



Newtown Twinning Association

August 26th 11 am

Held at Manora

Present: Catharyn, Liz, Jon, Steve, Fred, Andrew and Alwena

Apologies: Paul

Welcome: Catharyn

Minutes: Passed and signed

Agenda:

1. **Hosting:** Andrew said the hosting for our visitors was all sorted out.

2. **Itinerary** for the weekend:

Thursday. Everyone will meet in the Market Hall at 5 o'clock, where Sue Newham will make an address. New councillors will attend. Refreshments of nibbles, wine and juice, to be supplied by various members of the committee.

Friday. The French visitors will use their minibuses to take a visit into the Welsh countryside northwest of Newtown. As they are to be present at the concert in the evening, it is to be impressed upon them to judge their journey, in order to get back in time. Later, in the Black Boy, it will be left to hosts to decide whether or not to eat out or return home to eat.

Saturday. All day at the festival, then a meal supplied by Duo's at Manora in the evening. It was decided to order enough food for 20 people, [knowing how generous Duo's portions can be] at £12.50 a head for a sit-down meal. We shall drink the wine that we have already bought. We shall need to raise an order from Ed at the TC for the meal.

Sunday. 35 people have signed up for the meal, which is good.

3. **Insurance:** It appears that all exhibitors will need personal liability insurance. Andrew has been looking at specific event insurance, so if we are not affiliated with the town council for the festival, we can get our own over the phone in time for Saturday. Steve pointed out that we would need assurance from Ed in writing, if the TC was forthcoming, otherwise we need to buy the cheapest option available.

The French have their own insurance and there will be a temporary alcohol licence for the whole site.

4. **French Village Marquee:** The tent will be 6 by 9 metres, which is a generous size. Tables and chairs will be on loan from the Elephant and Castle and we shall supply cloths, flowers and

2 fridges. We shall also display a new flag, paid for out of our own funds. With lots of music on the site, there will be no point in having any of our own.

5. **Treasurer's report:** The Town Council will pay for guests and hosts on Friday night at the concert, being 21 tickets at £2.50 a head.

We shall need to pay for the banner and flag, Duo's and the meal for the French party on Sunday evening, being 10 x £15. Other costs will be £10 for the hire of the Market Hall on Thursday and any potential costs for insurance.

6. **AOB:** We need to create an archive section for the website.

7. **Next Meeting:** September 14th at Swallow Barn at 6.00pm.

Appendix: Informal Minutes from meeting held in the tent after the food festival.

Everyone was very enthusiastic about the **success of the event**, with new ideas for next year, including new products and food to be shared at the tables. There was also a promise to look at the possibility of bringing musicians or dancers to perform on the stage.

In terms of the **music festival**, the last weekend of April in 2018 was agreed upon and the Newtown committee decided that a sub-committee needed to be created as soon as possible, in order to start the organisation of the event. An alert for interested parties would be added to the end of an article written about the festival and information would be put up on Face Book. Many people had arrived at the tent during the weekend to register their interest. The French committee promised new data as soon as it was available.

Cyclists from the Hafren cycling club had got in touch with Andrew to say that three members would be taking part in this year's Chrono event in October and wanted to know if we would be able to add their group of travellers to our own visit. Andrew pointed out that this would not be possible, as they had left their decision making too late and that we had therefore not arranged anything on our own behalf.

We discussed the possibility of **two trips** next year to France, one in **October**, for the Chrono weekend, which could attract quite a few people from Newtown, as the French would no longer have a presence at the trade fair and it would be a more sociable visit. The Jum'Regal, on the other hand, would be a big event in **November**, involving the German and Spanish twin towns of Les Herbiers. There was potential for us to take Welsh produce over, with the notion of selling for a Christmas market, which would involve consumables as well as carefully selected crafts.

One or two producers had already shown an interest in going and we shall encourage others to do the same.

