



## **CORSHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

### **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 17/11/2016**

**Present at the meeting:** Roger & Ann Fido, Maurice Hancock, Matt & Sue Wingrave, Maggie & John Rayner, John & Joan MacIver, Nigel & Liz Millward, Mark & Jane Campbell, John Lamont, Christine Bastow, Maggie Smith, Keith Stephens, Christine Taylor, Richard Cook, Allan Brooks

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Felicity & Peter Hurlow-Jones, Charles & Isabel Boyle, Jane & Cliff Gater, Margaret Mills, Joy Wingrave, Millie Carter, Sally Fletcher, Roger & Penny Clifton

#### **2. Chairman's welcome**

Roger Fido welcomed everyone to the 36th AGM of the Corsham Twinning Association.

#### **3. Approval/amendments of minutes of AGM 2015:**

The minutes from the meeting on 20th November 2015 were approved.

#### **4. Amendment to Clauses 6 and 8 of the Constitution:**

Under the present Constitution, the Accounts are prepared as at 31<sup>st</sup> October and presented to the AGM in November. However, this does not allow for inclusion of all the costs associated with the exchange visit which usually takes place in October. It was therefore proposed to amend Clause 8 of the Constitution to move the date for preparing the Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> December, ie after the exchange visit has taken place, but before subscriptions are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January; and to amend Clause 6 to move the AGM to February. This was agreed, proposed by Sue Wingrave and seconded by Nigel Millward.

#### **5. Chairman's address:**

Roger Fido's report was as follows:

*“Last year I reported our membership had risen to 114. During this year we have examined the list and removed a number of non-active names so the figure is now 92. I must emphasise that we should continue to recruit and ask you to consider if family and friends would enjoy being part of our happy band. Word of mouth is by far the most effective way to increase our numbers and maintain a solid base for both hosting and visiting.*

*Once again I have to thank our committee for making so many events work, not only as a fun evening but profitable towards the goal of financing the visit by Jargeau.*

*Special thanks go to Sue Wingrave who has performed the Secretarial duties now for 3 years in an already busy life. From now, she will share these duties with Maggie Rayner who will also continue as Minutes Secretary. Thanks also go to Matt Wingrave for the Treasurership, Maggie Rayner for the Minutes, my son Jonathan for the webmaster duties and a huge thanks to Jane Gater for all the support and help she gives me.*

*We are losing Joy Wingrave from the committee as she is now at University. We thank her for her input, especially our advertising leaflet and wish her well for the future.*

*Charles Boyle has also decided to step down after many years on the committee. We thank him for all he has done to make our Association so successful, and wish him well for the future. So we now have 2 committee vacancies and I will later propose Mark Campbell who has agreed to join us. If anyone here would like to fill the other vacancy, the opportunity comes in a few minutes.*

*Of course the main event this year was the visit by Jargeau. We all feel it went well and even the British weather played its part. The Dinner was well organised by Jane and Margaret Smith, and delicious with it. I hope the entertainment helped make the evening a success.*

*They all enjoyed the visit to the cheese factory and Wells. Without doubt Pascal, the French speaking blue badge guide was a great asset. From different conversations I had, I cannot imagine how much Cheddar cheese went back to Jargeau.*

*Copious thank you letters are in the process of being sent.*

*Financially, we had a grant from the Lord Methuen Trust of £1250 - we had requested £1000. We had £500 from Corsham Town Council especially for the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Wiltshire Council financed the Bingo machine. We hope to use this next year for fund raising. The accounts will show you that, thanks to several successful fund raisings, the Association's funds from last year's level are only down about £1700. Very good when you consider we had budgeted to put £3000 into the visit.*

*Next year we have already drawn up a programme which will be circulated shortly. To whet your appetite it contains the following:*

*January 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Quiz and Fish and chip supper. Cricket Club 7.30 for 8.00 £10*

*February 25<sup>th</sup> Woodturning Demonstration (TBC) Cricket Club. Nominal entry.*

*March 25<sup>th</sup> French Meal prepared by our ladies. Hopefully at Gastard Village hall.*

*May 13<sup>th</sup> Bingo evening, possibly with food. No venue yet.*

*June 24<sup>th</sup> Boules competition at Queens Head in Box 6pm start. £2 per person to cover engraving.*

*July 15<sup>th</sup> BBQ courtesy of the Wingraves. More details in due course.*

*September still under consideration*

*October 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> visit to Jargeau. Full details in due course. Cost will be in the region of £200 per person, discount for children sharing hotel room. The final price will be somewhat dependant on the exchange rate.*

*November Wine tasting and quiz. Probably Cricket Club date and cost yet to be fixed. We do have glasses thanks to Sainsburys.*

*Announcements.*

*Don't forget the Floral demonstration here on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Tickets £10 available from Christine Bastow or Sue.*

*I believe you all enjoy Corsham Band and as a plug for them their Xmas Concert is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 3 pm in the Town Hall. £7 payable on the door, includes light refreshments.*

*I very much look forward to your continued support and recruitment of new members."*

## **6. Matters arising:**

The Chairman updated the meeting on matters arising from the 2015 meeting, as follows:

- a. **Involving younger people in Twinning:** Matt Wingrave had followed up a request from Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford-on-Avon regarding an opportunity for West of England Youth Orchestra to go to Jargeau as part of their 2018 Music Tour. Matt had given them a contact in Jargeau, but the orchestra had said they didn't want an exchange situation.
- b. **Subscription rates:** new rates had been introduced from 1/1/16. Some members had not yet updated their standing orders and would be reminded in due course.
- c. **Box Twinning:** Box was now officially twinned with Sorigny in the Loire valley.
- d. **Twinning success stories:** more stories were needed for the website. Members were requested to send any contributions to the Chairman.

## **7. Financial report**

Matt Wingrave presented this year's accounts. The closing balance was £3903.58. Viewed over a two-year cycle (to cover one visit from Jargeau and one visit to Jargeau), the accounts were in a healthy position, aided by the successful fund raising activities that had been held during the year. Roger Fido proposed to accept the accounts and John Rayner seconded.

## **8. Election of Officers and Committee**

The election for members of the committee was as follows:

**Chairman:** Matt Wingrave proposed Roger Fido to continue as Chairman, seconded by Liz Millward. No other nominations were received and Roger Fido was elected.

**Secretary:** Roger Fido proposed Sue Wingrave to continue as Secretary, with Maggie Rayner to assist. This was seconded by Jane Campbell. No other nominations were received and Sue Wingrave was elected.

**Treasurer:** Maggie Smith proposed Matt Wingrave to continue as Treasurer, seconded by John Maclver. No other nominations were received and Matt Wingrave was elected.

**Vice-Chairman and Minute Secretary:** these would be agreed by committee members at their next committee meeting.

**Committee members:** Charles Boyle and Joy Wingrave had stepped down from the Committee, and the Chairman thanked them for their contributions.

Current members were: Roger Fido, Matt Wingrave, Sue Wingrave, Maurice Hancock, Maggie Rayner, Christine Bastow, Jane Gater, Felicity Hurlow-Jones, Maggie Smith, Sally Fletcher, Christine Taylor, Keith Stephens, Nigel Millward, Rob Cannings and Miranda Morgan. These were re-elected en bloc, proposed by Ann Fido and seconded by John Rayner.

New member elected was: Mark Campbell, proposed by Roger Fido, seconded by Christine Bastow.

## **9. AOB**

- a. Maggie Smith said she had taken comments from our visitors from Jargeau and translated and distilled them into an article which would appear in the Corsham Civic Society magazine. Once published, it was proposed to put the article on the CTA website.

**10. Date of next AGM:**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm at the Cricket Club, to be followed by a skittles match.

**11. Talk:** Mr Alan Brookes gave a talk on his sponsored walk to Jargeau in 1990.