



TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of organisations interested in finding out more about twinning with Quincy held at 7:30pm, Tuesday 20th April 2017 at Loddon Hall, Twyford.

Present: Councillors: Mr David Fergusson (Chair), Mrs Bridget Ditcham (also representing The Colleton School), Mr John Bowley, Mr Roy Mantel & Mr D White. Members of local organisations: Mrs Jacky Crossman (High Voltage Singers), Mrs Audrey Curtis (The History Society & Age Concern), Mr Steve Green (Twyford Comets), Mr G Holmes (Age Concern), Mrs Jan Kendall & Mrs Frances Macmillan (Age Concern).

Apologies: Councillors – Mr Merv Boniface, Mr Malcolm Bray, Mrs Teresa Ramsden, Mr R Morris. Members of organisations – Mr J March (Twyford Scouts), Mrs C Dunsterville (TRHA), Mr Gordon Storey (Twyford Together), Mr S Wakeland (Cycling) & Mr M Yeates.

1. Welcome

Twyford Parish Council Chairman – Mr Roy Mantel

The Chairman welcomed everyone attending and introduced Mr Fergusson the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee who chaired the meeting.

2. Introductions of all attendees

Introductions were made around the room.

3. Background & history of the idea

Mr David Fergusson thanked everyone for attending and reported that Quincy approached Twyford Parish Council early last year with a view to forming a twinning relationship with Twyford. This has been discussed within the Parish Council and over the last months there has been correspondence between the Parish Council and the Quincy Council. The Council are looking for members of the community to drive the project.

4. Summary of last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and an overview was given. Mr Fergusson reported that Stephen Walkland of the Cricket Club and Tom Toy of 1st Twyford Scouts do not wish to be involved on behalf of their clubs as there are not similar clubs in Quincy. Disappointment was expressed that the cricket club do not see this as an

opportunity. Stephen Wakeland, although unable to attend, had expressed an interest in organising a cycling trip to Cuincy. There was agreement that this was a good idea. Jacky Crossman of High Voltage Singers reported that she had carried out some investigations and has discovered a Cuincy choir called 'Ephemere' (The Ephemeral Choir) directed by Pascale Imbert. They consist of 24 amateur singers. They could be a good twin with the Twyford based 'High Voltage Singers' for the future. Gordon Storey had reported by email that he was confident that the businesses might like to be involved in any sponsorship or publicity or any events involving wine (Stanlake) and beer (Binghams) and Robertsons Language have a direct interest.

A general discussion took place on how the organisations could participate in the twinning relationship. Jacky Crossman has experience in travelling to France with a choir. Age Concern would like to exchange ideas on treating the elderly. Perhaps a visiting choir could visit Age Concern? The over 60's club might be interested in an exchange. The History Society would be interested in the twinning project. It could also be a good opportunity to learn new sports. It was agreed the project should start small with a small nucleus of people to start the project and help it grow.

5. Discussion on interest to pursue Twinning

Ideas to get other members engaged were suggested. Thoughts to involve Nicky from RG10 and also hold a stall at the Donkey Derby and Village Fete. Suggestion of having a table in the Twyford Together marquee – What's in it for us? What does Cuincy expect from us? The social benefits and opportunities of twinning. Mrs Bridget Ditcham will ask Twyford Together about this.

Mr Mantel asked is Cuincy the best twin for us? There are some mismatches. The twinning committee might like to take a step back- is this the best fit? Cuincy has a similar population with more facilities. The general thought was that Cuincy has more facilities, which is a good thing, and are keen to twin. Steve Green repeated Gordon's comments from the previous meeting – What's not to like? What's to lose?

6. Request for volunteers to help form a Twinning committee

It was thought the committee will need to meet monthly and once established every 2 months. It was agreed to hold another meeting inviting the wider community. 4/5/6 members are required on the committee. Jan Kendall volunteered and Jacky Crossman offered to start the ball rolling with a musical exchange. David White speaks French and is also keen to be involved. It was agreed the Council should respond to Cuincy with a serious interest of twinning.

Agreed to advertise the next meeting and create awareness as follows:

Notice of meeting on Twyford Kindness Page & Twyford Berkshire facebook pages – clerk.

Agreed to contact other groups and organisations – school PTA's, Churches, bell ringers, Reading accordion group (Jacky to make contact) etc

Local papers

BBC Berkshire

Round and About

RG10 magazine

Waitrose noticeboard, Parish noticeboard & Brightons newsagents.

David White to design a poster.

7. Date of next meeting – 25th May 2017 at 7:45pm in the Ruscombe Room, Loddon Hall. Bring a friend!

The meeting closed at 8:42pm

