

**Newtown Twinning Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday 17th January 2019. 6.30 - 9pm**

Present:

Kate Raynor - Chair
Andrew Gentle - Secretary
Frederic Mathieu - Treasurer
Cheryl Wilson - Minute Taker
Liz Bushell
Jon Bushell
Paul Baron
Alwena Gentle
Steve Page
Kevin Wilson

Apologies:

Richard Edwards
Catharyn Edwards

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and apologies & Happy New Year to all!

2. Minutes of Jum Régéal review meeting (14-12-18)

Content agreed.

Cheques have all been issued and final totals leave a small loss of **around** £80. It was agreed however, that this will be offset over time as the committee hold outstanding stock, purchased outright by the committee and which suppliers have sanctioned us to sell.

Sub Committee for developing policy & procedures for future selling events both in France and in UK agreed.

Action:

- ***Food & Crafts Festivals Policy and Procedures Sub Committee*** membership: Cheryl (Chair) Kevin (minute taker) Andrew & Kate
- Date of first meeting to take place at Mount Smithy on Wednesday 13th February @ 7pm. Cheryl will produce and send to sub committee members an agenda based on the minutes from the 14-12-18.

3. Request for accommodation for engineering student

This student presently studying in Nont found the link between Les Herbiers and Newtown via Newtown Twinning Facebook page. The student approached us directly asking for any assistance in helping to find accommodation from February to August.

Action:

- As the student does not want to be hosted but wishes to live independently in rented accommodation we agreed Kate will liaise with the Newtown employer (who is providing accommodation in the first instance) to see if she can offer any assistance in locating rented accommodation or whether indeed this would best be carried out once the student arrives in the UK.

4. Town Council Funding Balance

Applications for outstanding amount of £514.58 needs to be submitted by 5th April if funding is not to be lost.

Options discussed included Annual dinner, food festival as 20th anniversary for twinning so more expenses will be incurred this year.

Action:

- Fred to discuss with Town Clerk re our commitments to secure funding from 2018-19 funding stream.
- Andrew to contact venues for early invoices.

5. Erasmus students visit:

We are expecting ten students and have ten businesses for work placements secured:

No 1 High Street, Deli, Bloomers, GlenHafren Cafe, Cultivate, MidWales Music Centre, Duo's, Fuse, Bank Tea Rooms, Club Sport.

Placement will be between 13-30th March. Work experience will be first week and three days of second week.

Retired English teacher (Nellie) is happy to give students preliminary English lessons prior to their visit to the UK

Hosts so far include Andrew & Alwena, Cheryl & Kevin, Kate, Paul and Steve

Action:

- Alwena to approach Eirlys & John, Sarah, Tricia. Kate to approach Liz & Bob, Liz & Howard
- Sub Committee for planning to be set up.
- **Erasmus Sub Committee** membership: Kate (Chair) Paul (minute taker), Alwena, Cheryl & Steve
- Date of first meeting to take place at Hendidley Way on Wednesday 30th January @ 7pm. Kate will produce and send Agenda to sub committee members.
- SC to produce questionnaire for students to complete & return to Kate (chair) prior to them leaving Les Herbiers.
- SC to produce written agreement for businesses and students to be given prior to the placements commencing and to arrange and invite businesses and hosts to meet with SC prior to 13th March in order to discuss the written agreement.

6. French Film Evening:

Two titles agreed so Liz and John have agreed film choices for two future events.

Action:

- Liz and Jon take responsibility for the French Film evenings and so this Sub Committee comprises Liz (chair) and Jon.
- To book venue for end of February/beginning of March and advise at update as and when necessary at future meetings.

7. Annual Dinner:

Discussion took place and agreement was made that the style of the annual dinner could change this year and may include less formal arrangements. Various options were discussed and actions agreed.

Action:

- First option: Alwena to check with college what dinner service they could offer and costings
- second option if above doesn't work out for buffet from Duo with Twinning wine on sale at venue without a bar
- Andrew to explore speakers/entertainment
- Date will be first week of April or early May

8. Newtown Walking Festival 1st/2nd June 2019

Walks are published on Newtown Walking website, leaflets are available from Ton Hall and the Twinning website has the links to Newtown Walking.

Action:

- Andrew and Alwena are both leading walks. Alwena will be leading her walk in Welsh.
- Fred to contact chair of Twinning in Les Herbiers to ascertain anticipated numbers visiting Newtown for the Walking Festival

9. Newtown Food Festival:

Action:

- Newtown Food Festival to be managed by the *Food & Crafts Festivals Policy and Procedures Sub Committee*. See Agenda item 2 above.

10. 38th Chrono (Les Herbiers) October 2019

Hafren cycling club eager to increase the numbers of club members attending/racing/riding.

Action:

- Andrew & Kevin to meet with Steve in Hafren cyclists to discuss options.
- Kevin and Andrew to explore what financial support the Town Council can offer such ventures for young people in the area.
- Cheryl to raise with Breeze (national group promoting woman in cycling) when she attends their drop in in Oswestry next week

11. Music Festival in Les Herbiers April 2020

Les Herbiers have booked a concert venue for Friday 17th April, so we need to plan for musicians from Newtown to be able to rehearse Thursday 16th and Friday 17th. Travelling arrangements therefore need to plan for departing Newtown Tuesday 14th April and returning on Saturday if no other concerts arranged.

Agreed this requires a sub committee to coordinate and develop the arrangements

Action:

- ***Music Exchange Sub Committee*** members: Jon (chair) Liz (minute taker) Fred, Kevin and to include Geoff and Michelle
- As Andrew has already been liaising with Andrew Geoff and Michelle from local music groups, Andrew is happy to follow this through and secure their involvement on the sub committee.

12. 2019 Summer Events for Twinning

1. Newtown Carnival due to take place on June 8th.
2. Twinning picnic was successful last year so agreed same arrangements for this year to be explored, with different activities.
3. Rugby match in Cardiff 2020 when France are playing. We agreed this event can fall under the Twinning remit as the match will take place in the capital of Wales and will involve the French national team.

Action:

- Andrew to check with venue used last year if we can book 20th or 21st July and whether the owners of the village hall would include for a small fee a lesson in Archery (they are qualified teachers in this sport)
- Andrew is happy to explore rail and hire of mini bus options and provide this information to Les Herbiers.
- Les Herbiers visitors to arrange direct the purchasing of their own rugby tickets and once this is secured we can then then look at hosting arrangements and hire of mini buses from Newtown to Cardiff for match day.

13. Membership

The committee has been discussing for some time the two funding streams through individual and corporate memberships. It was agreed that this must take priority especially as we have so many

businesses feeling positive about our efforts at the Jum Regal that we need to develop these relationships to include a more formal status as this will be included in the policy and procedures for future selling events.

Action:

- Next full committee meeting to be dedicated to this agenda item in order to develop membership protocols and related presentation events. See below for date of next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date for Next meeting:

Wednesday 6th February 2019

6.30PM

Andrew to book the Eli.

Standing agenda items for future meetings to include:

- *Erasmus SC* - **detailed** update - Kate (chair)
- *Food & Crafts SC* - **brief** update - Cheryl (chair)
- *Music Exchange SC* - **brief** update - Jon (chair)
- *French Film Evenings SC* - **brief** update - Liz (chair)