



Minutes for Meeting
December 14th 6.30pm 2017
Elephant and Castle

Present: Liz, Andrew, Alwena, Fred, Cheryl, Kevin, Kate, Steve, Paul

Apologies: Catharyn, Richard, Jon

Welcome: Andrew took the chair and welcomed everybody to the meeting.

Matters arising: Film Night

Liz requested a brief discussion about the film night on the 19th of January, which would go ahead now that technical problems had more or less been solved in relation to the equipment at the Christian Centre.

We agreed to there being just one glass of wine available per customer, with cheese and bread or biscuits.

We could give out flyers on the night for the twinning association and advertise the meal on the 24th of February.

The twinning website will be up and running at the beginning of January, which will have all the details about the film night for people to see.

Jum'Regal: We are still chasing the French for a date.

Invoices: An invoice for payment of the website, that was handed in to the Town Council, has been rejected on the grounds that proper procedures had not been followed for the payment. Until this matter is resolved, we have paid Darren out of our own funds. Steve pointed out that we need to have clarification from the Town Council on what kind of thing we can expect reimbursement for under existing rules from the council fund. We must ask Richard to do this, as our TC representative.

In order for the Town Council to know how we are proceeding as an association, we should send minutes from each meeting to every councillor.

We could also have two representatives going to a council meeting to explain for what reasons we would need to access the council fund for twinning. A document, presented by Richard, could show why these funds should support what we are doing, considering the benefits to the town that are already manifest.

Fred suggested that the best time to do this would be early summer, or just after the summer break. He would help create the document in collaboration with Richard and Ed, with whom he would agree a format and process.

Paul asked if we had declared our fundraising to the Town Council, because it was important to show that we are working to support ourselves and not rely solely on council funds.

Erasmus: Having not heard from Richard about the safeguarding of children during twinning events and activities, Cheryl said she would write again, explaining what she can offer, with her professional background in child security.

The French have six students, who have been attached to the various businesses in Newtown taking part in the scheme. [Fuze, the Deli, Café Glanhafren, Cultivate and No 1] Sadly, one of the students has had an accident and will be unable to participate.

The French would prefer the students to be accommodated singly, for the purposes of improving their English, but, as Cheryl pointed out, having been speaking English all day in their places of employ, being able to chat in French to another student would be a welcome relief. There is no reason why we shouldn't change this arrangement.

Transport: Getting the students here needs careful consideration, but train journeys coming through Paris could be a good option, going via London through Birmingham to Newtown.

Flights are more difficult on account of seasonal closures of routes.

No doubt the French will look at all options and make their own decisions, though Paul pointed out that their travel on this side of the Channel will be cheaper if we buy the tickets here and send them to Les Herbiers.

Webpage: We all need to give our opinion on the front page.

Music: The High School has been booked through the chair of governors, for Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. We shall need to know the costs.

Next Meeting: January 18th at the Elephant and Castle at 6.30 pm.

Signed:

Dated: