



Newtown Twinning Committee Annual General Meeting Minutes Elephant & Castle – 25 July 2019, 7.00 p.m.

Present: Kate Rayner; Catharyn Edwards, Richard Edwards; Alwena Gentle; Andrew Gentle;; Fred Mathieu; Liz Bushell; Jon Bushell.

Apologies: Cheryl Wilson; Kevin Wilson; Paul Harry Barron; Steve Page.

1. Welcome by Chair:

Kate Rayner, Chair, opened the meeting with a brief resume of the year to date, which has been particularly busy with representation at the Chrono, participation (with College Students) in the Jum'Regal celebrations and the hosting of the Erasmus Students on work placement in Newtown. She also outlined forthcoming events: the visit of 30 plus visitors from Les Herbiers planned for the Food and Community Festival in Newtown this September, as well as the Annual Dinner on 19/10/19, 3 planned French Film nights over the course of the winter and the Music Visit to Les Herbiers in April 2020. She also noted the on going discussions following the approach from a community in Sicily to twin with Newtown too.

2. Financial Report

Fred Mathieu provided the meeting with a brief overview of the financial year, noting that in April 2018 the accounts showed £2735 in the bank, and the year ended in April 2019 with £2740 in the bank. A breakdown of the budget of grant provided by the town council was also provided, the majority of which was to cover events provided to the guests visiting the Food Festival in September last year. Smaller grant payments also assisted in the maintenance of the website and to help with costs of the two film nights run in Newtown.

3. Election of Officers

Kate noted that all current officers had stated they were happy to remain in post if required. Fred noted that while he will carry on as treasurer he will not be able to attend every meeting due to work commitments. Catharyn Edwards to stand down as minute taker due to the same issue, but to remain on the committee. Cheryl Wilson had already spoken to Kate and offered to take on the role of minute taker in Catharyn's place.

4. AOB

Kate gave thanks to the committee and hosts of visitors and students over the past year and to Kevin for standing in for her during her absences. A vot of thanks was also passed on to Kate for her work as Chair this year.

Richard Edwards advised that the Town Council would like to record a short piece on Twinning and the work of the committee as part of its celebration of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the charter with Les Herbiers. The finished pice will be broadcast during the next Facebook Live from the council and possibly embedded into the Council's website. Kate and Andrew both volunteered to represent the committee and be interviewed for this.

5. Date for next Committee Meeting:

Next Committee meeting date is 01/08/19 at 7pm in The Elephant and Castle, Newtown.