

## Newtown Twinning Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday 9th May 2019 6.30 - 8.30pm

### Present:

Kate Raynor - Chair  
Andrew Gentle - Secretary  
Cheryl Wilson - Minute Taker  
Liz Bushell  
Jon Bushell  
Paul Baron  
Alwena Gentle  
Kevin Wilson  
Richard Edwards

### Apologies:

Frederic Mathieu  
Catharyn Edwards  
Steve Page

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

### **2. Minutes of last meeting**

#### Corrections:

- Apologies: Steve Page should have been under apologies only
- Item 4: size of venue for the Saturday evening should read size of venue for the Friday evening.
- Item 5b: Kate asked Liz to send Andrew asap minutes for 2020 Music EPG, for loading on website, should have read, Kate asked that Liz sent Andrew minutes of meetings asap after each meeting to Andrew as Secretary. Jon confirmed there are no minutes for the first meeting as this was solely introductory.

### **3. Matters arising not on agenda:**

- Annual Dinner: Date is May postponed. Agreed 19th October next first choice with 18th October as back up date.

**ACTION:** Andrew to check with venue and speaker and book. Also to create two set menu's, one for vegetarian and one for meat eaters. Venue does not permit mix and match choices across menus. Then to contact people originally booked to secure their places first and then advertise across membership.

- Sales & Marketing Policy: As no comments had come through by deadline, this policy ratified.

#### **ACTION:**

- Andrew to load onto website.
- Policy & Procedure SC to resume after Food Festival
- IT Student: no progress update
- Au Pair: Liz has several businesses in town who would be happy to assist with work placement for four weeks and knows of to families who may require an au-pair over the summer

#### **ACTION:**

- Kate to gather more information about young woman from school to assist in securing placement(s) and feed back to Alwena.
- Alwena to keep in touch with businesses and secure as necessary if an au-pair role doesn't occur.
- Alwena to check with link regarding possible families wishing to have an au pair.
- If au pair position does arise then hosting arrangements are automatically sorted. If not and business placements are arranged, then hosting would be required. Agreed such hosting would be spread across committee: Liz and Jon one week, Alwena and Andrew one week, possibly Kate one week.
- Andrew to check with Fred if he can host.
- PicRight: Trade Market Later has kindly reviewed our paperwork free of charge and has advised that no further action should be taken on our part and to ignore any future communications.

**ACTION:** NFA

4. Erasmus EPG Update: British website confirms Erasmus placements will be honoured regardless of Brexit outcomes. Kevin highlighted Erasmus operates across Europe and not just in EU. Kate confirmed French school have received list of countries Erasmus happy to include and Britain is not on the List!

Agreed there may be a gap for a year or two in the Erasmus programme for Newtown, but its a wait and see situation.

**ACTION:** Kate to contact school to inform them of British website commitments to Erasmus.

#### 5a. Music EPG Update:

- Arrival dates are confirmed. Return date has not yet been secured. Les Herbiers would like to have a celebratory mid morning event on the Saturday but this would then involve leaving at 2pm and taking the over night ferry. Arrival into Newtown with this option would be afternoon of Sunday and because there are teachers involved, the EPG can not yet confirm if this extension is acceptable. There would also be an increase in travel costs as a cabin would be required for a night crossing.
- Jon has made reservation with Owens coaches as this does not have to be confirmed until end of 2019, so time to secure set times.
- 12 musicians have confirmed so far. Michelle and Sue are confident that it is early days at this point in time.
- 5th July event at Montgomery school: EPG would like Twinning presence at this event to advertise the 2020 music event.
- Geoff on board and looking at arranging small group to play.
- Michelle and Sue feel any number of Silver Band members can be incorporated into event.
- Performing arts students as yet an unknown quantity to Twinning so best to include them in a local event to allow us time to understand how they can compliment any future music events.
- Clarification was sought regarding hosting of children: Kate confirmed all children will be hosted by families and hopefully we will be able where possible to match up hosts from the Newtown music event. The school in Les Herbiers was booked only to accommodate older high school children, but this is unlikely.

#### **ACTION:**

- Liz to write to college to say we will invite the performing arts group to appear in a local Twinning Event and that we would hope to be able to invite them to any future events in Les Herbiers after the 2020 event, but that the 2020 event will not be able to accommodate their group.
- Liz to write to MT to enquire if choir in Les Herbiers can attend.

#### 5b. Music Fringe EPG Update:

Geoff and Phonic will be playing

Montgomery musicians unable to play

Sue asking Greg if he can play with his 4-5 piece band

Monty and Eli both provisionally booked.

Recent discussions with Michelle suggested that Geoff and Phonic deliver a Twynpath. All very keen as this has a big following. Rina has confirmed this fits with the fringe events.

Discussion re which venue would suit the needs of this event.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Liz to cancel Eli booking as the Monty is more suitable for a Twynpath
- Jon as chair of fringe EPG to arrange for Duo's to be booked in asap for buffet
- EPG to manage numbers for buffet at future meetings
- Next EPG date is 28th June.

#### 6. Food Festival EPG Update & ACTIONS:

- Richard attending last meeting and updated this group on the councils plans for celebrating 20years twinning with Les Herbiers:
  - The council will pay for a plaque for a bench or something similar. inscriptions will be in Welsh, English and French. However, the council would not be able to pay any costs towards the bench we were suggesting but would be happy to take the money out of the grant they award the twinning Association. Payment for this could be spread over two years of grant.

- Richard is happy to ensure a duplicate plaque is made if the committee wish to have this mounted on wood and to use as their gift for Les Herbiers Twinning Association to take back with them.
- The cost of the bench was unclear but during the meeting Richard was able to confirm the cost being £450 plus plaque (which the council are donating) No siting fees as this would be placed outside town hall so concrete base already in place.
- The council will invite the Mayor of Les Herbiers plus one and both twinning committee members to afternoon tea on the Saturday afternoon of the food festival, in the demonstration tent (booking confirmed with Rina, chair of food festival committee).
- The council will exchange mayor to mayor gifts at this event
- The council will arrange and host a welcome ceremony on the Thursday the French visitors arrive to mark 20 years. All previous Twinning gifts will be displayed in the council chambers.
- EPG agreed:
  - Further discussion re bench to be undertaken. Other suggestions were tree planting, but planters are very expensive.
  - Saturday evening: Booked at The Monty with Duos (knife and fork) meal. French music band to be invited to play for us at this event.
  - Sunday evening: Committee agreed Bank Tea rooms to be booked by Andrew for members of both Welsh and French committee. Andrew will confirm the booking at agreed cost per head
  - The Twinning committee will each pay for their own meal, the committee will pay for our guests meals but all alcohol will be paid for by individuals.

#### 7. 20th Anniversary celebrations & ACTIONS:

- All as above.

#### 8. Carnival and Picnic update & ACTIONS:

##### Carnival:

- pitch paid for (£17.50)
- Small plates with wine.
- Arrangements to be made in meeting between Cheryl, Andrew and Kevin on Tuesday 4th June

##### Picnic:

- 21st July Sunday afternoon
- Andrew to create advert for picnic

#### 9. Budget for Council:

Richard confirmed there is no rush for this to be completed as the council have pressing review tasks underway and officer roles and responsibilities for example have all to be reviewed before any business can be confirmed.

Richard will keep Fred appraised of timings.

#### AOB:

1. AGM booked for Thursday 25th July at 7pm at the Eli. Social meal for committee members to possibly take place afterwards. to be on agenda for next meeting.
2. Liz suggested a quarterly magazine with sponsorship to pay for the cost. 20 adverts would cover the cost of 500 copies. To be put on agenda for next meeting.

#### Date of next meeting

Thursday 13th June @ 6.30pm Eli  
Kevin to chair as Kate is away