



TWINNING COMMITTEE

4.00 pm – 4.40 pm

17 June 2010

Present: Councillors Blower (Chair following election), Gledhill (Vice Chair following election), Collishaw, Lay and Offord, County Councillor Tomkinson, Peter Beckley, Mary Corbould, Ralph Gayton, Jill Noble, June Perkins, Tony and Doug Underwood

Apologies: Councillors Brociek-Coulton and Hooke, Claire Alban, Waltraud Jarrold and Canon David Sharp

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Blower as Chair for the ensuing civic year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Gledhill as Vice Chair for the ensuing civic year.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2010 subject to Kemp men being changed to Kemp's men.

City of Culture

RESOLVED to ask the Twinning Officer to speak to the Head of Communications and Cultural Services and ask why the Twinning Associations were not contacted to contribute towards the City of Cultural bid.

4. WELCOME

The Twinning Officer welcomed the Lord Mayor, Councillor Tom Dylan and the Chairman of Norfolk County Council, County Councillor Tony Tomkinson to the first Twinning Committee of the new Civic Year.

5. GENERAL REPORTS

5(a) Norfolk and Norwich El Viejo Friendship Link

Ralph Gayton informed members of the school garden project which was, seven schools establishing gardens for crops to supplement food given to pupils while they were at school.

The Link was considering an audio visual display at the Forum as part of their 25th Twinning Anniversary celebrations. Schools in El-Viejo would be having displays in schools highlighting the link between Norwich and El Viejo with a public presentation in the main square. The Link was hoping to send a small delegation over to El Viejo.

Some members although, they understood that travel would be expensive and the language could be a problem but with the use of 'In tran' this could be overcome, suggested bringing someone to Norwich to mark the event. Ralph Gayton said he report back the Committee's comments to the Link.

The major piece of work had been to prepare for kitting out 142 pupils with school clothing, taking measurements, getting them made and distributing them during July.

The Annual Summer bike ride would take place on 25 July 2010.

RESOLVED to thank Ralph Gayton for his report.

5 (b) Norfolk and Norwich Koblenz Friendship Association

Jill Noble presented Waltraud Jarrold's report and said that the previous week Waltraud Jarrold had been presented with the MBE. She referred to the Bundes Gartenschau which she said was as important to Koblenz as the bid to be the City of Culture was to Norwich and would last from April to October 2011. The Twinning Officer said an offer had been received from Koblenz to take part in the Bundes Gartenschau show along with other twin cities with a financial package to pay for the Norwich garden which would take place 30 April -2 May 2011.

RESOLVED to –

- (1) thank Jill Noble for presenting the report;
- (2) record the Committee's congratulations to Waltraud Jarrold on receiving her MBE.

5(c) Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association

Peter Beckley and Doug Underwood presented the report. Doug Underwood welcomed Councillor Dylan as Lord Mayor their new president and thanked Councillor Collishaw for her efforts during her time as president and Lord Mayor.

He explained they had just returned from a visit to Novi Sad where the conditions were very wet they took a supply of hearing aids from the Red Cross. A substantial amount of cash was handed over to the Milan Petrovic School from the Paul Cross concert. They explained the programme of events that would take place 50th anniversary of friendship taking place from 30 June to 4 July. The Twinning Officer said there would be civic dinner on the Saturday evening, which was being organised by the City Council and hosted by the Lord Mayor.

RESOLVED to thank Peter Beckley and Doug Underwood for their report.

5(d) Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

Mary Corbould presented her report and advised members of events taking place. She said that during June they had visitors from Rouen during which they made a visit to the Burnham area medieval churches and had lunch at the Lord Nelson public house where the landlord was able to explain the Nelson association to Burnham Thorpe. She thanked the City Council for hosting a reception for their visitors at City Hall.

RESOLVED to thank Mary Corbould for her report.

6. TWINNING FUND – FINANCIAL POSITION

The Twinning Officer presented the report and answered questions during which he informed the Committee, the Chair had authorised expenditure up to £2000 from the twinning fund towards the Novi Sad 50th celebration of friendship.

RESOLVED to note the Twinning Fund balance (in-hand) at 7 June 2010 of £3427.61.

7. ANNUAL GRANT TO THE TWINNING ASSOCIATIONS

RESOLVED having considered the Twinning Officer's report to grant £200 to each of the three Twinning Associations Novi Sad, Rouen and Koblenz and support in kind to El Viejo.

8. APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE NORFOLK COUNTY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

The Twinning Officer presented the report. Peter Beckley explained that the orchestra had already raised a considerable amount of money towards this visit to Novi Sad.

RESOLVED to approve a grant of £250 to the Norfolk County Youth Orchestra.

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED to note the next meeting would be held on 7 October 2010.

CHAIR