

# Annual General Meeting of the Hayling Island/Gorron Town Twinning Association

## Meeting held 23 March 2019 at the British Legion

Attended by 20 Members. Apologies Sue Loveridge and Averil Pollicott

1. **Welcome to Members:** The Chairman welcomed and thanked all the members attending the meeting.
2. **Adoption of Previous Year's Minutes:** The minutes were duly adopted.
3. **Chairman's Report:** See below
4. **Treasurer's Report:** See below
5. **Membership Secretary's Report:** There are 97 members in total, 75% paying by bank transfer. We would like to make it 100! There have been a few enquiries via the web site which are being followed up.
6. **Ale-Ing Festival Report:** See below. Rod is standing down after 12 years running the Ale-ing fest – the Chairman thanked him for all his hard work over the years.
7. **Proposals Raised for Consideration:** There were no proposals made.
8. **Committee Members due to stand down:** The following committee members are due to stand out but were willing to be re-elected.  
  
Dave Collins – nominated by Kathy Fischer and seconded by Julia Kitchen  
Stacey Carter – nominated by Tony George and seconded by Rod Carter  
Tony George – nominated by Lynne George and seconded by Allan Fischer
9. **Election of Committee Members:** The above were all duly elected.
10. **Close of Meeting:** Meeting closed at 7.25

### Chairman's Report 2018/19

As this was my first year as Chairman, I appreciated all the help I was given by the outgoing Chairman - Rod and the President - Averil. Incidentally Averil sends her apologies for her absence which is due to urgent family business in France but she asked me to wish you all a good evening.

One of my first tasks was to appoint a Vice Chairman. Your committee has an increasing workload and it was felt that the addition of this position would help enormously. As the original constitution did not allow for this, I sought the help of Ian Pollicott, one of our founding members. He was happy to oblige and the addendum to the constitution is now on display at the Hayling Island library along with other artefacts and memorabilia.

The committee was happy to elect Tony George to the position of Vice Chairman and the appointment was made. He has been a valuable asset in taking charge of the monthly committee meeting when I am absent.

Our other task was to bring the Twinning website up to date, make it more informative and use it as a tool to attract new members, especially new younger members. In Gorron they have quite a

few young members and I hope I won't upset anyone if I say that our membership consists mainly of the "New Middle Aged". I would like to thank both Julia and Allan for helping us to achieve this. Have a look at it and if you have any stories to tell contact Julia.

During the year we had many social events that were well attended, and these contribute to the friendship between members that the Twinning is designed to do.

Our first major event was arrival of our French Twinners for the second time in two years. As usual the accommodation was ably handled by Sue and hosts were instructed to collect their friends from Portsmouth and transfer them to Northney farm for an excellent breakfast. The following day started with a visit to Portsmouth Dockyard area with a cruise round the harbour followed by a buffet lunch at the Still and West. Our formal dinner in the evening took place at the Golf Club with an excellent meal. Guest were invited from Havant B.C. to join us in the Celebrations.

Their last day started with the unveiling of the wrought iron tree in the community centre to celebrate 20 years of twinning which Michel Duchemin from Gorron had skilfully fabricated in his workshop with 20 leaves to mark the occasion and thoughtfully provided us with extras to add on each year. Thanks to Ashley Pollicott for collecting it from Gorron. During the farewell party a superb buffet was eaten and gifts were exchanged including a large silver medallion for our president Averil. Then, sadly, it was time to return our Gorron Twinners to Portsmouth for their journey home.

The July BBQ in Peter and Sue's garden was a major event, the sun shone, the food and company were excellent, and a good time was had by all. Many thanks once again to Peter and Sue for hosting this event.

October saw the Ale-ing fest once again. Hayling Island's own Real Ale and Cider Festival. Our main fund-raising event, Rod will tell us more about it later.

Sadly in November, Ian Pollicott passed away after a long illness. His funeral was attended by many Twinning members from both Hayling Island and Gorron. The mayor of Gorron addressed the members in English. Ian will be sadly missed by all of us.

The Christmas party at the Royal British Legion had to be cancelled on the evening due to a power outage in the Mengham Area.

In January we had an excellent Annual dinner at the Newtown House for the second year running which was attended by 38 members.

To replace the cancelled Christmas party, we had a Cosy Quiz evening at the URC with chilli and baked potatoes. Thanks to all who helped organise it and a special thanks to Kathy and Allan for running the Quiz. Kerry, one of our members, announced she was going to do a charity parachute jump in aid of her elected charity. We also made a profit to boost twinning funds.

As you know we are all off to Gorron from the 3rd to the 6th May to visit our French Twinners. I am sorry that Sue is not here to tell you more, details are on the improved website.

### **Treasurer's Report AGM 23.03.19**

The opening bank balance of the Twinning Account on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 was £1,637.26.

We received a total income of £1403.17 from the year's social events, with an additional £1,668.00 generated from the exchange visit fees. Membership fees totalled £423.00.

A main source of income was the profit of the 2017 Ale-ing Fest. A cheque for £3,000 was presented to the Twinning Association at last year's AGM.

Event expenses for the year totalled £7205.97 with the exchange visit again accounting for the majority of this, £5,819.56. A subsidy of £90.00 was paid in this financial year to those who ran the stall at the 2017 Gorrón Christmas market and our public liability insurance for the Association was £216.00.

In the 2018 financial year, there was income and expenditure for 2019 events.

To summarise, our total income for the year was £6494.17 and expenses were £7,571.47 resulting in an overspend of £1,077.30. The closing balance of the account at 31 December 2018 was £559.96.

The Ale-ing Fest opening bank balance at the beginning of 2018 was £4,261.83. The total income received into the account was £12,177.03.

Expenditure from the account totalled £11,031.06 which included the £3,000.00 presented at last year's AGM. The Ale-ing Fest 2018 made a profit of £4,151.61. The closing balance for 2018 was £5,407.80.

### **ALE-ING FESTIVAL 2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

I can report that Ale-ing Fest 2018 was once again a great success and returned a good profit. The event took place over the weekend of **5th and 6th October**.

The festival included **27** real ales and **12** ciders, music was provided by **Shamrock Keys** on Friday night and **Nutin'Yet Band** on Saturday night.

We were supported by **472 paying patrons** plus sponsors.

We received 23 Barrel sponsors and 2 sponsors paid for promotional items.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Twinning members who volunteered their time over the weekend to staff this event and the Fest committee who put in all the pre-fest work as well. Sadly this will be my last report as the Ale-ing Fest Chairman as I have stepped down from this post after organising 12 Ale-ing Fests.

Finally, I can report that the event grossed a total of **£11,967.11** and after the deduction of running costs the Ale-ing Fest committee is delighted to present a cheque for **£4,300** to Twinning Committee.

Rod Carter

Chairman

Ale-ing Fest