



Newtown Twinning Association

July 21st '17 6.00pm

Held at Swallow Barn

Present: Andrew and Alwena, Alex and John, Fred, Paul, Liz and Jon

Apologies: Rina, Steve and Catharyn

Welcome: Jon took the chair in Catharyn's absence and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Matters Arising: There were two lots of minutes to sign from the 25th of May and the Review.

Comments on the trip: Alex pointed out that all vagaries about selling to the public had not been discussed [re: minutes] and more lessons needed to be learned. Any future selling plans would have to be approached with more insight.

Andrew suggested that there was too much merchandise on sale, but, as there was little sold and very few members of the public coming through the doors, it was difficult to make a judgment. Craft items may be better being sold before Christmas and Paul pointed out that Welsh products would have more interest shown in them. Alex felt that choosing between craft products and making judgments over whose work should be taken was very difficult, in terms of personal taste and cost. Maybe food items would sell better.

Chrono in October: It would be too expensive for us to take part in the event, but we could enquire about a market day sales or a street fair in LH, which would bring us much closer to the public.

John pointed out that to go to the Chrono with a commercial event in mind would necessitate taking the costs of travel into consideration, which would be expensive.

Picnic in the Park: An appeal will go out for gazebos and tables and we should get to the park around 11 o'clock to set up. The forecast so far looks dry.

We need some light entertainment, maybe French Cricket or boules. There will also be a caption competition [at fifty pence a go] based on a photo taken by Liz of Fred on the trip.

September Food Festival. The French party would like to come earlier on the Thursday and have a day out on the Friday. Jean-Luc will be driving ten committee members in a minibus, leaving 4 spaces for anyone from our committee to join them.

Arriving on Thursday, may be a problem for those wishing to go on the Food Safari, as there are only 18 tickets available. By inviting the French to take part, there would be few places left for anyone else. Andrew and Alwena may decide not to take part.

There will be two agents from Wolfberger on the trip, in their own minibus, selling Alsace wine. Everyone will leave on Tuesday, the longer stay making it more pleasant for everybody. We shall buy their tickets for the choir concert, but the meal at the Elephant and Castle could be paid for through the council funds, especially if we invite the mayor and present the gift to her from the council in Les Herbiers.

Programme: Thursday evening to be spent with hosts.

Friday will be out and about before the concert in the evening.

Saturday at the Food Festival, with a buffet at Manora, which perhaps could be funded through the Town Council [we need to spend the fund before April.]

Sunday at the Food Festival, followed by a meal at the Elephant and Castle.

Monday will be out and about.

Andrew requested Liz to write to JoJo and Barrie to thank them for their support with the 'Café' at the food festival.

We shall be able to sell wine by the glass, because Barrie has a licence.

The students, who accompanied the trip to LH will display their produce at the fair. [Andrew said that we had received a nice letter of thanks from Sarah, their tutor.]

There will be French tourist information available on our stand and Newtown specific craft products on sale.

Treasurer's Report: We have approximately £2,600 in our funds, which is very healthy.

Out of this we need to buy a banner for the fair and have one made, in French, translated from the large twinning banner that we already have. This could cost about £210 altogether.

We also need to order some more tee-shirts to be made.

AOB: Music Festival. This will take place on the last weekend of April next year and we must start to plan as soon as the food festival is over. Two full coaches of children, tutors, and people from the twinning association will be arriving, meaning that a lot of organising will need to be done.

A suitable venue for the concert will have to be found: maybe the Baptist Chapel or the High School.

Resignation: Sadly, Alex and John have decided to leave the committee, but have promised to carry on supporting future events. We all voiced our appreciation of their contribution in meetings thus far.

Next meeting: At Manora, 19th of August at 11 o'clock.

Signed:

Date: