



MINUTES

TWINNING COMMITTEE

16:00 – 16:40

17 October 2013

Present: Councillors Gayton (Vice chair), Bremner, Galvin, Grenville, Maxwell; Waltraud Jarrold, Jill Noble, Doug Underwood and Sandra Underwood, Bob Gledhill (substitute for Mary Corbould)

Apologies: Councillors Driver (Chair), Price, Howard, Mary Corbould

1. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Councillor Galvin raised a request from Nick Bond of VisitNorwich. Nick had asked that he could attend a future meeting of the twinning committee to discuss ways in which the committee could link with tourism services.

RESOLVED that:-

- a) Councillor Galvin would get Nick Bond to write to Andy Futter (Twinning officer) to outline his ideas; and
- b) Andy Futter would invite Nick Bond to attend the next meeting of the committee.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June, 2013, with the following amendments:

- a) Sandra Underwood and Doug Underwood should have been shown as being in attendance;
- b) Under the Novi Sad association section, 'Doug Utting' should read 'Doug Underwood' and 'Sandra Beckley' should read 'Sandra Underwood'

3. GENERAL REPORTS

Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association

Bob Gledhill (acting as substitute for Mary Courbold) provided an oral summary of the activities of the friendship association, and circulated a copy of the newsletter. He said that the garden party had been an excellent occasion, and that the rain had held off. He then summarised upcoming events:

- Dinner 21 November, tickets available, contact details given
- Visitors from Rouen visiting Norwich 30 April – 4 May 2014
- AGM would be in March 2014 – no specific date had been set – the Lord Mayor would be present
- Annual dinner would take place in February 2014

He then explained that the friendship association was looking to make links and develop joint activities between the twinning groups within Norwich. He said that they would welcome any suggestions from the other groups.

RESOLVED to note the report.

Norfolk and Norwich El Viejo Friendship Link

Councillor Gayton presented the report for the friendship link, summarising the stories in the newsletter.

RESOLVED to note the report.

Norfolk and Norwich Koblenz Friendship Association

Waltraud Jarrold presented the report for the friendship association, summarising the stories in the newsletter and additional information, as follows:

- A lunch had been held on 16 September with the Lord Mayor and the chairman of Norfolk County Council in attendance
- The twinning column had been reinstated in Koblenz with the names of twin cities encircling its base
- A Koblenz musician wished to organise a concert to commemorate the bombing of Norwich and Koblenz. This concert would include young musicians from Norwich. Waltraud explained that Norwich cathedral were keen to host the event and that possible links with Dragon Hall would be explored
- The Norwich and district photographic society annual exhibition had been held at the hostry. This included contributors from Foto Club Koblenz. An additional exhibition was also organised of all the Koblenz photos at Dragon Hall.

RESOLVED to note the report.

Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association

Doug Underwood presented the report of the association, highlighting the visit to Novi Sad that had taken place in September.

He explained that they had been taking stock of the various items of twinning memorabilia (gifts, documents, etc.) that had been accumulated over the years. There was, he said, a significant amount. Councillor Gayton suggested that documents could be sent to the archives at County Hall to form part of the public record.

Doug then highlighted two upcoming events:

- The annual lunch to be held on Sunday 20 September 2013
- Concert at the Assembly House to be held on 25 January 2014

RESOLVED to note the report.

4. WELCOME TO NORWICH SIGNS

(Report of the vice chair)

Councillor Gayton explained that the replacement 'Welcome to Norwich' signs were now being prepared. They were being enamelled to ensure a longer life. The four twin cities were to be listed on a board beneath the main sign, along with the city's newly awarded 'UNESCO city of literature' status.

He said that there was to be a launch event to unveil the new signs and that a representative from each of the twinning groups would be invited to attend the event.

RESOLVED to note the report.

5. NOVI SAD FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE SIGN

(Report of the twinning officer)

The twinning officer explained that although an upper limit of £90 to purchase a replacement sign had been agreed at the previous meeting, quotes of between £120 and £185 had been obtained. Members agreed to a higher limit of £185, but the twinning officer agreed to make a further attempt to seek funds from the contractor who had been responsible for the works carried out on the bridge which led to the loss of the sign.

RESOLVED to make a further attempt to seek funds from the contractor and in the event of this avenue being unsuccessful, to purchase new signage to the maximum value of £185.

6. TWINNING FUND

(Report of the twinning officer)

The twinning officer explained that following the annual grants to the association the balance of the twinning fund stood at £2539.67

RESOLVED to note the report.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED to agree the following date –

Wednesday 26 February 2014 at 4pm

CHAIR