

## NEWBURY TWIN TOWN ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at the Volunteer Bureau, Newbury on 5 April 2001

Present: Mr W J Turner (Chairman), Mesdames J Jessett, M Craig, and M Wallace-Sims, Messrs F H Graham, J Johnston, R F C Pickett, and G Poulson, and Cllr S Farrant. Also in attendance, by invitation, Mr S Lee.

**Apologies** for absence were received from Mesdames Anfield, Fittell, James, and Roberts, and Mr Jessett.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Craig to her first meeting. He explained that Mr Lee had been identified by Mr Poulson as a possible Eeklo Secretary. Mr Lee speaks Dutch, and could get by in Flemish. **RESOLVED** that Mr Lee be allowed to observe throughout the meeting.

1. **The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2001** were, following several minor amendments, signed as a true record.

2. **Chairman's Report and Correspondence:** The Chairman reported with regard to
- (a) Notification of the Committee changes made at the AGM in February 2001 - sent to Eeklo, and to be sent to Carcaixent and Kiskunfélegyháza shortly;
  - (b) Fax received from Bagnols-sur-Cèze showing changes in personnel on their Committee;
  - (c) Useful meeting on 19 March 2001 with the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Chief Executive, and Civic Manager of Newbury Town Council when they discussed
  - (i) Mechanics of twinning with Feltre, if Feltre responded affirmatively to letter then about to be sent by the Town Mayor;
  - (ii) Celebration of Silver Jubilee of twinning with Eeklo;
  - (iii) Possible invitation by the Association for the Town Council to appoint a Member and an Officer to serve on a Working Party to organise the International Reunion 2002;
  - (iv) Display of Newbury District Council's Coat of Arms on the traffic island at Bagnols;
  - (v) General relationship between the Association and the Town Council.

3. **Committee Appointments:** No volunteers had come forward for the post of Hon Secretary. One name suggested did not appear to have relevant experience. The Chairman explained the role of the Eeklo Secretary to Mr Lee. Subject to him becoming a member of the Association and to further discussion with the Chairman, Mr Lee expressed willingness in principle to take over the duties. **RESOLVED** that a decision be deferred to the next meeting.

4. **Location and dates of Committee meetings:** The Chairman thanked Mr Poulson for making a room available for this meeting. Unfortunately the room was not big enough to accommodate those present at the meeting, which was not the whole Committee. Mrs Jessett reported that no rooms were available at either St George's or St Francis de Sales. Various alternatives were canvassed. **RESOLVED** that Mrs Jessett explore the matter with Mr Painter at Bayer's HQ.

5. **Finance:** (a) The Hon Treasurer reported, copy filed with these Minutes, on the Bank balances at the end of March 2001. Income included the Newbury Town Council subvention for 2000 of £1300, and subscriptions. Expenditure included a deposit for accommodation of the Youth for Europe event, and the British German Association subscription.

(b) The Hon Treasurer reported on the desirability of including Mrs Craig as a signatory for the Bagnols Treasurer and Bagnols Business No Notice Accounts at HSBC Bank. **RESOLVED** that

- (i) These Bank Accounts be continued with HSBC Bank plc (the 'Bank') and the Bank is authorised to:
  - (a) pay all cheques and other instructions for payment signed on behalf of the Association by any two of those listed (Mr W J Turner, Mr J Johnston, Mrs M Craig, and Miss B M Mills) (the 'signatories') whether any account of the Association is in debit or credit;
  - (b) deliver any item held on behalf of the Association by the Bank in safe keeping against the written receipt of the signatories;
  - (c) accept the signatories as fully empowered to act on behalf of the Association in any other transaction with the Bank.
- (ii) Any debt incurred to the Bank under this mandate shall, in the absence of written agreement

- by the Bank to the contrary, be repayable on demand.
- (iii) The Secretary is authorised to supply the Bank as and when necessary with lists of persons who are authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Association, and that the Bank may rely on such lists.
  - (iv) These resolutions remain in force until cancelled by notice in writing to the Bank signed by the Chairman or Secretary acting or claiming to act on behalf of the Association, and the Bank shall be entitled to act on such notice whether the resolutions have been validly cancelled or not.

6. **Membership:** Mrs Jessett handed the Hon Treasurer 14 cheques received since the AGM, and reported one new member. She also reported the death of John Bullen, a former member of the Committee, on 29 March 2001.

7. **Town Secretaries' Reports:**

Bagnols-sur-Cèze - Mrs Craig reported that 24 French pupils and 2 teachers had arrived in Newbury on 3 April, and would leave on 13 April. Unless another teacher could be found to replace Mrs Carlisle to run the French Schools Exchange, these exchanges would be unlikely to continue. The current exchange had got off to a bad, unwelcoming, start. Mrs Craig would speak to Mr Robinson, Head of St Bart's School, to express her disquiet. The visit to the Town Hall had caused the Town Mayor inconvenience due to insufficient notice. Much earlier discussion over such visit would have to take place in future. The Chairman asked whether, and if so, what arrangements would be made to entertain the two French teachers. RESOLVED that the offer of Mr & Mrs Johnston to host a party at their house on 11 April 2001 be accepted with thanks.

8. **Town Correspondents' Reports:**

(a) Feltre - Mrs Wallace-Sims reported a letter from Sgnra Alberta Perenzin asking for the Association to receive a party of young Italians to improve their English. Alberta had again requested a visit to a local school during term-time. She had spoken to Alberta on the telephone, and later to a Mrs Janet Parminter, who teaches Italian. RESOLVED that the Chairman and Mrs Wallace-Sims examine the matter further and report.

The Chairman reported that the formal letter from the Town Council to Feltre had now been sent.

(b) Carcaixent - The Chairman reported that Mrs Anfield had been investigating Airline fares and routes to Spain, and had sought a quote for coach travel from Newbury to Heathrow. She had faxed the relevant information to Sonia Marti for the subvention application

(c) Kiskunfélegyháza - A Mrs Sylvia Lidstone had been approached to become Correspondent for Kiskunfélegyháza. She would consider that when she had received further information.

9. **Youth for Europe:** In the absence of Miss Roberts, the Chairman reported that the arrangements, with the exception of beds for the participants, which Mr Jessett was pursuing, were well in hand.

10. **International Reunion in Newbury 2002:** It was RESOLVED that

- (a) A Working Party ('the 2002 Working Party') be established to organise the International Reunion 2002 comprising the Chairman, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, the three Town Secretaries, and the Feltre Correspondent *ex officio*, with power to co-opt such other members of the Association who were willing to serve;
- (b) The Town Council be invited to appoint a Councillor and an Officer of the Council to serve;
- (c) At its first meeting the Working Party consider what, if any, matters it would wish to have delegated to it;
- (d) The first meeting be called after the Town Council's response had been received.

11. **Publicity:** The Committee congratulated Mr Poulson on his first edition of 'The Twin Towner'. The Chairman would write to Mr Clive Mallett who had drawn the cartoon on the front.

12. **Social Events:** In the absence of Mrs James, the Chairman drew attention to the list of social events in The Twin Towner. No date had yet been identified for the proposed Wine Tasting.

The meeting closed at 2205.

  
30 2001.

NTTA Accounts (January - end March 01)

Brought forward (Jan 01):

Treasurer Acct. 42-75 }  
Business No Notice Acct. 5506-81 } 5549-56

Income

Subscriptions 205-00 }  
Newbury Town Cnl (for 2000) 1300-00 }  
Bank Interest 34-30 } 1554-30  
Dfessett cheque (not cashed) 15-00 }

Expenditure

St Barts School (for Y for E) 250-00 }  
British/German Assn Sub. 20-00 }  
Dfessett 39-55 } 309-55  
6794-31

Carried forward (end Mar 01)

Treasurer Acct. 248-42 }  
Business No Notice Acct. 6545-89 } 6794-31

J. Johnston  
5.4.01