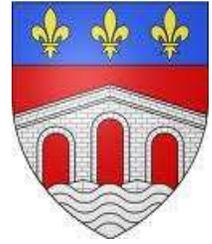




**RINGWOOD & DISTRICT  
TWINNING ASSOCIATION  
TWINNED WITH  
PONT-AUDEMER**



Pont-Audemer

**Annual General Meeting  
27th June 2016  
MINUTES**

Present: Michael Thierry (Mayor and President), Sharon and John Legg (Chairman), Colin Nye (Hon Sec), Patricia Taylor, Tony and Mary Lucke, Lynne and Tony Harris, Val Harbour, Jenny Lambe, John Challenor

1. Apologies: Barbara Nye, Trevor Pogson, Kay Sutton, Jennifer and Alan Bluck , Anne Melrose, Ellen Carter, Sheila and Dennis Killen
2. The minutes of the 2015 AGM were approved
3. **President's opening remarks.**

The President welcomed everyone and noted the increase in attendance from last year. He made reference to the results of the EU referendum and how important Twinning organisations will be to maintaining links with our European friends. Whilst we are not part of the EU now, we are nevertheless part of Europe and so our visit to Pont-Audemer is an important part of maintaining that link. He wished us well with the visit to Pont-Audemer next Friday and regretted that he was unable to join us as he had a number of civic engagements during the four days we would be there. He further expressed his support for our work by becoming a member of the Twinning Association.

4. **Chairman's Annual Report**

A full copy of this report is filed with the minutes.

The Chairman made mention of our activities of the last year:

- Coffee morning in the Gateway
- Christmas Meal in the Elm Tree
- The April Quiz evening

He commented on the need to raise funds as the 2017 visit was probably the last one we could afford from our existing funds.

5. **Treasurer's report**

The audited Accounts were submitted and a copy is on file. A copy of the accounts was available to all attending the meeting. The report was accepted unanimously. The Chairman expressed his thanks to the Treasurer for his work on the accounts over the last few years.

### **Election of Officers**

There were no nominations received for any of the posts.

6. **Chairman.** John Legg agreed to continue for another year
7. **Deputy Chairman.** Michael Thierry offered his services. Colin Nye proposed Michael Thierry, seconded by Brian Walters and carried unanimously.
- 8 **Honorary Secretary.** Colin Nye agreed to continue for another year
9. **Honorary Treasurer.** This post remains vacant following the resignation of the Treasurer.  
The Chairman agreed to be a caretaker Treasurer for one year.
10. **Membership Secretary** The Hon Sec agreed to do the same for the Membership Secretary post.
11. **Social Secretary.** Remains vacant
12. **Committee members**  
Tony Lucke, Mary Lucke and Brian Walters were re-elected to the committee.  
Kathryn Garner agreed to join the committee
13. **Honorary Auditor.**  
Sarah Nye to be asked to audit the accounts again in 2017.
14. **Subscription Fees for 2017**  
Colin Nye outlined four models in operation in New Forest Twinning organisations
  1. Basic fee of approx. £10 and fund raising
  2. We apply for a grant to cover costs
  3. We add a surcharge of £50 to those going to France to fund the return visit
  4. We have a substantial increase in the basic fee to about £30.

After considerable discussion the President proposed we adopt model 1 but increase the fee to £12 to give us a little more income. This was agreed.
- 15 **AOB**
  - 1 John Challenor, a trustee of the Meeting House, raised the issue of a display and an event there to support our fund raising and raise our profile. This was gratefully received. Tony and Lynne Harris together with Tony and Mary Lucke agreed to organize a Cream Tea event. There is a charge for the use of the premises for the event but the display is available free of charge.
  - 2 Kathryn Garner enquired about the proceeds from the French Market. The Mayor explained that the fee paid by the stallholders went into the Town Council civic fund. Kathryn suggested that this should be used to fund the Twinning visit here. The Mayor replied that the Town Council was committed to supporting the Twinning Association as much as possible and that we should apply for funding for the visit.. He suggested that he investigated the possibility of asking that Waitrose's community appeal to have the Mayor's charity as one of their monthly fund raising events, from which he could also support us.

The President thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.