

**DEVON TWINNING CIRCLE
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE BRIDGE, YATTON, ON SATURDAY APRIL 15TH 2023**

John Merritt of Clevedon TA welcomed us all to Somerset. He was sorry it had not proved possible to hold the meeting in Clevedon but hoped we might be able to visit their lovely town.

- 1. Chairman's opening remarks.** Mike thanked John for the welcome and said how good it was to see so many here and how good too that twinning visits were all getting going again. He noted that many groups are starting to make, or to host visits, including his own, Totnes, which has been invited to a 50th anniversary event in Vire next year, with Vire's other twins. He is pleased to see good heart in the Twinning Circle and hopes to see more younger people so that it can continue.
- 2. Attendance and apologies.** There were 35 members present representing 14 member associations: Bampton, Burnham-on-Sea & Highbridge, Chard, Clevedon, Dawlish, Exeter Twinning Circle, Exmouth, Kenton, North Petherton, Portishead, Sampford Peverell, Taunton, Tiverton and Totnes.
Apologies were received from: Pam Bines, Dennis Knowles and from the following Associations: Abbotskerswell, Ashburton, Bideford, Brampford Speke, Chittlehampton, Crediton, Horrabridge, Kingsteignton, Newton & Noss, Northam, South Molton and Tickenham.
- 3. Minutes of the General Meeting** held in January 2023 were approved.
- 4. Matters arising.** None.
- 5. Chairman's report.** Mike felt this had been covered in his opening remarks.
- 6. Secretary's report.** Ide TA is closing; they asked for advice on procedure and were referred to their own constitution. Witheridge TA closed some time ago and sought advice re funds. Again they were referred to own constitution.
Jenny was contacted by Paul Bristow of the British-German Assn. for Devon. His letter was forwarded to those TAs with German Twins
The next meetings will be on July 22nd in Bideford and on October 28th in Barnstaple.
- 7. Treasurer's report.** The accounts prepared by the Treasurer were circulated.
We made a significant profit on insurance last year which will be returned to the groups by reducing the next premium. We are planning to spend some of the funds by arranging a social day when representatives from the various TA's can meet together and chat.
- 8 Insurance Officer's report.** Pam was unable to be with us today but reported that she has asked our insurance broker to quote for a travel policy. She should get the PL insurance paperwork out next month.

9 Matters arising from committee meeting.

The winner of the Monica Saunders award for the best article in the spring edition of Home To Home is Axminster TA.

10 Any Other Business. None

Following the meeting we enjoyed a talk from Rob Grimmond, Somerset representative of the British-German Association which was relevant to twinning whichever country our twins come from.

Next Meeting: this will be on July 22nd, hosted by Bideford Twinning Association..

SIGNED

DATE

Chairman