



NORWICH
City Council

MINUTES

TWINNING COMMITTEE

16:00 – 16:55

27 June 2013

Present: Councillors Ralph Gayton (chair), Maxwell (standing in for Cllr Stonard), Barker (standing in for Cllr Grenville) and Galvin; Peter Beckley (vice-chair) and Mary Corbould

Apologies: Councillors Price and Henderson; Waltraud Jarrold, Jill Noble and Doug Underwood

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Keith Driver as Chair of the twinning committee.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Ralph Gayton as Vice Chair of the twinning committee.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March, 2013.

4. GENERAL REPORTS

Norfolk and Norwich El Viejo Friendship Link

The vice chair said that the annual distribution of uniforms and schoolbags had run smoothly and would provide more detail on this at the next meeting.

Norfolk and Norwich Koblenz Friendship Association

Waltraud Jarrold introduced the report, adding that it had been a good year for the association so far and the summer outing had gone well. She said that the cable car in Koblenz had been given UNESCO permission to remain in place until 2026.

Waltraud added that there were places available on the trip taking place between 6 – 13 October and was open to all those who wished to attend.

Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association

Doug Utting introduced the report, adding that changes within the structure of the association had taken place meaning that Peter Beckley had retired as honorary secretary, but would remain a part of the committee. Sandra Beckley had agreed to take the role on and that a knowledge transfer was taking place.

The twinning officer provided an update regarding the Novi Sad friendship bridge plaque, explaining that it had not been found following work that contractors had carried out. He said that having a replacement made was the best option at this stage and that the County Council had agreed to fit this free of charge. A quote for the making of the sign had been requested and was expected to be in the region of £90. Members agreed that they were happy for this work to be funded by the twinning committee so long as the final cost was not significantly higher than the initial quote.

RESOLVED to have a new sign made and fitted to the bridge.

Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

Mary Courbold gave a verbal update on the recent weekend spent at the Rouen Armada. She explained that 42 people had travelled on the coach from Norfolk, including 8 non-members. She said that the event had been spectacular and enjoyed by all, and it also provided an opportunity to discuss the future of the association, including upcoming events.

Mary then introduced Camille, a student from France who was carrying out a three month internship with Norwich HEART. Camille then went on to explain how her time with the organisation had been spent, including:

- Having worked as part of the mobile cinema team touring East Anglia, showing archive films.
- She had met with Ralph Gayton and discussed the work of the twinning committee.
- She had written a report covering the following points:
 - (i) The lack of information available via Tourist Information regarding twinning;
 - (ii) The suggestion of a twinning display the Tourist Information Centre;
 - (iii) The suggestion of a schools twinning project, which could include using online services for communication, such as Skype®;

- (iv) The suggestion of twinning pubs and restaurants between the two cities;
- (v) Other ideas included partnerships in sport and other projects and activities common between the two cities

Camille concluded by saying that she was happy to have her report circulated to members.

RESOLVED to;

- (1) note all reports; and
- (2) circulate the report written by Camille to all members.

5. ROUEN ARMADA 2013 – CIVIC VISIT - ORAL UPDATE
(Report of the twinning officer)

The twinning officer explained that the trip to Rouen for the armada had been a success. He had accompanied the Lord Mayor and both had been welcomed to a number of civic events, networking with dignitaries from Rouen's other twin cities. Gifts from the city of Norwich had been presented and in return a number of books had been given to the Lord Mayor. A number of photographs were circulated to illustrate the trip. The twinning officer recommended the armada as an excellent event, well worth attending.

6. DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

RESOLVED to agree the following dates –

Thursday 17 October 2013 at 4pm

Thursday 27 February 2014 at 4pm

CHAIR