



**Thame & District Twinning Association
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Friday 1st July 2022, 7:30pm
Christchurch, Upper High Street, Thame, OX9 2DN**

	Agenda items	Action
1	<p>Present: Linda Emery, Sue Motteram, David and Norma Laver, Liz and Pieter-Paul Barker, Bridget Trueman, Owen Davies, Martin and Philomena Goodall, Carl Barnes.</p> <p>Apologies for absence: Roy Motteram, Robert Trueman, Sally Davies, Helena Fickling, David and Sandra George, Caroline Baynes, Matthew Harper, Deborah Miller</p>	
2	Minutes of the AGM held on Thursday, 1st July 2021 - Agreed	
3	Chair's Report – Linda. See attachment	
4	<p>Treasurer's Report; to include the 2021/22 Annual Accounts – Liz. see attachments.</p> <p>It was noted that we are saving a considerable amount of money in insurance premiums now that we are coming under the umbrella insurance of 21st Century Thame.</p>	
5	<p>Election of Officers 2022/23</p> <p>In the absence of any nominations for committee posts, the existing committee agreed to remain in position.</p> <p>Chair- Linda Vice-chair – David Treasurer – Liz Secretary – Sue Vice-secretary – Bridget</p> <p>We are grateful to Bridget for taking on responsibility for Facebook now that Sonja has moved away and Anna is away at University and just about to embark on 2 six month placements abroad.</p>	

6	<p>Fundraising 2022/23</p> <p>Given the lack of expenditure during the pandemic, our bank balance is very healthy and fundraising can be kept fairly low-key while we manage the continuing risk of Covid.</p> <p>David is happy to carry on setting up the occasional stall at the Tuesday market and has booked a space at the Community Market Day on Tuesday, 30th August. Help will be needed as a number of committee members are away. Sue will get items for a tombola during her next stay in France and ticket them, so that everything is ready.</p> <p>Saturday, 3rd September, weather permitting: Cream tea at Bridget and Robert's following the same format as last year's very successful event. Fine 3.30pm -5.30pm. £5 a ticket. We will need volunteers to make scones and cakes.</p> <p>Film Nights – can we go back to holding them at the Cross Keys? Liz will ask Pete, the Landlord, but we are still very aware that Covid numbers are on the rise and that many people are still, understandably, avoiding gatherings in small indoor spaces. A good compromise could be to alternate between the Cross Keys and Zoom. The advantage of Zoom films is that we can invite the French to join us. The disadvantage is that they generate no income. That said, we don't currently need the income and we are a not for profit organisation.</p> <p>Liz had several recommendations from Elisabeth during the Twinning weekend. She'll get the films and preview them.</p> <p>Christmas markets – no info as yet and we still don't know what we would be permitted to sell in France or how we would go about finding out about the correct forms to fill in, import duty etc. If anyone knows, please let us know.</p>	<p>David</p> <p>Sue</p> <p>Bridget</p> <p>Liz</p>
7	<p>September & December Visit 2022 and coach costs:</p> <p>Our invitation to go to Montesson has been confirmed for the weekend of 16th-18th September.</p> <p>It is clear that those who wish to travel to Montesson would prefer to travel by coach, but the cost of a coach will be prohibitive, unless we are able to at least half fill it. Currently only 12 members have said that they are seriously interested in going in September. Linda has made some initial, but unsuccessful enquiries with a few coach companies, with her emails going unanswered. She will call them this week and hopefully get a better idea of cost. The French coach cost them around 3,500 euros so a full size coach will cost in excess of £4000, even £5000, especially with the price of fuel</p>	<p>All committee</p>

	<p>continuing to rise. Those present at the meeting indicated that £150 per head would be the absolute maximum they would be prepared to pay. The twinning committee have agreed to subsidise the cost of the coach by £1000 from our funds. Ideally, we would like to get the cost down to £120 per head, but for that we need more than 30 people.</p> <p>A discussion ensued to propose ways of filling empty seats, possibly with people who would find their own accommodation in Paris. Anyone taking a seat would be expected to have paid the £10 membership subscription and to pay a deposit.</p> <p>The committee will meet very soon to agree wording of an advert that we can put out on various sites including:</p> <p>Town Council Newsletter “Love Thame” and Twinning Facebook Pages Old Tamensians Lord Williams’ A Level students? Safeguarding issues could make this impossible and previous requests have been rejected -so discounted U3A – Thame, Chinnor, Haddenham Katzi Emms – French conversation teacher in Thame Nextdoor neighbour website Chiltern View Twinning associations of nearby towns, including Worcester who are twinned with Le Vésinet. Members to bring friends/ family members with them. We will write to Anne to find out how many people they think they could accommodate. We remain fully aware that Covid is still a major consideration and could make some of our members wary of participating. It was agreed that we should ask everyone to do a LFT prior to departure.</p>	
9	<p>AOB – Bridget’s return flight from France just before the Jubilee weekend was affected by flight cancellations and she regrets not being able to host the communal meal for our friends from Montesson and their hosts during their recent visit. She thanked Sue for stepping in at the last minute. Sue thanked everyone for their contributions towards the meal, which was a huge success, despite the cold weather. Thank you, Roy for setting up the gazebos for us.</p>	

	<p>Facebook and website – thank you to Bridget and Roy for maintaining these. Please continue to update. Sue will send photos separately for them to upload Newsletters etc.</p> <p>John Hampden – as far as we know they still exchange messages once a term. Sue will write to Laura McDonald at John Hampden. Sadly nothing seems to have taken root at Barley Hill or St Joseph's.</p>	
10	Date and Venue of Next AGM - to be decided later	