

**Newtown Twinning Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday 14th December 6pm - 7.30pm**

Present:

Kevin Wilson - Chair
Kate Rayner
Andrew Gentle - Secretary
Frederic Mathieu - Treasurer
Cheryl Wilson - Minute Taker
Liz Bushell
Jon Bushell
Alwena Gentle
Paul Harry Barron

Apologies:

Steve Page
Richard Edwards
Catharyn Edwards

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and apologies
2. 'Jum'Régál' 2018 Review
 - A. Finance review and payments to producers
 - B. Producers
 - C. Logistics
 - D. Students
 - E. Media coverage

A. Finance review and payments to producers

Fred and Andrew met this week to agree the spreadsheet members had compiled for stock they were each responsible for.

Fred confirmed the accounts were in good order and the extremely small discrepancies in taking, profits against remaining stock is within acceptable levels.

Paul confirmed he had additional takings not yet on spreadsheet endgame the monies to Andrew to add.

Fred confirmed the accounts do not have losses as have definitely broken even.

Thanks to Andrew for setting up the spreadsheet and managing all the various streams of information coming in.

Action: *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures* to be developed by sub group to be set up in forthcoming months so as to address all aspects of planning and preparation for future market events. Specifically for this agenda item to address pricing strategy & organising stall floats.

B. Producers

Discussion around what sold well and what produce struggled. Agreed the amount taken over was again too ambitious which causes all sorts of logistical difficulties, not least ambivalence from producers due to receiving back unsold products.

Action: *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures* to be developed by sub group to be set up in forthcoming months so as to address all aspects of planning and preparation for future market events. Specifically for this agenda item to address which product types to focus on taking and to avoid product duplication from more than one supplier.

C. Logistics

Discussion took place about the layout of the hall in Les Herbiers, the advertising on the day including external doors being kept closed and other doors and windows closed and without posters. Due to the bad weather, these points were particularly important as there was nothing to highlight to shoppers that market stalls were open in the dry and warmth! Difficulties of this time of year was discussed as well as the limitations of a twinning only event rather than joining a bigger and better advertised event, such as the Chrono in October.

Action: *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures* to be developed by sub group to be set up in forthcoming months so as to address all aspects of planning and preparation for future market events. Specifically for this agenda item to address which event to join, such as the annual Chrono and if isolated to Twinning only, whether we can commit to future events.

D. Students

Andrew confirmed the feedback from the college about the students review of their personal experience was very positive. The college want to repeat this joint venture in future years and anticipate arranging this under the umbrella of a new tourism course due to begin next year.

Committee members who attended the trip discussed their perceptions of how well the students experience was managed.

Observations were shared by twinning members attending the Jum Regal regarding our perceptions of the student experience and some suggestions made in order to improve the overall experience, such as integrating them better at the dinner dance, how free time is managed and who supervises them etc. It was agreed that the college supervisors are 100% responsible for decision making on behalf of the student group and that they will take the lead in ensuring the students are supervised and supported within the boundaries of the colleges own policy and procedures.

Action: *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures* to be developed by sub group to be set up in forthcoming months so as to address all aspects of planning and preparation for future market events. Specifically for this agenda item to request a copy of the colleges own policy and procedures for students residential trips abroad and to explicitly link this to the *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures* in order to ensure a harmony between the two sets and thus avoiding any unnecessary blurring of boundaries.

E. Media coverage

Liz dealing with Shropshire Star and County Times and Paul via Facebook and Instagram. Meeting acknowledged difficult time of year to promote the events good work as Christmas takes priority locally.

Action: *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures* to be developed by sub group to be set up in forthcoming months so as to address all aspects of planning and preparation for future market events. Specifically for this agenda item to ensure media coverage is included in the *Newtown Twinning Selling Local Products in France Policy and Procedures*.

Date for Next meeting:

THURSDAY 17TH January 2019

6.30PM Kevin and Cheryl