

**CREWE AND NANTWICH TWINNING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FROM COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2007 @ 7PM
EAST COMMITTEE ROOM
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS
EARLE STREET
CREWE**

APOLOGIES

Peter Kay, Jim Grant,
Cliff Walker, Ray Stafford, Cllr. Maurice Jones.

PRESENT

Clive Mosby (Chair), Lindsay Johns, Wendy Johns, John Colbert, Barbara Colbert, Ann Jones, Ann Roberts, Rosemary Tremper, Trevor Lightfoot, Peter Barnard, Joyce West, Carol Lightfoot.

Ann J. gave Maurices' apologies saying he was not well. Clive asked that the committee send him their best wishes for a swift recovery.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

Anniversary weekend – Jo Vause had written to the Palms at Stapeley voicing the views of everyone but has not had a reply. The 'Bill' however has been paid in full.

Correspondence – re letter from Malbank School, as discussed a reply has been sent stating that at present we are not able to commit ourselves. A request for more information has also been asked for.

The minutes deemed to be a true and correct record of the meeting.

TREASURERS REPORT

Clive had a discussion with Jo Vause asking for a final expenditure for the anniversary weekend. He presented to the committee a sheet showing the breakdown of expenses incurred by the Council and incurred by CANTA. It was noted that the cost of transport to Burland Coaches was £2.460 but according to the breakdown showed that the Council had paid £2.600. The committee would like to know if this is correct. The cashflow statement at the time of the meeting showed that the actual balance was £3,525.54. This statement was available to all committee members in attendance and will be emailed or posted with these minutes to all members.

Clive stated "That concern is still ongoing regarding the apparent discrepancy between the reported closing and opening balances for 2006/07. This has been thoroughly investigated by the treasurer and an independent auditor and can be explained by some cheques that had not been paid in at the time of the handover between treasurers, and their different mode of presentation of the accounts. The figure reported at the AGM should have been £8666.43 which is clearly shown as the figure at the bank at the end of the year in question".

WEB SITE

Peter in his absence has sent an email which was read out by Trevor.

“The web site has continued to develop with pictures sent in by Jill and John Oakes and Carol and Trevor Lightfoot of the 50th celebrations. Other pictures have been added from CDs’ sent to us of the visit to Bischofsheim in 2006 and Dzierzoniow in 2007. If any one has any archive pictures they consider interesting perhaps they will send them to me at the webmaster address.

I have received the pictures of Bischofsheim for their page on the site and I will make this up in the Autumn. I still await pictures and the new logo from Macon. The other proposed pages will be constructed as time allows. Minor display improvements have been made and others are in the pipeline.”

VISIT TO MACON

Trevor had arranged for Prestige Coaches to transport the delegation to and from Liverpool Airport, however the company then pulled out saying that they couldn’t do the run after all and that they had quoted for Manchester and not Liverpool.

Trevor contacted Colin Murphy who said he would try various companies but like Trevor there was no one who could do the trip. The main problem was that there were the right number for a mini bus but not enough room for luggage and a wheelchair as requested, and coaches would be too expensive.

Cath Murphy gave information about the train service to Liverpool saying that there is train from Birmingham stopping at Crewe and leaving Crewe at 07.23hrs stopping at Liverpool Parkway with a free shuttle service to the Airport.

It was decided that the delegates travelling to Liverpool would make arrangements between themselves as to how they got to the Airport. Wendy suggested that they could car share and leave the car at the Airport.

Accommodation has been arranged in two Hotels in Macon. Who stays where has been decided by Macon. The two Hotels are the Hotel Bellevue and the Hotel Bourgogne.

A provisional itinerary has also been sent and all delegates have received a copy.

On arrival at Geneva the delegates will be met and taken by coach to Macon.

On return to Geneva John thought that a 07.00hrs departure from Macon was cutting it fine for the check in. Carol said that she would email Macon and ask for an earlier departure.

Discussion took place as to what the twinning committee could take as a gift and all thought that a selection of English cheeses might be welcome and be used with a cheese course at one of the meals.

COUNCIL REPORT

At the Council meeting held on 8th August Cllr. Brian Silvester reported that the twinning weekend to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of twinning with Macon was a great success and that he enjoyed participating in the weekends events. He thanked all who had worked so hard to make the weekend possible.

He said he was particularly keen that as a council we should build on this and explore opportunities for the future. He therefore suggested that the Organisation Scrutiny Committee undertake the task of reviewing our twinning arrangements and put it on a more business like footing, where clear measurable targets should be set and monitored regularly.

This caused a heated debate of the twinning committee. The main point being that the twinning association are all volunteers and will only do as much as they can offer.

After further discussion it was decided to continue as always and that being that “The volunteers will endeavour to continue meeting the objectives in the constitution which was handed down from the Council and slightly amended to the needs of the organisation”.

CORRESPONDENCE

A personal thank you to all CANTA members from Brenda and Michael Klafkowski who have moved out of the area to Oxfordshire.

An email from Linda Walker re “Twinning Grants”. It was decided to discuss this at the next meeting.

An email from Alois Barton (Chairman Bischofsheim Twinning Association) giving a date for the intended trip of approx. 30 delegates to visit England and spending 4 days in Crewe and Nantwich. The date is 22nd June 2008. They are also requesting to be hosted by local families when visiting Crewe and Nantwich. The committee have agreed this is possible but will put it as an item for discussion at a later date.

An email from Maria Zarzycka (Director of the Town Public Library in Dzierzoniow) thanking Barbara and John Colbert for the book about Wybunbury which they have donated to the Library in Dzierzoniow.

A request from Firefighter Pete Shields who has taken on the responsibility of the Crewe Fire Cadets and is requesting becoming involved in any events put on by our twin towns. Both Macon and Bischofsheim fire service have been contacted and hopefully will respond.

Letter from Francoise Lindepurg (Macon) The Macon Flying Club are celebrating an anniversary next year and their President would like us to contact the flying club locally as he wishes to send them an invitation. This we have done and await further correspondence.

A letter from Jean – Patrick Courtois (Senateur – Maire of Macon) expressing his thanks for such a wonderful weekend which he and the Macon delegates experienced.

AOB

Joyce is arranging for childrens art work and art work from children in Dzierzoniow to form a display. It was suggested that schools apply and that Macon and Bischofsheim also be included.

A group of engineering students from Macon are to visit Crewe and Nantwich on Thursday 11th October 2007 Arrangements have been made for them to visit the Municipal Buildings and Dane Bank College. Peter Barnard suggested that they could visit the vehicle repair workshop and MOT testing station at the Pym's Lane Depot. This was thought to be a good idea and Trevor said he would try and arrange it.

Ann Roberts said that a plaque should go on the sign post explaining what the meaning of the sign post is. All thought this a good idea.

On 5/6th August 50 scouts from Dzierzoniow who had been to the centenary Jamboree in the South of England visited Crewe and Nantwich. They were hosted by local scouts at Mildale and welcomed by the Chairman of CANTA, Clive Mosby.

Leaders were taken to meet the Mayor of Crewe and Nantwich, Cllr. Maurice Jones and afterwards the scouts were taken on a tour of Nantwich by CANTA members and a welcome visit to the open air pool. An invitation has since been extended for a return visit and scouts from Crewe and Nantwich plan to return in two years time.

Several members have given their apologies for the October meeting, it was therefore decided to postpone this meeting and that the next committee meeting would be on 7th November.

The meeting closed at 9pm.