MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON ON 16TH AUGUST, 2017

PRESENT -

His Worship the Mayor – Councillor D. Whalley (in the Chair)

Mr B. Harrison Dr B. Evans Mrs J. David Councillor G. Roach

(Apologies for absence were received from Mr D. Carter, Mr I. Graham, Mr P. Clegg, Mrs C. Clegg, Cllr (Mrs) K. Shore and Mr M. Timberlake.)

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1. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the ordinary Twinning meeting held on 14th June 2017 be approved as a correct record.

2. TWINNING UPDATE

An update on twinning events had been circulated with the agenda. Unfortunately, since the last meeting, the Summer School in France had been cancelled due to a lack of participants from other countries. A reimbursement would be given for the flights that had been paid for. It had also been decided that the Youth Event in 2017 in Chorzow would not go ahead. It was now likely to take place next year in Dakhla, Morocco.

The Mayor reported back on his weekend in Creil, which he had found to be enjoyable and informative. He described the moving tree-planting ceremony in memory of John David, Jean Anciant and Hans Herfal, when he had read out Judith David's speech on her behalf. The overall message he had picked up from people he talked to, particularly young people, was that they were sad the UK was leaving the EU. He had done his best to reassure them that this would not affect Pendle's twinning relationships.

Colne Swimming Club had found 8 swimmers aged 12-15 to take part in a swimming competition in Marl at the end of September. 3 coaches/leaders would accompany them. Marl Twinning Association was giving the Club 350 Euros towards the trip. Members were asked to consider contributing towards the total cost of the flights of £1317.53.

The Mayor had been invited to Marl at the beginning of October for the Volksparkfest but had declined in view of his visit a month later to see the Pendle Youth Choir perform.

Ben Harrison was in touch with the Marl running club about some of their Members visiting Pendle next year to take part in a run and then maybe staying for a few days in a local hotel or bed and breakfast.

Marl was making arrangements for a group of 30 people to visit Pendle 17th to 21st June 2017 to see more of the North West. They planned to stay at the Oaks and then hire a coach for days out to York, Manchester, Liverpool and Chester.

RESOLVED

That Colne Swimming Club be given £650 towards the Club's travel costs for the swimming competition in Marl in September.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £2,348.09, including a donation of £450 from Aileen Rostron, following the sale of some of her paintings, which she had exhibited in Marl in March. Judith David said that Aileen has recently sold another painting and had donated a further £50.

Aileen had asked for the Association to use the money to help fund exchanges for young people from Pendle to improve their languages.

RESOLVED

That Aileen Rostron be thanked for her very generous donation and asked if she wanted some of the proceeds to go towards the arts link with students from Nelson and Colne College.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The North West Twinning Federation had circulated information about the opportunity to celebrate the Octoberfest in London on 27th September which was being organised by the British-German Association. Tickets cost £30.

5. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting would be held on 18th October 2017 at 5.30p.m. at Nelson Town Hall.