**MINUTES OF THE**

**TWINNING COMMITTEE FOR CORNWALL AGM**

**held on 18 November 2018 at The Penventon Park Hotel, Redruth**

Sue welcomed the gathered members to the AGM and went through health and safety issues and the basic housekeeping concerning the AGM.

**1 Apologies**

Prior to meeting: Andrew Boaden (Saltash)

At the meeting: Christine Fittock (Penryn), Peter Fittock (Penryn), Cynthia Tonkin (Newquay), David Yates (Saltash)

**2 Minutes of last AGM**

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted. These were proposed by Neil Plummer (Porthleven) and seconded by Roger Holmes (Liskeard). Passed unanimously.

**3 Matters arising**

The matter of the missing trophy was raised. Lilian Polkinghorne (Redruth) thanked all those who had been sleuthing and searching records in this matter. A photograph from 2014, the last known sighting of the John Jagger Trophy, has been found and will be circulated to see if the “culprits” can be pinned down.

**ACTION: TCC Sec**

**4 Correspondence**

There had been the usual day-to-day emails, for example updating of delegates etc.

Rick asked that up-to-date information should be sent to the secretary as soon as any change is made to ensure the maintenance of communications.

**5 Chairman’s Report**

Sue gave the following report:

“Ladies and gentlemen, fellow twinners!

I am delighted to welcome you to the Penventon once again this year for the TCC AGM. It is encouraging to see so many regular attendees alongside some new faces showing that twinning is still thriving in our Duchy. I would particularly like to welcome representatives from Penzance and hope we will be seeing a lot more of them in the future.

I would also like to welcome a French guest who has recently returned to Cornwall having spent a year in Callington as a French assistant 3 years ago. Laura Paillat has taken up the post of international officer at Cornwall Council with responsibility for the initiative *Coopération Cornouailles-Finistère* which was reaffirmed on October 2nd 2018. Excellent news during the gloom and doom of Brexit negotiations.

Laura has already met representatives of Truro twinning and recently attended a Flamenco evening organised by Callington Twinning Association, and is keen to get to know more about twinning in Cornwall. I’m sure you will take an opportunity to speak to her during the day and maybe she will wish to come back next year and tell us how her first year has gone.

Unfortunately, not all news is as positive, and a sign of an aging membership is the passing of stalwart representatives. This year Liam Bradley, for many years a Saltash delegate and an ardent supporter of the annual Boules competition, sadly lost his battle with ill-health. Our thoughts go to Judy at this difficult time.

Fortunately, many associations have had more to celebrate, and this is particularly true of a relative new-comer to the TCC fold. Helston Sasso Marconi recently celebrated 50 years of twinning with a plethora of activities I have been avidly following on Facebook. I have even used some of the Italian language reports as the basis of my Italian lessons, and my students in Callington were amazed to learn that there is a twinning between Cornish and Italian communities.

On a day-to-day level, a number of loyal associations have continued to send delegates to our quarterly meetings, and it would be enriching for us all to see more associations attending and sharing their ideas and experiences. Each association has such a wealth of ideas and good practices to share and there is definitely not a “one size fits all” in twinning. If, however, your association is unable to send delegates to the regular meetings I would urge you to read the reports which are issued with the minutes of each meeting. They are full of ideas for new activities that may be of interest to your members and may indeed provide inspiration for new activities and visits when you next host.

Our June event, the Boules Competition, was not quite as well attended as usual, possibly due to the gloomy weather, and for the third year running we are still missing the runners-up trophy. This did not affect the quality of the play which was excellent or the general good humour of participants. A big thank you must go to St Germans for offering an excellent piste, to Beatrice for getting all the information circulated, and Councillor Andrew Long for managing the fixture and helping Callington take the trophy – all legally and above board, of course!

Our meetings in Lostwithiel have been very smoothly organised by Nick Warrick with the added attraction of freshly baked cake provided by the lady of the household – yet another reason to put those Sundays in your diary for next year!

Keith has continued to manage our finances and is anxiously waiting to hand over his impeccable books to the treasurer-in-waiting. As he or she appears not to be in attendance today, Keith has indicated that his personal circumstances will allow him to continue for one more year and we must thank him for his forbearance and diligence during the year.

Our AGM today has been made possible due to the efforts of Beatrice in ensuring that all associations have the opportunity to be represented and I particularly thank her for the time she invests in our organisation.

This year we have seen a significant input from Lilian, once our secretary and now our lottery coordinator, in managing vast numbers of prizes and lottery tickets with considerable patience and good humour. It is heartening to see that the vast majority of associations who requested tickets have indeed sold them (Lilian knows to her cost because she has had to fold most of the stubs herself) making a tidy sum for the associations themselves who keep 75% of the sales and enough to cover printing costs and the £300 first prize offered by the TCC.

Thank you to all associations who provided prizes great and small as we do have an excellent array of goodies to distribute this afternoon before the main presentation.

Finally, I would like to say congratulations to you all on the work that you do to ensure that your community enjoys all the benefits of international cooperation. The world would be a less enjoyable place without twinning and twinning would be a less enjoyable place without you.

Long live twinning in all our communities.”

**6 Treasurer’s Report**

Keith presented the financial report, as outlined below:-

**Statement of Accounts 01-10-2017 to 30-09-2018**

**Receipts. £**

Current Account balance brought forward 2452.52

A.G.M. and Conference 574.50

Insurance 1330.00

Affiliation Fees 420.00

Boules Day 27.00

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**Total 4804.02**

**Payments. £**

Cheque – expenses 6.72

A.G.M. and Conference 616.00

Insurance 445.00

Administration 78.00

Lottery 66.00

Boules Day 45.00

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**TOTAL** 1256.72

Balance in HSBC Community Account

Dated 14th October 2018 £3547.30

The accounts had been prepared and presented by Keith Shaw, Hon. Treasurer. Ray Geatches, a retired postmaster in Callington and our nominated scrutineer, had examined the books and statements as presented to him and confirmed them to be a true record of the accounts of the committee.

Keith reported that there was approximately £1100 more in the bank than last year. It would appear that there could be another year of “free” public liability insurance for those who had previously paid. Owing to an imminent holiday, Keith apologised in advance for not sending out receipts for recent payments.

The books were available at the meeting for scrutiny at the AGM.

He reiterated that he would be prepared to stand as treasurer for ONE further year, but would then stand down. Members were urged to consider offering their services as treasurer, and it was highlighted that the job was not particularly onerous for most of the time: annual subscriptions and insurance payments and the income from the annual *boules* competition were the main tasks. Once every two years the lottery increased the work, but it was mainly straightforward receipts from sales from associations.

It was pointed out from the floor that one of the dates on the report was wrongly entered and members present were asked to simply correct their copies.

Neil Plummer (Porthleven) proposed and Alison Mandeville (Truro-Morlaix) seconded the acceptance of the accounts and also a vote of thanks to Keith for his work during the year. Both passed unanimously.

A further vote of thanks to Lilian was proposed by Sue for all the work that had been given. Lilian pointed out that members should check the weight of any parcel of returned stubs, as she had had to paid excess postage on some packages.

It was suggested that at least 3000, maybe 3500, should be printed next time. The date should be included in the design as some tickets from 2016 had been sold this year! Associations were reminded that unsold tickets should be returned.

Tickets had not been sent to associations who had previously shown no interest, although Lilian had contacted them to see if they would have been interested in participating.

It was mentioned that, if prizes were being sought by local associations on behalf of TCC, particularly those offering an “experience”, it should be checked that the “use-by” date on the vouchers should be sufficiently long.

The feeling of the meeting was that another printing firm be found, as there had been some hiccoughs.

Alison Mandeville proposed that the 25%-75% split be maintained in future years. Seconded by Philip Hanman (Helston). Accepted unanimously.

Margaret George (Truro-Morlaix) proposed and Alison Mandeville (Truro-Morlaix) seconded a vote of thanks to the outgoing committee. Passed unanimously.

After full and earnest debate, it was proposed that TCC amend the constitution to facilitate internet banking in the future. Proposed by Steve Liddicoat (St Germans) and seconded by Andrew Boaden (Saltash). Passed by majority.

**7 Election of Officers**

Sue Lumley handed over to the Secretary. It was proposed by Margaret George (Truro-Morlaix) and seconded by Lilian Polkinghorne (Redruth) that Sue Lumley be reinstated as Chairman. There being no other nominations, this was passed unanimously.

Sue retook the chair. The following nominations were made:

Lilian Polkinghorne (Redruth) proposed that the present committee be reinstated. Seconded by Jenny Bicknell (Newquay). Accepted unanimously. The officers for 2018-2019 would therefore be: -

Vice Chairman Beatrice Kerno (Stythians)

Secretary Richard Lumley (Callington)

Treasurer Keith Shaw (Callington)

**8 Election of Posts of Responsibility were as follows:-**

Roger Holmes declared that he would not be able to stand again as Publicity Officer. After discussion, Beatrice Kerno (Porthleven) offered to fulfil the role. This was seconded by Sue Lumley (Chair).

Publicity Officer Beatrice Kerno (Stythians)

Agreed unanimously

Webmaster Richard Lumley:

Proposed by Lilian Polkinghorne (Redruth)

Seconded by Beatrice Kerno (Stythians). Agreed unanimously

Beatrice’s email address for press copy is: ***beatricekerno@yahoo.co.uk***

It was made clear that Beatrice’s role was to co-ordinate press releases, rather than create them, and that it was the responsibility of associations to provide her with relevant articles, ideally with a photo.

**ACTION: All Associations and their members**

**9 The Edwin and Ernestine Jones Memorial Bursary**

It had been agreed at a recent General Meeting that the Bursary would not be raised as a continuing agenda item, as no offers were ever forthcoming. However, the Bursary would continue to be offered. Details are available on the TCC website.

Sue had thought that a young musician from Callington would have been an ideal candidate. This had been agreed at a General Meeting, but unfortunately the young man had not been able to get a passport in time. Sue did mention that Brittany Ferries had been extremely understanding and had extended deadlines.

It was suggested that Laura Paillat (see Item 5 above) might be able to find suitable candidates. Associations were encouraged to continue looking within their own towns.

**ACTION: All Associations and their members**

**10 County Boules Tournament**

Sue reiterated her thanks to Beatrice Kerno for arranging the tournament. The day had been very pleasant although numbers had been down on previous years, and associations were encouraged to participate next year.

The Truro piste would be available in June, but the Gorsedh (23rd June) should be avoided.

9th June proposed by Alison Mandeville (Truro-Morlaix); seconded by Lilian Polkinghorne (Redruth). Passed unanimously.

**ACTION: Beatrice (Porthleven) to book piste in Truro**

Stephanie Yates (Saltash) expressed a wish on behalf of the Saltash association that a new cup be offered in memory of Liam Bradley. The exact details to be decided at a later date.

**11 Dates of Future Committee Meetings**

20 Jan, 14 April and 1 September were proposed from the chair as being suitable dates. Passed unanimously.

**ACTION: Secretary to check availability of hall.**

**12 Date of next AGM**

The 2019 AGM would be held on Sunday 17th November. Proposed by the Chair. Passed unanimously.

Penventon would provisionally be next year’s venue. Beatrice would research alternative venues to compare facilities, menus and budgets.

**Associations were invited to suggest suitable alternatives by the January 2019 General Meeting.**

**ACTION: All Associations and their members**