

# Newtown Twinning Association

## Minutes for Music Trip Meeting

Held at the Elephant and Castle January 14th 6.45 pm

Members of the twinning committee met together before the main meeting, in order to film a short new year greeting to our counterparts in Les Herbiers.

Present: Andrew, Alwena, Liz, Jon, Cheryl, Kevin, Paul, Steve, Michelle and Sue.  
Apologies from Kate who couldn't stay.

1 a. Updates: The council now has the invoice from Mike Owen. We have two coaches booked.

b. Geoff has been unable to encourage anyone from Ffonc to go to France and has decided not to go himself, but Michelle will try and persuade him to join the main body of musicians.

c. The 20th of June is our cut off date for those taking part on the trip, but we shall need to be flexible with Newton, because it could take him longer to put together his student travellers. 10 spaces have been made available to him.

2 The final payment will need to be made by the 28th of February.

3 MYM : Michelle reported that most of the details and deposits had been made, though some individuals were still waiting for their passports.

As far as the children were concerned, their own friendships are more important at this moment, than any choices to be made regarding who should host them.

Robin has sent confirmation that 4 adults and 5 student members of the Silver Band will take part, though some of this number cross over with Michelle's. All details are with Michelle.

4 Choir: Steve confirmed that 8 choir members would be going, plus two children and one devotee. He will ask Ruth on Friday if she still wishes to take part.

The choir would like to do a pop-up event at sometime during the visit and Steve will liaise with Marie-Thé to discuss the possibilities.

Mike has assured us that the three point harness on the coaches is quite safe for babies onwards and all child seats can be secured.

5 Sue has received a schedule from Bruno, detailing a picture of the events in Les Herbiers.

There will be a reception at the Tour des Arts on Wednesday, followed by an evening with the host families.

On Thursday morning there will be rehearsals, followed by lunch and a local visit, with a further rehearsal between 6 and 8 o'clock.

Friday morning will be free time, followed by rehearsals between 3.30 and 6pm, with the concert at 7 o'clock. Time allotted to the concert will be two hours, with a meal and music at 9 o'clock, allowing 30 minutes for speeches.

There was much discussion over these details and it was hoped that time could be arranged so that our youngsters could have some rehearsal time without the French. There was need to be reassured that refreshments would be available on the evening of the concert between 6 and 7 o'clock.

Our own itinerary for the trip needs to be tightened up, especially for the return journey. It was agreed that we could leave comfortably at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning, stop somewhere like a large service area for lunch and then see if there was time available to do a supermarket stop as well as visiting Falaise.

As far as the non musicians were concerned, Thursday would be taken up with a trip to Nantes, with a conducted tour by Jean-Luc. On Friday, bearing in mind our need to be ready for the concert, maybe some local walking or sight seeing could be arranged.

6 Media Strategy: Liz will write a further article for the County Times, though they had printed Andrew's newsletter unbidden.

7 AOB : No extra issues were raised.

8 Next Meeting: Thursday 5th March at 6.45 pm at the Elephant and Castle.