

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 6TH APRIL, 2022**

PRESENT –

Mr I. Graham (Chairman, in the Chair)

*Councillor R. Anwar
Mrs J. David
Mr R. Rostron*

*Mr P. Carr
Mrs A. Rostron*

(Apologies for absence were received from Mr M. Timberlake, Mr P. Clegg, Mrs C. Clegg, Mr S. Barnes, Ms A. Mann, Ms A. Gander, Mr J. Starkie and Mrs J. Starkie.)



1. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the AGM and Ordinary meetings held on 15th September 2021 be approved as a correct record.

2. TWINNING UPDATE

An update on twinning events had been circulated prior to the meeting.

As a follow-up to working with Marl in International Week against Racism, Building Bridges had offered to organise and host a digital conversation between Marl, Creil and Pendle. They had experience in running such digital conversations through their Talking Society Initiative. Members thought that this would be a good opportunity to encourage a dialogue between twin towns and wanted to know more about how it might work.

A Twinning Colouring Book for school children in Marl had been prepared by a graphic designer in Marl. There was one page for each of their twin towns illustrating key sites, symbols and landmarks. The book had just been printed and Pendle had been told to expect a delivery in the post. The intention was that these would be shared with primary school children in Pendle.

At the last meeting Members agreed to fund half the cost of the flights/travel to the airport up to £1,000 for 12 players of the Colne Under 18s Football Team and 2 accompanying adults for a trip to Marl to train with players there and share some trips out, ending with a match. Marl had now confirmed that this event would take place 12th to 15th August and said that the Team could book their flights. Twinning members had also been invited to Marl that weekend.

Creil had invited Pendle Twinning members to attend their Twinning Festival which was being held on Sunday 26th June. So far 3 people had expressed an interest in visiting that weekend. It was expected that the Mayor of Pendle would receive an invitation in due course.

Members had also been asked if they wanted to join a coach trip that Nicolle Saudrais, President of the Creil Twinning Association, was organising to the Loire Castles from 17th to 23rd September (participants to arrive in Creil on 16th September and depart on the 24th). 6 people had expressed an interest in the trip and Nicolle had been informed.

There followed a discussion on the possibility of the Pendle Twinning Association organising a trip for twinning members in 2023 and inviting Marl and Creil, and the date and location. London was mentioned as one possibility which could include a guided tour of the House of Commons with the local MP

RESOLVED

- (1) That Building Bridges be invited to attend the next meeting to talk about the Talking Society and the potential for a non-political twinning project to follow-up on the recent anti-racism work between the twin towns.
- (2) That, in principle, the Pendle Twinning Association agree to organise a UK trip for Marl and Creil Twinning members in September 2023 and Members be asked to bring any ideas they had for possible locations, and a draft programme including rough costings on travel, accommodation, meals and tickets, to the next meeting for further discussion.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £7,719.18. This included £1,500 which had been earmarked for the foreign language project.

It was noted that in the budget process, the Council had had to make some difficult decisions on reducing services and funding of some activities. In 2022/23 its discretionary grant to the Twinning Association had been halved to £750 and would be applied for in due course.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was some discussion about how to progress the foreign language project for secondary school aged students, in view of the red tape for trips abroad which was putting a lot of teachers off travelling with their students. Members also wanted to engage more with the primary schools and felt that the Twinning Colouring Book would be a good starting point.

It was also mentioned that the Twinning Facebook page was not being updated with news or events, but had the potential to be a useful tool for promoting twinning and attracting new members.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the work and previous discussions with secondary schools on the language project be reviewed and then the relevant schools be contacted again to see if progress could be made to encourage the learning of French and German outside the curriculum.

- (2) That once the Twinning Colouring Books arrived, depending on how many there were, and whether further copies could be made, arrangements be made for distributing them to primary schools with any accompanying information that was needed and the offer of a visit by a twinning member.
- (3) That the Chairman liaise with Mr J. Starkie on the Twinning Facebook page to see if they could improve its content.

5. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING

Members agreed that the next meeting should be held at 5.30p.m. on Wednesday 29th June at the Town Hall, Nelson.