

**Newtown Twinning Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 25th February 2020**

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Apologies received:</u>
Kate Rayner- Chair	Steve Page
Andrew Gentle - Secretary	Fred Mathieu
Cheryl Wilson - Minute Taker	
Liz Bushell	
Jon Bushell	
Alwena Gentle	
Kevin Wilson	
Paul Harry	
Richard Edwards	

1. Welcome and apologies: see above

2. Minutes of last meeting. Amendment for last film of the season date was incorrect. The correct date is Friday 28th February. The March date referred to was in fact relating to a film Bishops Castle asked us to advertise.

Matters arising not on the agenda:

- Morrisons action: task to be completed.
- Summer Picnic: Penstrowed now booked for 26/7/20
- Outdoor festival for 2020: Les Herbiers definitely not attending. But have said they hope to visit in 2021
- Chrono: Hafren cyclists aware our role will continue to be available should anyone require hosting. Additional piece of good news is one young Hafren Cyclist has been taken up by a professional team so very promising.
- AGM: room booking confirmed.
- Student: Kate due to meet the work placement student when we visit Les Herbiers in April. Hosting arrangements agreed with amendments due to Cheryl and Kevin being away:
- 04-07-20 - 12-07-20 with Andrew & Alwena
- 12-07-20 - 18-07-20 with Cheryl & Kevin
- 18-07-20 - 25-07-20 with Kate
- 25-07-20 01-08-20 with Jon & Liz
- Finger post: no response to letter to council as yet.
- Climate Change Group: Liz has made contact with the school link and is waiting to hear back.
- Committee gifts: Already agreed between both twinning committees that gifts not being exchanged at music festival. However, our long term preferences to be raised with Les Herbiers after the music festival has taken place. Suggestions so far include:
 - Gifts to be of an environmentally friendly nature, ie a tree being planted etc.
 - Only the visiting committee comes with gifts, rather than a two way exchange.
- Presentation to Council: Suggestion made that in order to demonstrate the community based work of the Twinning relationship we ask a group go young people involved in the music festival to create a forum to represent all young people involved and to deliver key messages with the

help of videos and photographs (slideshow) taken during the music festival w/end. members of the committee will of course be present to facilitate and support such a presentation.

Rugby Review:

There were a couple of Lost & Found items, which Andrew is sorting. There may be a postage cost which we can't absorb but Andrew will liaise with Les Herbiers about this.

Thanks to Andrew Gentle for making this trip the success that it was. Andrew's input was over and above what is generally expected of any twinning committee member and both Les Herbiers and Newtown committees showed their gratitude by buying a personal gift for Andrew to enjoy at home.

The French visitors had a gruelling travelling schedule which was made all worthwhile by the fact that France won the match (but only just...and let's not mention the controversial rev decision!!!).

The coach journey down to Cardiff was enjoyable and although it took slightly longer than anticipated, it did not stop the small groups Andrew had created, enjoying the pre-rugby atmosphere and fast food available!

Although Andrew, Alwena, Kevin and Cheryl had undertaken a reccie exercise, the stop over en route home in Brecon was not successful as the pub who should have been able to accommodate us all, was unusually busy. It did not however affect the buoyant mood overall.

Music Visit update for this General Committee:

A meeting took place with the Les Herbiers Committee while they were over for the rugby. Issues raised & discussed included:

- All accommodation and concert issues to be managed between the music departments in France and Newtown and not the two Twinning groups.
Action: Andrew is liaising with Michelle about this and is an agenda item at next music meeting.
- The two Twinning groups to manage all hosting needs for non musician visitors.
- Les Herbiers Committee managing the leisure activities for the non musician visitors.
Action: Kate to let president of Les Herbiers Twinning know that we want this to be as relaxed as possible and no paying entry to museums.
- Les Herbiers Committee managing the leisure activities for the musicians.
- Les Herbiers Committee managing the snack food for children prior to the concert.
- Michelle has two requests which needs passing to Les Herbiers:
 1. All children are hosted by non-smokers
 2. packed lunches are provided for return journey
- Michelle also asked if coach has room for number of instruments being taken over.
- Two visitors have withdrawn from the trip. Andrew shared a series of emails to explain this outcome.
- Two further possible withdrawals may occur.
- Decision: deposits are non-refundable.
- NPTC accommodation is reserved and will incur a cost if places are not taken up.
- Action: Kevin to confirm with Newton that deadline is Friday 28th at 4pm. if places not taken up then reservations will be cancelled.
- Action: Music Committee to ensure above is fully addressed.

Film Season 28th February:

we have enough red wine

Jon to buy white wine. Steve is doing nibbles as agreed at last meeting.

Leaflet out for Bishops Castle 13-03-20.

Newtown Carnival 13th June (date still to be confirmed).

Action: Steve not at meeting so will feed back any updates to next full committee meeting.

AOB

Open Newtown AGM:

Action: Anyone can attend part one of meeting. Andrew to attend part two on our behalf.

Town Council Rep: Richard announced he has decided not to stand as twinning rep when this comes up in May. He will hand over to new rep.

Action: in light of this news presentation to the council about Twinning to be left until after elections and to involve new rep.

Town Council inbox: may have some payments waiting.

Action: Richard to check in-box and let Andrew know.

Twinning annual grant: Richard has suggested to TC that this is paid in same way as CAB receives their grant. He advised an annual report for our budget would be appropriate.

Action: Kate to write to Town Council Clerk.

Wednesday 29th April @ 6.30pm. Room has been booked at The Elephant & Castle.

Minutes produced by Cheryl Wilson.