

WORTHAM AND BURGATE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF AGM on 27th January 2015
HELD at WORTHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Sue and Rob Bawden, Nick Beasley, Jacky and Paul Bradley, Edward Coales, Mike and Joy Cornish, Alan Cowham, Helen Dickson, Chris and Jean Grocott, Pam Gurhy, Judi and Emily Heywood, Barry and Jeanette Higgs, Katherine Hughes, Isobel Hunter, Dave Long, Alan and Melva Matthews, Lyn Pelham Burn, Judith Phillip, Andy and Linda Simpson. Caroline Smith, Katherine and Terry Smith, Hans and Nettie Verkroost

1. Apologies Frances Beasley, Lynn Clarke, Sue Coales, Simon and Jane Durant, Gerry Gurhy, Janice and Peter Lloyd, Ian and Amanda Luff, Chrissie Odams.

2. Minutes of Last AGM

These had been sent out in advance of the meeting to all members.
The minutes were agreed as read.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. Chair's Report

Nick read the Chairman's report a copy of which would be placed on our website.

In his report he looked back at 2014, our plans for 2015 as well as our plans for the future. In addition he encouraged members to visit Hédé not just at the time of our visit but also other times. We received a Christmas card from the Mayor of Hédé Bazouges which showed posters for a number of events that took place there. We would try to get a calendar of events from them so that members could perhaps consider visiting for specific things. It would be possible to be hosted outside of the formal visits.

Nick commented that we are still trying hard to encourage youngsters to visit as well as other groups. We had been talking to members of Gislingham Silver Band who are looking to twin with a choir. Since Hédé has a choir we are hoping to foster a link and two members of the Silver Band are joining us and are hoping to visit Hédé in April.

4. Treasurer's Report

These had been circulated to all members at the meeting and were presented by Treasurer Dave, and audited by Colin Lond. The end of year balance stood at £2273.13. Overall we had spent £325.01 more than we had received which was very good considering that it was a year we were hosting the French. As is seen on the balance sheet the ceilidh was heavily subsidised since all the children and the French visitors were at no charge.

In addition we subsidised two members to go to the Christmas Market at Hédé to sell goods an activity that made us a profit of £330.

Our income in 2014 was through various activities and an increase in membership numbers. An additional outgoing was public liability insurance, now a requirement for hiring the Village Hall.

5. Election of Committee for 2015/16

Only one member of the committee, Pam Garside, was standing down this year and we had received three nominations for additional members - Joy Cornish and Pam and Gerry Gurhy.

The Committee were elected as follows:-

Chair Nick Beasley
Treasurer Dave Long
Secretary Linda Simpson

Committee Lynn Clarke
 Joy Cornish
 Chris Grocott
 Gerry Gurhy
 Pam Gurhy
 Catherine Hughes
 Christina Odams
 Andy Simpson
 Judith Phillip

Joy Cornish Gerry and Pam Gurhy and Judith Phillip were proposed by Linda Simpson and seconded by Katherine Smith, the remainder of the committee and officers were proposed by Judith Phillip and seconded by Katherine Smith.

6. Membership Fees

It was proposed by the Committee that membership fees will remain the same as last year.

These are:

Family Membership (children under 16 years free)	£20
Individual Membership	£10
Single Parent Membership (children under 16 years free)	£10

In addition it was proposed that there should be a student membership fee of £5 per head for students over 16 who were not already family members. This was accepted.

Nick also proposed that in the light of Gislingham Silver Band wishing to join us we should perhaps think about a group membership and he invited suggestions for the level at which this should be. Terry Smith suggested £1 per head and Andy Simpson suggested £50 for the group . There are about 25 people in the band and it should be an easily divisible number.

After discussion it was proposed and accepted by those present that we should ask for £50 as a group membership fee but give the committee leeway to adjust that if it were felt by the Band to be unacceptable.

Those present agreed that there should be no change to the standard membership fees this year

7. Visit to Hédé 9th – 12th April 2015

Linda outlined the draft programme we have received from Hédé and said she would circulate it to all members. She asked if everyone would let her know if they intend to go and also how they intend to travel. It is hoped that a coach or minibus will be organised to take people to Stansted.

8. Fundraising and Social Ideas

Linda outlined the programme for the year ahead, which had also been included in the newsletter. She commented that precise details would be notified in due course but by setting the programme for a full year it would give people an opportunity to put the dates in their diaries.

The next event would be a film night on Friday 6th March. It is likely the venue will change since there may otherwise be a problem with film copyright. She will keep members informed on this.

9. Any Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm

The meeting was followed by a French themed quiz. The winning team 'Je ne sais quoi' – Mike and Joy Cornish, Pam Gurhy and Andy Simpson - won a box of chocolates