

DRAFT MINUTES OF DORSET TWINNING ASSOCIATION AGM
HELD AT THE COLLITON CLUB, DORCHESTER
WEDNESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2018

Present: Peter Wharf-Bere Regis; Jacquie Hall, Wareham Twinning (Secretary); Roger Angel, Bere Regis (Chairman); Ann and Peter Rendell -(Weymouth/Louviers/Holzwickede; Valerie Jepps, Tony and Margaret Greenham – Beaminster; Tony Watts and David Warhurst-Poole/Cherbourg; Maria Ellison and Marian Dixon- Bradford Peverell/St Sebastian; Helen Lamper, Tim and Pat Jolly – Sturminster Newton; Sid Eyde – Christchurch.

Everyone gave a short introduction of themselves and Association

Welcome: President, Cllr Peter Wharf welcomed all to the AGM

Apologies: Philip Sharp (Acting Treasurer); John Pounder-Swanage-Cerisy du Salle; Barry & Jenny Hills –Bradford Peverell; Jo & Charlie Thornton – Piddlehinton; Jeremy Barker- Sherborne Douzelage; Ian & Penny Blaby- Dorchester/Bayeux; David Ireson – Lytchett Matravers, Fred Flack – Weymouth&Portland; David Lloyd – Gillingham; Jenny Andrews -Blandford Preetz.

The Minutes of the last AGM (17th October 2017) were agreed (Proposed by Margaret Greenham, Seconded by Tony Greenham) and Matters Arising: Peter Rendell asked whether GDPR affects the Association. We have a disclaimer on the website, but if anyone objects to their email address being held, they are to contact the Secretary.

Management Committee Report from the Chairman: The end of my second year as Chairman of the DTA. What have we achieved?

As last year we have held regular committee meetings. These have not only dealt with the day to day running of the Dorset Twinning Association but also with a view to looking at ways of injecting new life into an old format.

We have tried very hard to put together ways and means of helping all members of the DTA by offering advice and support where needed. Unfortunately, no-one has stepped forward and asked for help and we are sure some of you would be happy to use this information.

This, therefore, leads us into “communication” and to this end our webmaster/Treasurer, Philip Sharp, has revamped the DTA website. He has worked very hard and all associations have been informed of the changes and asked to check whether the information shown for them is correct. If these details are not correct then the whole “communication” idea fails.

Please help us to help you!

We are still uncertain as to how the change of Dorset County Council into a Unitary Authority will affect the DTA so it is a case of watch this space.

So, as you can see, and as last year, we do not just sit around and hope things happen. Your committee is working for all of the Association Members.

Remember Dorset Twinning Association needs your help so please “communicate” so that we can all help each other to enjoy our twinning.

Statement of Accounts and Subscriptions: The accounts had been circulated to Treasurers, and should be on the website. It was agreed that the subscription this year would be £60, and would be left to the discretion of the Committee.

Website and social media: Apparently during the last year the DTA website has received 88245 hits, and the ‘top location’ is France.

It was requested that all Associations check out the new website, especially the links to their own websites, and their contacts.

Gallery – members can add photos, by requesting permission from Philip to be added to the list of users to albums. web@twinning.org.uk

Calendar: Anyone can share it

Facebook Page: Philip can add content to which members can comment.

Facebook Group: members can ask to join, and then can post any content themselves.

This social media is more useful than the website.

The Election of Management Committee: There was a plea for more people/ new blood to join the Committee. The Chairman of DCC has agreed that Mr Peter Wharf of DCC can stand as our President. Chairman-Roger Angel, Secretary-Jacquie Hall, Acting Treasurer-Philip Sharp, Members-John Pounder, Tony Watts, David Warhurst and Valerie Jepps

Update on twinning Charter between Dorset and La Manche: Tony Watts explained the history to this, but said the link between DCC and the French Regional HQ in St Lo has been lost. 'La Manche' twinning has folded. Also the follow up is in abeyance at the moment due to the Local Reorganisation of Dorset. We will know more after the changes have occurred maybe end of May. Peter Wharf said that he would revitalise the link if he is re-elected.

It was felt by the majority that Brexit will have no bearing on twinning, unless certain Associations are reliant on funding

Events: Quiz by Sturminster Newton is on Thursday 8th November.

Perhaps we could resurrect the boules championship?

There will be Battle of Normandy commemorations during June 2019 again in France, being the 75th anniversary. Tony Watts will forward the contacts details to Chairman and Secretary to follow up.

Sid Eyles mentioned the good deals that can be gained from Brittany ferries. The contact is Niki Dilawersah on 01202 506623

There were verbal reports from round the table

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm wishing all members another successful twinning year.

Date and time and venue of next AGM: Date and time to be agreed. Venue will be the Colliton Club, during October 2019