

**CREWE AND NANTWICH TWINNING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FROM COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 1ST AUGUST 2007
EAST COMMITTEE ROOM
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS
EARLE STREET
CREWE**

APOLOGIES

Maurice Jones, Peter Kay, Joyce West, Cliff Walker.

PRESENT

Clive Mosby (Chair) Jim Grant, Ray Stafford, Wendy and Lindsay Johns, Ann Roberts, Rosemary Tremper, Colin Garnett, Ann Jones, Peter Barnard, Barbara and John Colbert, Trevor and Carol Lightfoot.

Clive opened the meeting by thanking all concerned for making the Anniversary Weekend a successful and memorable one.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

Regarding the celebration goblets, it was felt that more may be required. Clive will look into ordering more.

Minutes deemed to be a true and correct record.

TREASURERS REPORT

Regarding the query of a financial discrepancy stated at the AGM on 6th June 2007. Wendy along with an impartial auditor have gone through all the statements and found them to be true and correct. The discrepancy was found to be cheques waiting to be paid into the account.

The impartial auditor has looked at last years accounts found them to be accurate and signed them off. She has also said that she is happy to audit the accounts next year.

A cash flow summary was circulated at the meeting and will be circulated with these minutes to all members.

WEB SITE

In Peters' absence Trevor updated the committee.

Peter is hoping to develop the site more. More photographs from the Anniversary weekend are needed.

Peter has put on some test pages which members can try and report back to him. These are:

www.canta.org.uk/try.htm

www.canta.org.uk/bischofsheim.htm

www.canta.org.uk/macon.htm

POST MORTEM RE ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

Thursday – Arrival of Germans and Polish delegates ran smoothly.

An evening at 'The Shady Oak' with the early arrivals could have been co-ordinated better. Conversation was a little stilted because of the language barrier.

Friday – Cllr. Stan Davies (previous Mayor) had said that the French delegation were waiting at the Airport for ½ hour before anyone met them. Clive queried this as he had

been at the airport since 2.15pm and the flight from Paris had been delayed and didn't arrive until 5.54pm.

Trevor who escorted the German and Polish delegation to Chester experienced a problem with the guide which had been booked. CANTA members who were on the tour stated that the guide was rude, the tour was not complete and that he stated that he was only asked to translate in German to a maximum of 25 people and not 52 as were present. He was only asked to speak to the German delegation who in turn would translate to the Polish. At the end of the tour the guide stated that he should have only taken 25 persons under the Health and Safety Act. On arrival home that evening an email was received from the Chester Tourist Board asking for an extra fee. Trevor said he would email the Chester Tourist Board and relay our feelings.

The meal in Chester was excellent.

The French delegation were unable to have a meal at the White Lion as they didn't arrive until 7pm and once booked in had to leave for the Nostalgia evening at the Civic.

The Nostalgia Evening was excellent. The entertainment was a good mix and all declared the buffet superb.

The only queries were that perhaps we should have had a waiting list for tickets as all tickets for the Macon choir and their hosts were not used and unfortunately didn't arrive back into circulation until Saturday. We should have had more control over tickets and possibly had a minimal charge for the general public.

People sat at the back of the hall said that perhaps the dancers should have been on the stage because they couldn't see them.

Saturday – The photo shoot with the Mayors' at the sign post was not in the Chronicle.

The street entertainment was excellent but perhaps a programme of entertainers was needed.

No problems with the lunch and the Male voice Choir were excellent.

The visit to the Park found the gates were locked and there was no access for vehicles. The officer responsible said that he had not been informed.

The scones were delicious and the music good.

Civic Dinner at 'The Palms', this was a lovely venue but not clearly sign posted on how to get in. The service was slow and the staff not appropriately dressed and were inexperienced. The meal was only average for the price paid and there were no knives for the cheese. Some people asked for tea instead of coffee and were told that because it hadn't been ordered beforehand they couldn't have it. Some people didn't even get coffee. The top table was too distant from the rest of the delegation. The venue was cold. There was only one copy of the speeches per table.

The committee felt that the Council should not have to pay the bill in full and that CANTA would support them if they wished to pursue it.

It was suggested that an email be sent to Jo Vause regarding this.

Sunday – The Church service was nice and lively with an input of French which was appreciated.

Lunch at The Crown was excellent.

The guided tour of Nantwich was poor. The guide who took the French party didn't hold their attention and was too quietly spoken. It was felt that we could have done better ourselves.

Afternoon tea at Crewe Hall was the high light of the weekend. The service was superb and presentation excellent.

The Hog Roast was wonderful with plenty of good food and entertainment. The French even enjoyed our cheese and asked for some to be taken back in September.

The delegates who went to listen to the choirs enjoyed the evening.

Monday – Trip to Llandudno taking the Polish delegates, a super day with wonderful weather. On arrival at the Fish and Chip Restaurant it was found to be closed due to a family dispute, but one was found which could accommodate us and the meal was excellent.

The Bar B Q at night went well but lacked music.

Carol to send thank you letters to all who participated in making the weekend a memorable one.

Special thanks also to go to those Committee Members who have worked exceptionally hard to make the weekend an exceptional success.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter has been received from Malbank School asking for our support with their Spanish exchange.

At present it was decided that we cannot commit ourselves until we know how we stand financially after the anniversary weekend. We also need to know more about this twinning and to know how many pupils will be involved.

Carol to write and get more details.

AOB

Clive stated that there was some confusion regarding giving financial support to CANTA members visiting our twin towns.

At the October 2006 meeting this was discussed and it was felt that it should be brought up at a future meeting.

It was therefore discussed at this meeting and committee members voted unanimously that it was not appropriate for CANTA members to use this facility.

Meeting closed at 9pm