

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2021**

PRESENT –

Mr I. Graham (Chairman, in the Chair)

*Councillor R. Anwar
Mr I. Graham
Mrs J. David
Ms S. Large
Mrs J. Starkie*

*Mr P. Carr
Mr D. Carter
Mrs A. Carter
Mr J. Starkie*

(Apologies for absence were received from Mr R. Rostron, Mr M. Timberlake, Mr P. Clegg, Mrs C. Clegg and Councillor N. Butterworth.)



1.

MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2019 be approved as a correct record.

2.

TWINNING UPDATE

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

The Mayor of Pendle was unable to attend the meeting but had given an account of his trip to Creil with the Mayoress the previous weekend, which was relayed to Members. There was a delegation from Creil's Polish twin town, Chorzow, but no-one from Marl was able to attend. Twinning members were not invited on this occasion.

Arriving Saturday afternoon, he attended a Mayoral meeting about how each twin town had managed through the Covid crisis. There were also discussions about youth initiatives. This was followed by a visit to the Peace Memorial on the way to the evening meal. On Sunday morning they visited the site of a marina being built along the river, which was expected to be finished in 3 years' time. On a former factory site, the marina would have space for up to 70 boats alongside 300 flats.

On Sunday afternoon there was a visit to the Creil Festival, where the Mayor met members of the local Martial Arts Club. Since coming home, he has contacted his martial arts club in Trawden about them having some sort of contact or competition with the Creil Club in the future. The night ended with a fireworks display, watched from the rooftop of a school, which he described as "phenomenal". He had thoroughly enjoyed seeing Creil and meeting the Mayor's guests and local residents.

A Twinning Colouring Book for school children in Marl had been prepared by a graphic designer in Marl. There was one page for each twin town each illustrating

key sites, symbols and landmarks. Once the final versions were available they would be shared with school children in Pendle.

Marl had invited a Pendle football team aged 16-20 to visit in April 2022 to train with players there and share some trips out, ending with a match. They were applying for funding for the programme in Marl and asking Pendle to pay for the Team's travel expenses. The Colne under 18s football team were very keen to go and were planning on taking 12 players and 2 adults arriving on Saturday 9th April.

Members were asked to consider contributing towards the travel costs of 14 flights to Dusseldorf and transport to the airport. The Team would do some fund raising and try to raise the remaining funds themselves.

RESOLVED

That 50% of the cost of the flights/travel to the airport up to £1,000 be granted to the Colne Under 18s Football Team for their trip to Marl in April 2022, once the trip was confirmed.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £6,089.18. This included £1,500 which had been earmarked for the foreign language project.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was some discussion about the future of twinning and how to get more people involved. The Chairman said that he would like to start using Facebook more to raise the profile of twinning. Members also agreed on the importance of involving children in future exchanges and twinning projects.

Next September was the Loire Valley trip for Members, which was being organised by Creil. There was only one person going from Pendle. The following year it would be Pendle's turn to organise a trip in the UK.

RESOLVED

- (1) That enquiries be made about youth choirs in Pendle and whether they were interested in having exchanges with or performing with choirs from Creil and Marl.
- (2) That members give further thought to the 2023 Members' trip, the date and location, and this be discussed at a future meeting.

5. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING

Members agreed that the next meeting should be more of a social event, meeting at 7.00p.m. on Wednesday 8th December at the Thatch and Thistle in Nelson.