



ROBERT NASH ACIS DMS
Clerk to the Town Council

THE TOWN COUNCIL
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24th July 2012

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee will be held in Meeting Room 5 at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa on **MONDAY 30th JULY 2012 commencing at 6.30 pm.**

The business will be as set out below.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the Town Council

To:- Councillors J. Clarke, R. Copping, G. Dulay, S. Ingleby, S. Lytton, Y. Moore, Mota Singh and A. Stevens.

Mr J. Mather and Mr M. Crawshaw (Leamington International Twinning Society)

(All other Members of the Town Council – Agenda for information only)

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Members are invited to declare any interest they may have in an item identified for discussion at the Meeting.
3. **PUBLIC FORUM**
To receive representations from Members of the public in accordance with Council Standing Orders
4. **MINUTES**
To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 28TH June 2012 (Report No. 4)

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. TOWN TWINNING

(i) Twinning Working Group

To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Twinning Working Group held on 3rd July, 2012 (Report 6)

(ii) Twinning Matters

To consider any matter arising in relation to Town Twinning.

Members of LITS in attendance for the above items.

7. BLUE PLAQUE SCHEME

To consider the schedule of Plaque unveiling and matters relating to the Blue Plaque Scheme.

8. OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY EVENT – 1ST JULY

To consider the outcome of the recent Olympic Torch event and respond to the District Council survey as appropriate.

9. COMMUNITY GRANT FEEDBACK

To consider reports from grant recipients

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 28 JUNE 2012 AT THE TOWN HALL LEAMINGTON SPA**

Present: Councillors J. Clarke (Chairman), R. Copping, G. Dulay, S. Ingleby, Mota Singh and A. Stevens.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Simon Lytton and Yvonne Moore.

Apologies were also received from Mr M Crawshaw and Mr J Mather (Leamington Twinning Society) (LITS)

9. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

10 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 31 May 2012 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.

11. TOWN TWINNING

Councillor Copping provided a brief overview of the recent visit to Leamington by the Dutch Twinning Association from Heemstede.

A discussion ensued on the proposal considered at the last meeting with regard to establishing a Working Group to consider arrangements for the round table conferences to be held in 2013-14. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Working Group would meet for the first time on 3 July 2012 to consider this matter. In addition, he had commenced assessment of the potential costs arising from hosting a Conference which would be reported to the Committee in due course.

In the absence of the LITS representatives, reference was made to a request from Mr Crawshaw to the various senior schools in the town, seeking their interest in forming new links with groups based in the twin towns. To date, a reply had only been received from Kingsley School. It was suggested that the Town Council seek a response from those schools that had not responded.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the progress of commencing a meeting of the Working Group is noted;
- (ii) that the Town Council writes on behalf of LITS to seek a reply from those schools that had failed to respond to earlier correspondence regarding twinning opportunities.

12. CHRISTCHURCH GARDENS COMMEMORATIVE PLANTING

Consideration was given to a report (Report No. 7) setting out the proposal by Warwick District Council to provide additional planting in the form of spring bulbs at Christchurch Gardens to commemorate the Royal Diamond Jubilee.

The Town Clerk confirmed that a balance of £2,228 remained of the budget of £10,000 set aside by the Council for the Royal Jubilee and Olympic Torch events. Whilst the report indicated that the cost of planting approximately 60,000 bulbs using a planting machine would be £4,500, this could be reduced to the region of £3,300 using volunteers. Whilst the District Council could provide the supervision, it would be helpful if the Council could assist in identifying suitable persons to assist with a community planting project.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the remaining balance of £2,228 within the Jubilee/Olympics budget be allocated to the community planting project utilising volunteers where possible;
- (ii) that the possibility of further funding to complete the project is considered after assessment of the initial work completed in the autumn of 2012.

13. ROYAL JUBILEE OUT-TURN

The Committee noted the current position and that, in the light of the decision taken previously at this meeting, the budget was now fully spent. It was generally considered that the community lead celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee had been a success and that the Council's financial assistance in meeting the costs of insurance was well received.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

14. GUILD OF GUIDES WALKS 2012

The Town Clerk reported on the current position with regard to Guided Walks around Leamington in 2012, which would not take place this year due to an insufficient numbers of volunteer guides.

The Town Clerk explained that due to the unavailability of three of the Guides, it was difficult to sustain a programme over the period June to September particularly with regard to promoting and marketing a programme. He indicated that discussions had already commenced with local history societies to establish the availability of other volunteers and this would feature as part of a fuller review and report to the Committee in due course.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

15. FAIR TRADE INITIATIVES

The Town Clerk reported that the Fair Trade Working Group had provided an information stand at the Peace Festival over the weekend of 16-17 June and this had attracted regular visitors and allowed for further dissemination of information about the Fair Trade project.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

16. **ARRIVAL OF THE OLYMPIC TORCH – 1 JULY 2012**

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the impending arrival of the Olympic Torch which was due in Royal Leamington Spa at 5.00pm on 1 July 2012. This would be preceded by a community event on the Pump Room Gardens from 11.00am, at which the Town Council had agreed to host an information point. Members were reminded to advise the Town Clerk if they were available to assist on the day.

RESOLVED that the Report is noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and ended at 7.45pm

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MEETING OF THE TWINNING WORKING GROUP
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, LEAMINGTON SPA ON 3RD JULY 2012**

Present:- Councillors Judith Clarke, Roger Copping, Sue Ingleby and Amanda Stevens.

Tony Bass and Peter Cantlay (Leamington International Twinning Society)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Amanda Stevens is elected Chairman of the Town Twinning Working Group for the Municipal year 2012/13.

2. TOWN TWINNING CONFERENCES

Consideration was given to a Report (Report No, 3) setting out options for developing a response to the roundtable conferences proposal which had been proposed by the Bruhl Twinning Association and agreed in principle at a meeting at Bruhl (Germany) in March 2012.

The Working Group had been established by the Cultural and Community Committee with a specific remit namely:

“a Working Group comprising Councillors Clarke, Copping, Ingleby and Stevens, together with representatives of Leamington International Twinning Society, is convened to determine potential representation of the wider community at the roundtable Conferences to be held in the period 2013/2014.”

The Working Group was also provided with a copy of the draft programme in relation to the Conference planned over the period 2nd October – 7th October 2013 at Bruhl as this identified certain key themes which accorded with the funding criteria set out in the Europe for Citizens Programme.

The Working Group noted that the success of the Conference proposal was dependent on demonstrating new and sustainable networks between the partner Towns. One means of achieving this was through local clubs, societies and interest groups. Following further discussion, it was agreed that the initial interest of various groups in formulating networks be established and it was suggested that an approach is made to the following:-

Local Schools and Warwickshire College
Warwickshire University Students' Union
The Polish Club
Dance Groups such as Sambassadors (already linked with Band in Bruhl)
Chamber of Trade and local Business
Rotary and Regency Rotary Clubs
Leamington Lions
Language Groups
University of the third age

It was hoped that contact could be established quickly with a view to compiling a potential list of participants to attend the first Conference planned for February 2013. Further interest might be generated through a Press Release to local media through LITS.

The question of funding support could not be determined with any certainty as this was dependent on the outcome of the funding bid to the European Union and the parameters of assistance within the Programme. It was hoped that this aspect would be clarified in September when Bruhl Twinning Association next visit Leamington. Selecting a key theme for the Conference to be held at Leamington would need to be considered in the light of the level of interest generated by the proposal.

RESOLVED to Recommend the Cultural and Community

- (i) that voluntary groups, educational establishments and interest groups are contacted to establish an initial level of interest in participation at the Twinning Conferences in the period 2013-2014;
- (ii) that engagement is encouraged through a Press Release to local media
- (iii) that the Working Group reconvenes to assess the response and consider further action as appropriate.

The Meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.10 pm.