

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TWINNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 23rd September, 2010

Present: Cllr M J Dobson (Chairman elect), Cllr Mrs J A Anderson and Cllr Ms V Branson, Mr Bisson and Mr Packer.

Councillor Withey was also present.

In attendance were Ms Beilby (Secretary) and Mrs Shenton (Committee Administrator).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aikman, N Heslop, Miss Sergison, Ms Spence and Thornewell, from Mr Atkinson, Mr Buck, Ms Levett, Mr Still, Mr Willsher and Mr Young and from Ms Saunders (Assistant Secretary).

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**TWC
10/011 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**TWC
10/012 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: That Councillor M Dobson be appointed as Chairman of the Twinning Committee for the current municipal year.

**TWC
10/013 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: That Mr D Still be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Twinning Committee for the current municipal year.

**TWC
10/014 MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Twinning Committee held on 18 March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**TWC
10/015 SECRETARY'S REPORT
(1) HEUSENSTAMM
(2) LE PUY
(3) REQUEST FOR TWINNING PARTNER**

The Secretary's report set out details of an exchange visit by pupils of the Adolf Reichwein Gymnasium to Tonbridge which had incorporated the unveiling of the sculpture commemorating the twenty-fifth

anniversary of the twinning between Heusenstamm and Tonbridge and Malling. It was noted that the Mayor intended to visit the Gymnasium when she attended the Nikolausmarkt in Heusenstamm over the weekend of 4/5 December 2010. It was further noted that the Tonbridge Arts Festival on 15-24 October would include performances by the youth section of the TSV Blasorchester.

The Chairman presented an outline of discussions held with various groups in Le Puy-en-Velay over the weekend of 18/19 September when he had attended the Fetes du Roi de l'Oiseau on behalf of the Mayor.

The Secretary advised that details of a request for a twinning partner received from Chereng, near Lille, had been forwarded to various parish councils within the borough.

The Secretary advised that meetings of the Twinning Committee were scheduled to be held on 24 March and 22 September 2011 and on 23 March 2012.

**TWC
10/016**

REPORT OF TONBRIDGE FRENCH CIRCLE

In submitting his apologies for absence Mr Buck had provided a brief report on the Circle's recent and forthcoming activities and events.

**TWC
10/017**

REPORT OF HEUSENSTAMM FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

The July 2010 edition of Nachrichten was attached to the agenda and a copy of the September 2010 edition circulated at the meeting. Mr Packer focused his report on the Tonbridge Arts Festival, forthcoming events, pupil exchanges and recent problems experienced with work placements for a student from Heusenstamm. The Secretary requested that Mr Packer provide details of the tree planting in the Friendship Wood to the Assistant Secretary so that invitations could be forwarded to all members of the Twinning Committee.

**TWC
10/018**

REPORT OF MALLING/AUCHEL ASSOCIATION

Mr Bisson outlined the Association's recent activity and provided details of the programme of events for the forthcoming year. Particular attention was drawn to the number of families involved in the exchange visits with Auchel and to the impact of the current economic situation on the financial resources of the Association.

**TWC
10/019**

REPORT OF SNODLAND/MOYEUVRE GRAND TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In the absence of Mr Hickmott no report was submitted.

**TWC
10/020**

REPORT OF BURHAM/L'EPINE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In the absence of Mr Young no report was submitted but it was noted that, in submitting his apologies, Mr Young had advised that this association 'remained dormant'.

**TWC
10/021**

REPORT OF DITTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In submitting his apologies Mr Atkinson had submitted a detailed report on the Association's recent and forthcoming activities and events. Copies of this report were circulated at the meeting.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

**TWC
10/022**

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

No matters were considered in private.

The meeting ended at 2037 hours