

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 12TH FEBRUARY, 2020**

PRESENT –

Mr D. Carter (Chairman, in the Chair)

*Mrs C. Clegg
Mrs J. David
Mr J. Starkie
Mrs J. Starkie
Mr R. Rostron*

*Mr P. Mousdale
Mr I. Graham
Ms A. Gander
Mr P. Carr*

(Apologies for absence were received from Dr B. Evans, Mr P. Clegg, Cllr K. Hartley and Mrs J. Mills.)



1. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2019 be approved as a correct record.

2. TWINNING UPDATE

An update on twinning events had been circulated with the agenda.

Colne Swimming Club had agreed in principle to host a Twinning Swimming Tournament at the end of September, inviting 4-5 swimmers and one adult from each of Pendle's twin towns. They had provisionally booked the Pendle Leisure Centre pool for Saturday 26th September between 3-5pm. They were thinking of taking them go-carting in the morning and having tea at Carlo's, after the Gala. Then Whitehough on Sunday, with an instructor and maybe a barbecue in the evening.

Accommodation would be at the Burnley FC in the Community facility at Whitehough or Earby Youth Hostel for 3 nights. The costs for accommodation, transport, food and entertainment amounted to approx. £3k, depending on meals, activities and final numbers. Prior to the meeting, the Club had indicated that they would match fund any contribution to the event from the Association put in to the event. Members were asked to consider granting £1,000 towards the event on the basis that this was a great opportunity for young people from the twin towns to spend time together and form friendships. Invitations would need to be sent out as soon as possible so that the twin towns could find young swimmers able to come.

The History Society in Marl was putting on an exhibition in May with accounts and memorabilia of residents illustrating how they experienced the days and weeks leading up to the end of WWII and the immediate time afterwards. They also wanted to include similar testimonies of that time from their twin towns. Bob Abel from the Earby History Society had said he might be able to provide some eye-witness reports, photos etc and had been asked to contact Marl. The Mayor was also hoping to contribute to this project with a first-hand written account of his encounter with a

prisoner of war here. It was suggested that this was something that could be put on the new Twinning Facebook page to see if there were any residents in Pendle that might be able to help with the project.

Marl had invited the Mayor +1 and Pendle twinning members from 4th to 7th June to celebrate 25 years of twinning with Pendle. It was also celebrating twinning with Creil for 45 years, Bitterfeld 30 years, Kusadasi 20 years and Zalaegerszeg 20 years. There would be a Mayoral meeting on Friday evening 5th of June followed by events on the Saturday just for twinning people from Marl, Creil and Pendle. A number of Members said that they were interested in going. It was noted that there would be room in either Rodney Rostron's car or the current Mayor's car for leaflets, information or local produce if needed. More information would be circulated when available.

If there were enough people wanting to go, it might be possible to do a Group Booking for the flights and share transport to and from Manchester airport. Arriving at the same time at Dusseldorf airport would help Marl with their transport arrangements.

There had been no invite yet to the annual Creil Festival which normally took place the third weekend in June.

Members discussed the twinning trip to the lesser well-known castles of the Loire Valley in September that Creil was organising. Judith David had been told the dates would be 18th – 25th September although confirmation of the dates and further details were awaited from Creil. A few twinning members expressed interest in taking part. Details would be circulated as soon as they were received. There was talk of Pendle organising a holiday based here in 2021. This would be discussed at a future meeting.

Colne Primet Academy were very enthusiastic about an exchange project with a school in Creil. They had started a penfriend scheme and were hoping to use Erasmus funding for an exchange. The Head Teacher had given his commitment to the link. The safeguarding regulations at schools and the requirement for DBS checks meant that students on exchange trips could not stay with individual families but would be together in hostel type accommodation. Alison Gander had a similar scheme with her French group at Burnley College and were visiting Burnley's twin town later in the year. She had experienced exactly the same issues. She said she knew Julie Hopkins, so would contact her and offer any advice on taking the link forward.

It was noted that very few schools were now offering German in the syllabus.

RESOLVED

- (1) That £1,000 be granted to Colne Swimming Club, to match fund their contribution towards hosting the Twinning Swimming Tournament in September, once all the costs had been calculated and the event was definitely going ahead.
- (2) That information about the WWII commemorative exhibition in May be put on the Association's Facebook page and residents invited to get in touch with any accounts or memorabilia about the end of WWII.

- (3) That Alison Gander liaise with Julie Hopkins about the school link project and she be invited to the next meeting to talk about any progress.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £4,294.18. This included £1,500 which had been earmarked for the foreign language project.

4. FUTURE OF PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Members welcomed Alison Gander and Paul Carr to the meeting. Agendas had also been sent to two other potential new members. It was hoped that widening the membership of the Association would bring new ideas and renewed enthusiasm in twinning. James Starkie said that the Pendle Twinning Association Facebook page was now live. He would be putting on events/information and welcomed any items of interest for inclusion.

Members agreed that the Association needed to get young people interested in twinning and needed to give more thought about the best way of involving them in future events. It was agreed that this be given further thought at the next meeting.

5. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for 15th April 2020 at 5.30p.m. at Nelson Town Hall.