.
- c. **Membership** – The Chairman had raised the general decline in numbers and difficulty in recruiting younger members. However, the membership was not dropping sharply at present, so continue using word of mouth to recruit new families. We welcomed Janice and Neil as most recent recruits.
- d. **Long-term future** of twinning – the feeling of the meeting was that we should definitely continue for now.

9. Date of next meeting: Friday 2nd June 2023 tbc

10. Any other business:

Ailish requested that we should buy a fabric/plastic banner with logo and name to use on stalls.

Meeting closed at 9.01, and was followed by wine and nibbles.

ACTIONS

Item	Action	Who: committee unless specified
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise constitution to include internet meetings and emails 	Paul Hardy & Ctee
4 Insurance (Urgent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find a policy that will cover the association for public liability on visits to France (we are covered in this country) If anyone knows anything about this because of charities or groups they belong to or know a professional who can help or advise please contact Paul asap. • Find out if we are covered by the French • Look into guides/scouts' insurers provision • Participants must have own travel insurance. Note on visit notice to confirm 	All members to email to Paul Paul to Xavier Liz Bland Glynis Ellis
Publicity/grant condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a presence (including workshop) at a school fête/community event in other villages to fulfil conditions for the Community Fund grant– contact Glynis with ideas. • Add info from Contact with the celebrations programme and map to show participation in community event to information for community fund • Organise a community or members language workshop 	All members Brian McCabe
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dated signed copy of accounts to Glynis with note to say who the auditor is. 	Amanda
8 visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further investigate cost of coach to Le Vaudreuil in September • Canvass members re cost of coach and viability of May 2023 dates. • Contact Xavier re May visit (bank holiday) possibility • Offer free child places if needed 	Brian Glynis Paul
Social events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise cooking workshop for 2 July • Organise activities/games for 2 July • Book hall for 2 July 	Paula Brown & Ctee Ailish & Ctee Glynis
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research banners to buy 	Ailish, Glynis