

DIDCOT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

TUESDAY, 4 JUNE 2019

Boundary Park Pavilion, Great Western Estate, Didcot, 7.30 - 8.30 pm.

Present:-

Axel Macdonald (Chair)	Jacqui Oldham	Penny Wilde
Anthony Dearlove	Diane Jenkins	Mocky Khan
Sheralyn Hares	Phil Jenkins (Treasurer)	Jen Parry
Janet Cockburn	Pam Siggers	Sue Totterdell
Geoff Oldham (Secretary)	Mark McNeill	Dave Totterdell

1. Welcome

Axel Macdonald, the Chair of the Twinning Association, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Anthony Dearlove, Mayor Didcot for agreeing to Chair the AGM.

Anthony Dearlove took over the chair and said he was pleased to have such a good turn out for the AGM.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Nick and Eleanor Hards, Gerry and Anne Goff, Denise Macdonald and Marion Shipton.

3. Minutes of AGM 2018

There were no corrections to the minutes and these were agreed unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's report.

I'm pleased to report that we have had another busy year mainly focused on our visit to Meylan last September accompanied by several town councilors. We were honoured to have our mayor and his wife (Bill and Angela Service), the leader of the town council (Steve Connel) and the Labour group leader, Mocky Khan and his wife Lisa. My wife

Denise, also a councilor, completed the council team who attended. As a mark of this, Meylan's councilors put on special meeting for the two teams to share ideas.

Details of our visit are provided in our newsletter but suffice to say the Meylan twinning team's hard work paid off and the Didcot delegation had an interesting and entertaining time. Our next visit is to Planegg in September and would urge any members or those interested in going to let the committee know if they wish to be part of our delegation.

Diane Jenkins and Penny Wilde have continued to work on the links between our local schools and those in Planegg and Meylan. Their continued work is much appreciated and adds much to the twinning process. A link was established in the year between a Munich choir and one of the Didcot choirs. Work between them is understood to be ongoing and we await news of any musical events arising from this liaison. There has also been some interest in liaison with scout groups between our twinned towns and initial contact has been made.

During the year we have also held a number of social evenings at the Cornerstone to foster a feeling of community and to seek views on what we might do from outside of the committee members. Recently we moved our meetings to Boundary Park which has proved a better venue for our meetings. The venue's management requested assistance at their Oktoberfest last year at which both myself and Denise provided the traditional German food, Bratwurst. These were eagerly consumed and around £70 was raised for twinning activities.

As part of our local twinning activities, we have joined the Vale of White Horse twinning forum which provides a good medium to share ideas.

On a sadder note we paid our respects to one of our most devoted twinners, Peter Read, who passed away earlier this year. Both town councilors and twinning members attended his celebration of life event at which family members talked about their experiences with Peter. Council and twinning members also spoke, commenting on Peter's huge resources of energy and merriment.

I am pleased to see that we continue to enjoy a good relationship with the Town councilors and delighted that our new mayor, Anthony Dearlove, has been able to chair the AGM.

Axel Macdonald
4 June 2019

The Chair asked if there were any questions
There were none.

6. Treasurer's report

Phil Jenkins provided copies of the Association's accounts.

He reported that the this years accounts were simple as this was a year when we had no visitors and the main expenditure had been insurance and the purchase of new display boards. Cash in the bank at the end of the year was £2,458.04, slightly up from last years AGM (£2228.89).

The accounts were accepted without question.

7. Election of the Management Committee

Geoff Oldham provided the AGM with a list of the current committee members: Axel Macdonald, Denise Macdonald, Sue Totterdell, Phil Jenkins, Janet Cockburn, Diane Jenkins, Penny Wilde and Geoff Oldham.

The Chair said that all members of the Committee had agreed to continue for a further year. He ask if there was anyone who wished to join the committee. There were no volunteers

The Chair asked the AGM if they were content to elect the named individuals *en bloc* . This was agreed and the election was unanimously carried.

8. AOB

There were no other issues raised.

As there was no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed at 19:45