

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 23RD OCTOBER, 2019**

PRESENT –

Mr P. Mousdale (Honorary Secretary, in the Chair)

*Mrs C. Clegg
Mrs J. David*

Cllr (Mrs) K. Shore

(Apologies for absence were received from Mr D. Carter, Mr I. Graham, and Mr P. Clegg.)



1. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th August 2019 be approved as a correct record.

2. TWINNING UPDATE

An update on twinning events had been circulated with the agenda. This included a report from Thomas Holgate, one of the young swimmers who had taken part in the Creil Swimming Competition. The Secretary of Colne Swimming Club on behalf of the swimmers wished to thank members of the Committee and the former Mayor and Mayoress for the £500 towards their travel costs.

Ideally, Pendle should host the next swimming competition, having taken part in events in Marl and Creil. Enquiries were being made at the Burnley FC in the Community facility at Whitehough, to see how much it would cost to accommodate a group of visiting swimmers there. Funding would also be required for transport to and from the airport and around Pendle and for meals and entertainment. Once accommodation costs were known, Colne Swimming Club would be approached to see if they had access to any funds, and their willingness to host such an event.

The Honorary Secretary reported back on his recent trip to Marl with the Mayor and Mayoress, which included a trip to the Mining Museum at Bochum, the waste water treatment works, the Volksparkfest and a barbecue at the fire station. His highlight of the visit had been the performances by the C4 choir at the fire station on arrival and at the Volksparkfest the following day.

It was noted that Pendle had no presence on the twinning stand at the Volksparkfest. At the very least, it was agreed that there should have been some tourist information leaflets on Pendle to hand out. In previous years, Twinning members had taken local beer and Lancashire cheese and biscuits to the Creil Festival, for people to sample, but not recently. Maybe this was something that could be considered for future events.

On the return journey, there had been a 31/2 hour delay at Dusseldorf airport. Compensation had been received from Flybe which would be used by the Council to purchase flights for future twinning trips.

Marl twinning members had commented that the visitors from Turkey, Poland, Creil, Norway, Hungary and Bitterfeld had all been officials, not twinning visitors.

Judith David said that the Bavaria trip had been well organised and very enjoyable. The hotel was good. The programme included visits to various churches and castles, a trip to Austria to the Swarovski factory and ended in Munich at a brewery. She thought it was an excellent way of introducing people to twinning and meeting people from our twin towns. Something that could be used to encourage non twinning members to get involved.

Creil was thinking of organising a trip in September 2020 to the lesser known castles of the Loire Valley. Judith wondered whether Pendle Twinning Members could offer to organise the following year's trip, using Pendle as a base for days out, like the visit in June 2018 when a group from Marl stayed at the Fence Gate Lodge for four nights and hired a coach for days out to York, Liverpool and Chester, as well as spending a day in Pendle. Both Marl and Creil Twinning members thought that this type of holiday would be very popular.

It was noted that the Pendle Youth Choir would be in Paris at the weekend celebrating their 70th anniversary, and performing with the C4.

Rodney Rostron was in touch with the French teacher at Colne Primet Academy about her project with a school in Creil and supporting an exchange.

RESOLVED

- (1) That copies of the Visit Pendle guide be sent to Marl and Creil and further consideration be given to having a presence on the twinning stalls at the Creil Festival and the Volksparkfest in Marl next year.
- (2) That the possibility of the Pendle Twinning Association organising a twinning holiday here in 2021 be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £4,254.18. This included £1,500 which had been earmarked for the foreign language project.

4. FUTURE OF PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In the absence of more members, it was agreed that this issue be discussed at the next meeting, and in the meantime, that Judith David contact Janet and James Starkie to see if there had been any progress with or feedback from the Twinning Facebook page.

5. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for 12th February 2020 at 5.30p.m. at Nelson Town Hall.