

## Winterton and Saffré Twinning Association.

**A.G.M. held Monday 17 January 2011 at 7.30p.m.**

### **Minutes of last A.G.M. held Monday 18 January 2010:**

Accepted as a true record. Proposed by Alan and seconded by Jack with all those eligible to vote in favour.

### **Matters arising:**

None.

### **Secretary's report:**

At the end of her report last year, Gail stated "we must look forward to the visit in the summer from the French."

With the winter we are experiencing it seems as though that visit in summer was a very long time ago...

Although not many Safréens came over to Winterton it was a relief that the twinning visit went ahead and thanks need to be offered to Richard Patchett on the other side of the Channel for persuading the French that we would rather receive a small group of visitors than none at all. This put us in the fortunate position of having more people who wanted to host than we had guests to accommodate. However, the itinerary arranged for the week ensured that all those who wanted to be involved, whether or not they were hosting, were able to. This may have been at a safari supper, a trip to the races be it horses at Beverley or snails in a rather lovely barn, at Church or on a visit to Hornsea.

Because of their low numbers it was not financially viable for the French to travel from Saffré to Winterton via coach. This gave Jack the task of organising a mini-bus to transport them from the Airport to Winterton and back, not to mention a driver to be found, and to hire a coach for our planned day-trips.

This leads me on to 2 votes of thanks I wish to include in this short report. First, I wish to thank Gail for leading the association so well through another year. Second, my thanks go to Jack and Alan, for all things to do with transport. I hope they may have finally forgiven me for not being on the mini-bus to return the French to Leeds-Bradford Airport exceedingly early one Friday morning back in late July 2010.

### **Treasurer's report:**

Very detailed report tabled with comparisons between previous financial years in terms of balances, fundraising and visits to Saffré and Winterton.

Report received with thanks.

### **Chairman's report:**

This completes my second year as Chairman and sometimes the 'twinning' between our two communities can be a bit of a puzzle to me.

In 2009 we had an enjoyable and successful visit to Saffré, renewing old friendships and making new ones, several of the hosts were new, so I was surprised that the French were unable to bring a 'busload' back to Winterton in 2010. It was helpful in a way as we were able to reflect on the pros and cons of travel by air.

When the French were debating about the viability of their visit, Richard was able to say to them that the most important thing was that they came to Winterton however small the party. Fortunately they took his advice and the result was a visit that was just as successful as any of the others. We tried out a day at the real races in Beverley which served as good training for the serious snail racing at Moyra's. The safari supper allowed us to involve more people and maybe heal a few old wounds. My thanks must go to the members for agreeing to take charge of specific events and carrying out their promises making my job much easier and the visit more enjoyable. My only regret was that so few members had the chance to host, but it was a measure of your support that you turned up for many of the visits and gatherings and contributed willingly to the Safari meal etc.

Personally I am in the association because I want to be a part of the friendship which exists between our two communities. So fund raising is an inevitable but not particularly 'exciting' aspect within the association. A big thank you for all the help we have received for our fund raising activities – Winterton and Appleby shows and the Lions Christmas market. Our French meal which was provided by Linda and Ian Cawsey went very well and added to our funds. Thanks go to Chloe, Matthew and Chantal who worked very hard to ensure everything went smoothly.

Attendance at meetings this year has been very good. We were sorry to say goodbye to the Piatts, but have welcomed Sharon and her family and hopefully Liz Waterhouse to our ranks. We always need 'fresh' blood so please keep a lookout for 'would be' twinners, we have leaflets to help with your sales pitch.

Lastly special thanks go to Lucinda for her support with the minutes and as liaison officer, to Hazel for her efficient management of our funds, and to Jack for doing all the things that I don't like doing, he deserves a hug from me.

The twinning experience is much more than a holiday, it is about making real friends, learning about the culture and in some cases actually embracing it enough to move house to Saffré, long may it continue.

#### **Election of officers:**

Alice proposed that as there was only 1 nomination for each of the named positions the vote should be carried out en bloc. Ida seconded this and everyone was in favour.

Result:

Chairman:	Gail Summerfield.
Vice-Chairman and Minutes Secretary:	Lucinda Hopkins.
Treasurer:	Hazel Collingwood.
Publicity and Logistics Officer:	Jack Morton.

#### **A.O.B.:**

It was agreed that the subscriptions should remain the same for this year @ £10.00 per individual and £20.00 per family.

A.G.M. closed at 7.55p.m. With thanks to all in attendance.