

Prudhoe Town Twinning Association Meeting

Monday 16th September 2019, 8pm, St Matthew's Hall

Present: Derek Gillespie, Shona Gillespie, Judy McCreedy, Julya Craven, Jane Johnson, Nino Tomczuk, Gillian and Dave Vause, Tracy Gilmore, Jerry Price, Gordon Stewart, Andy Gill, June Chilton,

Apologies: Chris Barrett, Eric and Jeanne Robertson, Jimmy Kemp

1) Minutes of the last meeting

Taken as read.

2) Matters Arising

Tracy and Chris representing the council joined Derek, Jane and Shona Gillespie for the Fete de la Ville in Mitry. This was Tracey's first visit and Chris' first visit for a number of years. Derek and Shona were asked to write a summary report for the council which was circulated at the meeting (attached below). Tracy commented that she thoroughly enjoyed the visit and remarked that our hosts were very friendly and hospitable and went out of their way to ensure we all had a great trip.

3) October Weekend

It was confirmed that this will be the weekend of 25th-27th October. Shona will correspond with Sylvie to ask them to confirm numbers and flight times as soon as possible. As soon as we have numbers confirmed, we will email everyone regarding possible hosting arrangements.

Suggestions for the programme we discussed and it was agreed that it would be nice to keep the weekend activities local to Prudhoe to show off the town.

Tracy has spoken to Essity and they would be happy to offer a tour, she also suggested a tour of the Brewery at Low Prudhoe. A possible visit to the high school was suggested and also it was mentioned that the Fuse have a Spook Fest on the Friday evening, which might be of interest (Shona to investigate). Gordon suggested that our visitors might be interested in the forest school which is now active at Humble Wood Farm.

On the Sunday we will likely have the usual planning meeting in the morning followed by a shared lunch. Further details will be finalised once we have numbers and will be circulated as soon as possible.

4) Christmas Market

Dates for Mitry's Christmas market have been confirmed as 30th Nov-1st December.

Derek, Jane and Shona Gillespie are happy to go over, however at the moment given the uncertainty surrounding Brexit we are unsure as to what customs arrangements may be in place. This could therefore restrict the products we are able to take across. It was therefore agreed that we would not ask for any contributions at the moment and would assess the situation over the coming months.

5) AOB

We are yet to have confirmed dates for the fete de la colombe – this is usually in November. Shona will ask for confirmation.

Chris has passed put us in touch with Mark who runs a football team in Prudhoe. Derek and Mark have met and Mark is keen to set up links with Mitry. This will be discussed with the group at the October weekend.

In 2020 to mark VE day the County council are organising events in the town and Tracy would like to invite a group over from Mitry.

Chris is keen to set up a Facebook page, Shona is happy to link in with this if he needs anything.

Over the summer, Judy and George had a visit from Madelaine together with her friend Gilbert. Gilbert was invited to Stocksfield Flower Club to give a demonstration which was well received.

The bank balance is currently £1,429, therefore no problems are anticipated for the October visit.

The next meeting will be held on 14th October at 8pm in St Matthews Hall.

Meeting ended 9.05pm.