

BEVERLEY LEMGO TWINNING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Cottingham Parks Golf and Country Club

Wednesday, 27th June, 2007

Present: Mr. J. Whitfield (Chair), Mrs. Whitfield, Mrs. E. La Penseé, Mr. H.T. James, Mr. M. Revell, Mr. G. Pearson, Mr. H. Cressey, Mr. J. Moore, Mrs. M. Moore, Mrs. G. Vosseberg-Benson, Mr. D. Moore, Mrs. L. Dawson, Mrs. M. James, Mrs. B. Pearson, Mrs. N. Cressey, Mrs. J. Miles, Mr. D. Parker, Mrs. A. Parker, Mrs. H Gue, Mr. A. Sayburn, Mrs. B. Ayre

Apologies: Mrs. C. Chamberlain, Mr. C. La Penseé, Mrs. A. Revell, Mr. A. Benson, Mr. R. Miles, Mr. D. Gue, Mrs. J. Pape, Mr. R. Parkinson, Mrs. J. Parkinson

1. Minutes of meeting held on 20 June 2006

Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2006 were approved. There were no matters arising.

2. Report of Management Committee for 2006/2007

The Report of the Management Committee for 2006/2007 had been circulated to the members and was accepted.

3. Hon. Treasurer's report

The Hon. Treasurer presented his Annual Report and the audited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2007. The main sources of income for the Association are membership fees, Supper Club support, and sales at the 2 market stalls, all of which were unfortunately down on the previous year. Expenditure this year was up considerably, due in the main to the visits in autumn 2006. Despite this, however, the Association was left with a surplus of £482.47. He wished to thank Mr. & Mrs. Benson (use of flat during Christmas Market), Mrs. Gue (Glühwein), Mr. & Mrs. Wright (Stollen), Mr. & Mrs. Cressey (Supper Club) and Mrs. Miles (Supper Club raffle). Mr. J. Whitfield extended his thanks to the Hon. Treasurer for his work not only as Treasurer, but also in organising the travel arrangements to Germany.

The impact of the new East Riding of Yorkshire Council annual charge was then discussed. Mr. J. Moore pointed out that the membership fees for 2007 (£493) would not cover the £500 cost to the Council, and suggested an increase in these. Mr. Parker further suggested that members provide their own SAEs to receive correspondence, which would help offset costs. He also asked whether membership cards could be provided to confirm that members had paid. The Committee will look at these suggestions.

Mrs. La Penseé wished to thank Tesco for their help in providing a meeting room, free of charge, for the Committee meetings.

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 announced that he would like to step down, but agreed that he will continue for another 12 months, or until a new Secretary is found. Members are asked to consider taking up this position and can be co-opted at any time. Mrs. La Penseé thanked Mr. James for his incredible work over the years and hoped that he would continue to play some part in the Association.

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. Wright (Travel Officers) and Mrs. J. Pape. 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. & Mrs. J. Moore (Accommodation Officers), Mr. H. Cressey (Supper Club Organiser), Mrs. G. Vosseberg-Benson (Youth Officer), Mr. D. Moore (Euro Grants Officer), Mrs. C. Chamberlain (Press Officer). The Committee also welcomed a new member, Mrs. B. Ayre.

There still remains a vacancy for a Travel Officer. A request for volunteers was made.

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 2007/2008

These will remain the same for this period but, after some discussion, it was proposed that the subscriptions be increased for 2008/2009: £10 adults, £3 juniors, £20 family, £25 corporate. This was agreed by the members.

10. Any other business

Mrs. La Penseé had received a letter from the Mayor of Lemgo apologising for not meeting us on our recent visit and also thanking us for his birthday card and present. He mentioned that the Fire Brigade will be coming to Beverley, 2nd – 5th October 2007, and that although he himself is only staying one night, he would like to meet our members. The Hon. Secretary suggested that there should be more cooperation between the Fire Brigade and the Twinning Association in the future.

Mrs. La Penseé also reported that the Beverley Renaissance Partnership is in the process of formalising their terms of reference, which include collaboration with Twinning Associations. She will invite their Co-ordinator, Frances Ibson, to a Committee meeting. Mrs. Ayre has volunteered to attend the BRP meetings when Mrs. La Penseé cannot.

With membership being down by 22% this year there is still a serious need to attract new members. The Committee will look at various ways this can be achieved.