



CORSHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 9th February 2019

Present at the meeting: Roger Fido, Jonathan Fido, Maurice Hancock, Maggie & John Rayner, Matt & Sue Wingrave, Felicity & Peter Hurlow-Jones, Mark Campbell, Christine Bastow, Jane Gater, Rob & Pat Cannings, John & Joan Maciver, Felicity Hamilton, Paul Bryan, Julie Bryan, Catherine Reynolds, Terry Reynolds, Chris Taylor

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ann Fido, Nigel & Liz Millward, Keith Stephens, Roger & Penny Clifton, Jane Campbell, Millie Carter, Margaret Mills, Cliff Gater, Humphry & Elizabeth Barnikel, Maggie Smith, Jenny Oatley, Peter & Janet Berry, Glenys & Tony Butcher, Ted & Sheila Davies

2. Chairman's welcome

Roger Fido welcomed everyone to the 38th AGM of the Corsham Twinning Association.

3. Approval/amendments of minutes of AGM 2018:

The minutes from the meeting on 10th February 2018 were approved, proposed by Matt Wingrave and seconded by Mark Campbell.

4. Chairman's address:

Roger Fido's report was as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen welcome to the 38th Annual General Meeting of Corsham Twinning Association. We have changed location to the Football Club as the Cricket Club now charge £100 for an evening hire.

We have had to review our membership in the light of the Data Protection Act which means we can only contact registered members who have paid their annual subscription. We encourage everyone to pay by standing order to avoid a break in contact.

Membership is now 63 however only about half are willing to travel the distance to Jargeau and, for a variety of reasons, a significant number are unable to host return visits. We urgently need new members if the Association is to flourish.

At the last AGM I advised you that we would try once again to involve Corsham School. I duly received a full letter from the Deputy Head. He explained they have links with Germany, France and other community projects further afield. The French link was established in the sixties and they are loathed to sever it. We must reluctantly respect this but it does not help our recruitment.

We had a number of successful events during the year.

March French Meal-thank you ladies

June Treasure Hunt-more participants would have been good.

July BBQ at the Wingraves-thank you for the hospitality.

September Band concert-well attended

October Wine Tasting where we sampled the wines given to us by Jargeau on the earlier visit.

November-Race Night where no one lost their shirt

January Quiz Night when the team scores were close together.

The main event was their visit in May. 46 arrived on Saturday after a long and surely tiring overnight journey. After a rest we had the official reception in the evening. Sunday was an afternoon Band concert and in the evening a full dinner and disco. Thanks to Jane and her team for the organisation. Thanks also to John and Becky Harris-Stokes who kindly provided the wine. Monday was a day out in Oxford with an interpreter we provided. The evening was killer skittles which, against the odds, we managed to lose.

The visit to Jargeau this year is May 9th-13th. I have to confess this was at my suggestion as I thought a Spring visit in warmer weather would be popular. I was wrong. Without the inclusion of Thursday Rock choir I would have recommended postponement back last Autumn. We are now a party of 40 of whom 30 are on the coach. I am relieved to say that at least our costs are covered.

There have been problems along the way but things are gradually falling in to place. Brexit has not helped.

I wish to thank the committee and encourage more volunteers to fill the vacancies. Without their support the Association could not function.

5. Matters arising:

There were no matters arising from the 2018 meeting.

6. Financial report

Mark Campbell presented the accounts for the period 1st Jan 2018 – 31st Dec 2018. The closing balance was £8,181.26. This balance is unusually high as it includes the costs for the forthcoming visit which have since been paid. Maggie Rayner proposed to accept the accounts and Rob Cannings seconded.

7. Election of Officers and Committee

The election for members of the committee was as follows:

Chairman: Jane Gater proposed Roger Fido to continue as Chairman, seconded by Sue Wingrave. No other nominations were received and Roger Fido was elected.

Secretary: Chris Taylor proposed Sue Wingrave to continue as Secretary, seconded by Mark Campbell. No other nominations were received and Sue Wingrave was elected.

Minute Secretary: Christine Bastow proposed Maggie Rayner to continue as Minute Secretary, seconded by Pat Cannings. No other nominations were received and Maggie Rayner was elected.

Treasurer: Jonathan Fido proposed Mark Campbell to continue as Treasurer, seconded by Rob Cannings. No other nominations were received and Mark Campbell was elected.

Vice-Chairman: to be agreed by committee members at their next committee meeting.

Post Meeting Note: At the committee meeting held on 4th March 2019, Jane Gater was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Chris Bastow and seconded by Nigel Millward. No other nominations were received and Jane Gater was elected.

Committee members: Felicity Hurlow-Jones and Keith Stephens resigned from the committee. The Chairman thanked them for their contribution over the years. There were currently 5 vacancies.

Current members, who were happy to continue, were: Roger Fido, Matt Wingrave, Sue Wingrave, Maurice Hancock, Maggie Rayner, Christine Bastow, Jane Gater, Maggie Smith, Christine Taylor, Nigel Millward. These were re-elected en bloc, proposed by Susan Wingrave and seconded by Felicity Hurlow-Jones.

8. AOB

a. Felicity Hurlow-Jones thanked the Chairman for all his hard work.

9. Date of next AGM:

February 2020, details to be confirmed nearer the time.