

BEVERLEY LEMGO TWINNING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Cottingham Parks Golf and Country Club

Wednesday, 17th June, 2008

Present: Mrs. E. La Penseé (Chair), Mr. H.T. James, Mr. M. Revell, Mr. G. Pearson, Mr. H. Cressey, Mrs. G. Vosseberg-Benson, Mrs. C. Chamberlain, Mrs. B. Ayre, Mrs. L. Dawson, Mr. J. Moore, Mr. D. Moore, Mrs. M. James, Mrs. B. Pearson, Mrs. N. Cressey, Mrs. A. Revell, Mr. R. Miles, Mrs. J. Miles, Mr. R. France, Mrs. V. France, Mrs. J. Stevens, Mr. J. Pickering

Apologies: Town Councillor Ken Thorley, Mr. C. La Penseé, Mr. A. Benson, Mr. R. Parkinson, Mrs. J. Parkinson, Mrs. M. Moore, Mr. D. Parker, Mr. K. Lawton, Mrs. E. Lawton

1. Minutes of meeting held on 27 June 2007

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th June 2007 were approved. There were no matters arising.

2. Report of Management Committee for 2007/2008

The Report of the Management Committee for 2007/2008 had been circulated to the members and was accepted. Mr. G. Pearson praised this report.

3. Hon. Treasurer's report

The Hon. Treasurer presented his Annual Report and the audited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2008. Membership is unfortunately down by about 15%, but thankfully the other main sources of income for the Association (Supper Club support, and sales at the August and Christmas market stalls) were up considerably on the previous year; 37%, 36% and 28% respectively. Expenditure this year has also increased, due in the main to the visit in autumn 2007, by Stendal. The Association was therefore left with a surplus of only £208.62, less than half the previous year's total. He wished to thank Mr. & Mrs. Benson (use of flat during Christmas Market), Mrs. Gue (Glühwein), Mr. & Mrs. Moore (Stollen), Mr. & Mrs. Cressey (Supper Club) and Mrs. Miles (Supper Club raffle). Mr. D. Moore extended his thanks to Mr. Revell for his excellent work as Treasurer, and Mr. Cressey also thanked him for organising the travel arrangements to Germany.

It was pointed out that it does not make good financial practice to continue using the same Treasurer and Auditor for a long period of time. This was duly noted.

4. Election of Chairman

Mrs. E. La Penseé expressed her willingness to continue and was re-appointed nem.com.

5. Election of Secretary

Mr. H.T. James handed in his official resignation as Hon. Secretary, but expressed his wish to remain on the Committee. This was accepted. Mrs. La Penseé thanked Mr. James for his incredible work over the years. The position of Hon. Secretary will be discussed at the next

Committee meeting.

6. Election of Treasurer

Mr. M. Revell expressed his willingness to continue and was re-appointed nem.com.

7. Election of 9 Officers to the Management Committee for 2007/2008

Mrs. La Penseé reported that three members of the Management Committee had resigned. They are: Mr. & Mrs. J. Moore (Accommodation Officers) and Mr. D. Moore (Euro Grants Officer). Mr. J. Moore, however, wished to stand again on the Committee. He was nominated by Mr. Cressey and accepted by the other Committee members. The remaining members of the Committee, being willing to continue, were then elected unopposed. They are: Mr. G. Pearson (Vice-Chairman, Website Officer), Mrs. L. Dawson (Minutes Secretary) Mr. H. Cressey (Supper Club Organiser), Mrs. G. Vosseberg-Benson (Youth Officer), Mrs. C. Chamberlain (Press Officer) and Mrs. B. Ayre. Mrs. Vosseberg-Benson stated that she is finding it increasingly difficult to dedicate her time to the Youth Officer post, but, with some assistance, is willing to continue.

The vacancies are therefore as follows: Travel Officer, Accommodation Officer, Euro Grants Officer.

8. Appointment of Auditor

Mr. P. Hewitt offered to continue his work for the next financial year. This was accepted by the members, who thanked him for his support.

9. Subscriptions for the year 2008/2009

These will remain the same for this period.

10. Any other business

Mr. Pearson had brought the gift presented to him by the Mayor of Stendal on the recent visit there. It is a very nice book, in German, about the Hanseatic towns in the Altmark (Stendal region).

Mrs. La Penseé extended her thanks to Mr. and Mrs. J. Moore for their continued support in hosting the German Conversation evenings, which seem popular.

Mrs. La Penseé also pointed out that despite a distinct lack of younger members, the membership of the 'older' generation is still very much appreciated. They can dedicate more of their time to the Association and have more experience to give. Indeed, the young people who have come over from Germany on work placement have enjoyed their stay all the more because they have stayed with couples or families who have made them feel very welcome and at home.