

N & N El Viejo Friendship Link  
c/o Ralph Gayton (Secretary)



20 May 2019

Twinning Grant Application  
Democratic Services  
Norwich City Council

Dear Twinning Committee,

This is to expand and explain further the reasons for the attached grant application for expenses relating to a visit to our twin city of El Viejo in Nicaragua.

As Chair of the Link I intend to visit Nicaragua from 8 to 18 June 2019. I shall be accompanied by my wife Luisa, who is also a member of the Link, but the application relates only to my own expenses. We are in fact travelling to Cuba and Mexico as well and the entire trip (undertaken for both leisure and academic purposes) will be from 25 May to 19 July 2019, but the application relates only to the flight from Mexico City to Managua (return) and expenses in Nicaragua.

The purpose of the visit is to renew, strengthen and expand our relations with El Viejo; the last visit there by a member of the Link was in 2013. While in El Viejo I shall have meetings with our representative there, Carmela Hernández, and with the Mayor of El Viejo, María Guevara, and will visit some of the schools where we help to fund scholarship students, in particular the "Norwich, Inglaterra" School. I will discuss the progress of the schools and their needs.

A further and significant reason for the visit is our proposal to expand the work of the Link to include cultural exchange. We have had discussions with the Slow Theatre Company here in Norwich (with which I have worked previously as Councillor for Town Close), and its Director, Danny O'Hara, has a proposal for international work in visual arts, theatre and music which would involve young people (especially) and adults from deprived communities in Norwich. This would be communicated in virtual form with El Viejo and participants would also receive virtual productions from groups over there, and eventually, subject to funding, we would hope to facilitate cultural exchange visits between our two cities. We have already discussed this in a videoconference with the Mayor of El Viejo and her assistants and they are very enthusiastic about the idea. In addition, David Hynes, Chief Executive of the Norwich Charitable Trusts, has encouraged us to apply (with Slow Theatre)

for funding for such a project provided it can be shown to benefit young people from deprived backgrounds here in Norwich and adjacent areas of Norfolk.

A further relevant consideration, which has already facilitated this proposal, is that I am fluent in Spanish (and for my wife Luisa it is her native language).

Finally, in relation to the current application, I have booked a Mexico City – Managua flight with Aeroméxico for June 8-18 at a cost of slightly over £500 per person, so my personal expenses for the visit will be considerably more than this. However, £500 seems a reasonable amount to request to offset at least some of these expenses. The other £50 we are requesting is for a present for our representative Carmela Hernández.

If you need further information p'lease contact either me or our Secretary Ralph Gayton.

Your sincerely,



David L Raby,



**NORWICH**  
City Council

## Application for Twinning Committee Grant

The aims of the Twinning Committee are to "promote and foster Civic links and exchange activities of all kinds with Rouen, Novi Sad, Koblenz and El Viejo in Nicaragua and any other towns and cities abroad with which friendly associations are, from time to time, established". The policy of the Committee is to concentrate on making grants to assist visits by young people (excluding regular school exchanges), an initial visit to set up a new link and in cases of particular financial hardship.

### 1. Name and address of organisation/group applying for the grant

Name NORFOLK & NORWICH - EL VIEJO FRIENDSHIP LINK

Address c/o RALPH GAYTON (SECRETARY),  
NORWICH.

### 2. Name, address and contact details of individual applying for the grant

Name DAVID RABY

Address

Contact

Email

### 3. Position held within the organisation/group (please tick)

Chair ☒ Secretary ☐ Treasurer ☐ Other (please state) \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Please describe fully why you are applying for a grant and which city or town you are forming links with?

AS CHAIR OF THE LINK I AM PLANNING TO VISIT  
NICARAGUA FOR TEN DAYS IN JUNE 2019 (8-18 JUNE).  
OUR TWIN TOWN OF EL VIEJO IS THE MAIN DESTINATION. AIM  
TO PROMOTE CULTURAL EXCHANGE & EDUCATION. MY WIFE LUISA IS ALSO  
TRAVELLING BUT THIS APPLICATION IS ONLY FOR MY OWN EXPENSES.

If the grant is to help towards the costs of a visit, please answer the following questions:

a) How many people will be in the group making the visit? 2

b) How many of these are under 18 years old? 0

c) How many people in your organisation/group live in the Norwich City Council area? 80%

d) We need to establish if there is any particular financial hardship, please say if any members of the visiting group are unemployed or receiving other benefit support?

No.

e) Has your organisation/group received any previous grant from the Twinning Committee? If yes, please say how much and when?

2013 - VISIT BY OUR SECRETARY. UNSURE OF EXACT AMOUNT.

f) What is the total cost of this visit? £1,000 APPROX.

g) How much grant are you applying for? £500 + £50.

h) Are you applying to any other organisation or business for grants? If yes, please say who to and for how much?

NO.

i) How will your organisation/group be paying for the visit? I AS CHAIR WILL PAY SUBJECT TO ANY ASSISTANCE FROM THIS GRANT.

5) It is a condition of the grant that your travel arrangements are made with a bonded travel company, which is a member of ABTA. Please confirm this requirement and give the name of your travel company

I HAVE BOOKED THE MEXICO-CITY-MANAGUA FLIGHT THROUGH E-DREAMS (DEMOCRATIC SERVICES INFORMED ME THAT THIS IS ACCEPTABLE).

6) If the grant is for another purpose other than a visit, please give as much detail as you can by answering the following questions:

a) Please describe your project/event/activity and explain how it will further the aims of the Twinning Committee?

SEE ATTACHED LETTER

b) What is the total cost of the project/event/activity? £1,000 APPROX.

c) How much grant are you applying for? £550.

d) Are you applying to any other organisation or business for grants? If yes, please say who to and for how much?

NOT AT THIS POINT.

e) How will your organisation/group pay for the project/event/activity? I SHALL PAY OUT OF MY OWN POCKET.

If you need any help, have any questions about completing the application or require the application in another format or language please contact Democratic Services on 01603 213022 or email [twinning@norwich.gov.uk](mailto:twinning@norwich.gov.uk) Please use extra paper if you need more space and enclose a copy of you last set of accounts, if appropriate.

Please return your completed form to:

Twinning Grant Application  
Democratic Services  
Norwich City Council  
City Hall  
Norwich NR2 1NH

