

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 14TH FEBRUARY, 2018**

PRESENT –

His Worship the Mayor – Councillor D. Whalley

*Dr B. Evans
Mr P. Clegg
Mrs C. Clegg*

*Mrs J. David
Councillor J. Starkie
Mr M. Timberlake*

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



1. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th August 2017 be approved as a correct record.

2. TWINNING UPDATE

An update on twinning events had been circulated with the agenda. A further update was given at the meeting.

The Mayor of Pendle reported back on his trip to Marl in October which coincided with the visit by the Pendle Youth Choir (PYC). He said what a credit the choir were to Pendle and how much he had enjoyed their performances. The visit had been very well organised and the hospitality amazing. It was noted that there had been some publicity following the trip but he wondered whether the Council's Communications Team could do more to promote Twinning events. Philip Mousdale said that newspapers were very lightly resourced these days so after a key twinning event the Council or organisation involved, for instance PYC last year, usually released a press notice and provided photographs to generate some interest.

Members were asked if they wanted to provide some support to the following events involving young people.

The PYC had agreed to host 29 young members of the C4 choir from Creil and 6 accompanying adults (including 2 drivers for the minibuses) for 2 nights at Whitehough Outdoor Centre in Barley from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th June. PYC had agreed to pay for their accommodation and food. They had also provisionally booked Saturday night at St. Peter's Centre, Burnley for a joint concert. There were already discussions about PYC visiting Creil either later in the year or in 2019. Members felt that this was a valuable exchange which should be encouraged.

Creil Twinning Association in partnership with the Creil Swimming Club had invited 7 swimmers aged 12-17 and 2 adults to take part in a swimming competition in Creil 29th June to 2nd July. Accommodation and food would be provided so competitors would just need to fund their travel. A similar event had been held in March the

previous year when swimmers from Colne Swimming Club had taken part. They had had a wonderful time and got a lot out of the experience. It was felt that other young swimmers should be given the opportunity to benefit from a similar event.

Unfortunately the Tanzmoto Dance Company had had to cancel their visit to Liverpool in March due to rising costs. They had offered to hold workshops in Pendle with young people around the same time and were still prepared to host the workshops, although they could now be more flexible with the timing. Initial enquiries with Sanderson's Dance Studio and Pendle Vale School had not resulted in a lot of interest. It was felt that at present the Swimming and Choir events should take precedence.

It was also noted that there were annual events to which young people from Pendle were normally invited - the International Youth Event and Summer School – but details of these events were as yet unknown. The Association normally supported these events by helping young people from Pendle with travel and participation costs.

Members were reminded that the Twinning Association would be invited to the Creil Festival on 17th June. Aileen Rostron would be exhibiting her paintings at the Matisse Gallery to coincide with the event.

As last year, 4 or 5 walkers from Pendle were invited to take part in the Oise Forest walk on 15th and 16th September. Walkers would just need to pay for their travel as accommodation and most meals were provided by the Creil Twinning Association and Creil Walking Club. Members agreed to spread the word. The Mayor said he would mention the walk at his forthcoming reception for Walking Leaders.

Members were asked if they wanted to provide hospitality for two events in the Summer. On June 18th a group of 32 people from Marl were visiting Pendle for 4 nights and staying at the Fence Gate Lodge. Members agreed that they should meet them on their first night at the Fence Gate for a meal and cover the cost of a welcome drink.

A group from Creil wanted to participate in the Walking Festival again. Up to 10 people planned to come. Marl was also hoping to send a group of walkers. Members noted that hosts would be needed and that a meal should be provided for the visitors, maybe at the end of the first day's walk.

Ben Harrison had been in touch with runners taking part in the Pendle Running Festival in July but was not at the meeting to report on progress. Teachers from the Arts Department at Nelson and Colne College were interested in their students working collaborating with arts students in Marl and Creil on a joint project. It had been left that teachers were going to exchange ideas with a view to take this forward. As nothing seemed to be developing, it was felt that this should be chased.

RESOLVED

- (1) That for now the dance project not be pursued.
- (2) That £450 be allocated to young swimmers travelling to Creil for the Swimming Competition in June; £450 be allocated to the Pendle Youth Choir to help towards the accommodation and hospitality for the C4 choir who were travelling from Creil to Pendle in June.

- (3) That £450 be earmarked for some hospitality for the Marl group in June and the walkers from Creil and Marl in August.
- (4) That Ben Harrison be asked if there was any further news on the runners visiting Pendle in July.
- (5) That the Arts Department at Nelson and Colne College be asked if any progress had been made on a possible joint arts project with our twin towns.

3. DONATION FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS

A donation of £500 had been received from Aileen Rostron, following the sale of some of her paintings in Marl last year. Aileen had asked the Association to use the money to help fund exchanges for young people from Pendle to improve their languages. She would also donate any profits from the sale of her paintings in Creil towards the project.

Rodney said that he was looking at the possibility of working with Park High School on a foreign language project and he hoped that he would have progress to report at the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That, for the moment, £500 be kept on one side to allow for further enquiries to be made with the schools.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £1,758.09, including £500 for the above project. There were also some outstanding subscription fees which would add a little to the funding pot.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Judith David reported back on the trip to South Brittany she had shared with 20 people from Marl and 10 from Creil. She said it had been very well organised and was very enjoyable. She wished more Pendle Twinning Members could have taken part.

Michael Timberlake said that a group of young footballers were coming to Pendle in April from a village in the Black Forest. They were staying at Trawden Camping Barn. Although the group was not from Marl, he wondered whether any support could be provided in the form of a driver for the minibus or some funding. Members thought that there was already enough pressure on the Association's 2018/19 budget, so they did not feel that they could provide financial support for this event.

They wished the football tournament every success and said they would let him know if they knew anyone who could help with the driving.

6. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting would be held on 18th April 2018 at 5.30p.m. at Nelson Town Hall.