

**DEVON TWINNING CIRCLE
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD IN THE COMMODORE HOTEL, INSTOW ON SATURDAY JULY 23RD 2022**

The meeting started at 1.15 pm as everyone was assembled.

- 1. Chairman's opening remarks.** Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting and said how good it was to see so many people here.
- 2. Attendance and apologies.** There were 41 members present representing 19 member associations: Bampton, Barnstaple, Bideford, Bradninch, Cullompton, Dawlish, Exeter Twinning Circle, Holsworthy, Instow, Milverton, Newton & Noss, Northam, Sampford Peverell, Scorrison & Buckfastleigh, South Molton, Tiverton, Torrington, Totnes and Wrington.
Apologies were received from: Committee members Dennis and Pauline Knowles and from the following Associations: Burnham-on-Sea & Highbridge, Chittlehampton, Crediton, Crewkerne, Exminster, Exmouth, Horrabridge, Ipplepen, Kenton, Kingsteignton, North Petherton, Portishead and Yealmpton.
- 3. Minutes of the General Meeting** held in April 2022 were approved.
- 4. Matters arising.** Item 9. We have received offers from Tiverton to host the AGM on 29th October, and from South Molton to host the next general Meeting on 21st January 2023. Torrington offered to consider hosting in April 2023.
- 5. Chairman's report.** There was little to report since the last meeting but it is good that some associations are now making visits or receiving visitors from their twin towns/villages. It is hoped that we may soon be able to organise some events for our member associations to meet socially such as the skittles that we have had in the past.
- 6. Secretary's report.** It has been great to hear of all the groups waking up again – quite a few visits taking place.
We need to amend our constitution to bring it in line with the way we now award the Monica Saunders trophy. We will do this at the AGM in October and will send out the motion with the agenda.
A condolence letter has been sent to Barrie Coles of Exeter Yaroslavl on death of Peter Barker.
A request was received from Anthea Barnes of Ashburton TA for information about Combe Martin TA since she has a history of their association. We were advised from the floor that Combe Martin is no longer active but representatives from South Molton said they could provide a contact.
- 7. Treasurer's report.** In the absence of the treasurer, the balance sheet was circulated and he sent in the following report: I have had some receipts of £5940 pounds these are for the insurance of £5265.00 and subscriptions of £675 for this year. The

payments for the months to date are our bank charges £16.60, meeting expenses £200 and insurance premium £4989.78, giving an expenditure of £5206 38.

Leaving us with a healthy balance of £10,295.92 but we have quite a way to come until the end of our financial year in March 2023.

The accounts for the year ending March 2022 have been sent to Bray Accounts in Tiverton to act as Financial Assessor, as agreed at our last meeting and will be presented at our AGM in October.

8 Insurance Officer's report. To date, 42 Associations have paid for membership and PL insurance and 3 just for membership but it is expected there will be a few more to come. It is still not possible to find a travel insurance policy that would be beneficial to our members.

9 Matters arising from committee meeting. Dennis has found volunteer to take over as treasurer from the AGM. Claire Benton of Bampton TA is already working with him. We co-opted Claire to the committee.

The question was raised about sending information to groups by post or email. A show of hands showed an overwhelming preference for email. Your committee will look into this further.

The Monica Saunders award for the best article in the Spring "Home to Home" was won by Exmouth TA.

10 Any Other Business. None

The meeting closed at 13.50 after which shared in a workshop on "Twinning now and in the Future".

Next Meeting: is the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 29th October 2022 hosted by Tiverton Association.

SIGNED

DATE

Chairman

