

WORTHAM AND BURGATE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 18TH JANUARY 2018 AT 7.30 PM

AT WORTHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Linda Simpson, Judith Phillip, Susan Wright, Nick Beasley, Andy Simpson, Joy and Mike Cornish, Pam and Gerry Gurhy, Chris and Jean Grocott, Christine Adams, Nikki Miller, Lynn Pelham Burn, Paddy Richards, Netty and Hans Verkroost, Ginny White, Helen Tucker, Jacky Bradley, Frances Beasley, Mike Bowen, Isobel Hunter, Jane Durant, Simon Durant, Kellie Hilling, Hannah Arnott, Sue Beckett Doyle, Alan Cowham, Fay and John Dunkley, David and Andrea Key

1. Apologies for absence:

Received from Lynn Clark, Dave Long, Lesley Bowen, Sally Cowham, Michael Richards, Rob and Sue Bawden.

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

There was one small amendment in that it was Paddy Richards who seconded the proposal for Dave Long to continue his role until the end of the year.

3. Treasurer's report

Dave Long was not present at the meeting but the accounts had been audited and were handed out at the meeting. Andy Simpson read the Treasurer's report.

Funds stood at £4,141,93, a swelling of funds by £1,473.21, leaving a very healthy balance for the next French visit. Dave Long had given a breakdown of the year's fundraising activities.

Subscriptions were £750. The Treasurer recommended no increase to subscriptions because of the healthy situation.

Two exceptional items were the gift to Hede for the silver anniversary of the Twinning in the form of a rose bush and a gift to Nick Beasley as a thank you for his hard work.

Dave Long thanked Colin Lond for auditing the accounts. He also stated that he was handing over his role to Sue Wright who had agreed to become the new Treasurer.

4. Chairman's report

Linda read her report giving a review of the year's activities which included a visit to Hédé by 19 people. Some of the Badbergen contingent were present. Linda felt that the English/German relationship should continue to be on an informal basis.

Linda commented on the visit by the basketball team, the Christmas market and the other social events during the year. She asked the members to come up with ideas for future social events during 2018. Linda also mentioned the ongoing French classes and groups which continued to meet with Lynn Clark's support.

By way of hellos and goodbyes, Linda thanked Dave Long for carrying out the Treasurer's role for much longer than originally anticipated and thanked Susan Wright for agreeing to take over.

Linda said that we had lost Bernadette Sarlat, a founder member of the French side who died this year.

Linda welcomed new members, Ruth Slack, the Beckett Doyles and the Dunkleys.

5. Election of committee

The Committee was elected as a whole. Andy Simpson proposed and Isabel Hunter seconded.

Susan Wright was elected as Treasurer. Linda Simpson proposed and Paddy Richards seconded.

Judith Phillip was re-elected as Secretary. Proposed by Simon Durant and seconded by Lyn Pelham Burn.

6. Memberships and renewals

It was stated that there would be no increase in subscriptions because of the healthy balance of funds. Renewals were now due and members were requested to make payment.

7. Visit to Wortham and Burgate by the French. 12-16 July

Linda mentioned that the sub-committee for planning the visit two years ago worked well and she hoped that we could do the same again this year. Members were asked to say if they would be willing to help and a form was being circulated to mark their interest. Members were also asked to indicate if they were able to host. Linda suggested that the children might be willing to camp. Linda mentioned that last time some people were willing to host but did not get the chance. She hoped that this year they would have the chance to host.

8. Social and fund raising programme for 2018

Linda asked for suggestions on fund raising ideas for the year.

9. Any other business

Jacky Bradley queried the £10 fee for single parents. Linda said that this was because the children would be free anyway. It was £20 for family membership with the children being effectively free.

The meeting ended with a very enjoyable wine and cheese quiz organised by Linda and Andy Simpson and Pam and Gerry Gurhy.