

## Minutes of the Helston and District Town Twinning Association Plougasnou group meeting

Monday October 18<sup>th</sup> 2021 7.20pm

12 Roselidden Parc, Helston

Those present: Alan Laughler, Judy Laughler, Vicki Marshall, Ruth Bywaters, Dee May, Rebecca Hill, Sam Hill, Philip Hanman, Heather Thorn, Michael Thorn, Julia Chambers

Apologies: Chrissy Campbell

At the beginning of the meeting, we took some time to reflect on the sad loss of Keith and Vicki Matthew, Keith last year and Vicki in September. Both were great supporters of the twinning and will be sorely missed. Vicki was instrumental in starting the Plougasnou twinning and serving as secretary for many years, organising visits, trips, fundraisers – and always knowing where to go for advice or assistance. Some happy memories were shared. The Association is also grateful to Vicki's family for choosing us to benefit from donations made in her memory and will discuss how to mark her contribution (eg tree planting) at a later date.

| Item   | Action   |
|--|--|
| <b>1 Christmas Lights and Christmas Soiree</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The light switch-on in Helston will not be an official event in the town centre, as in the past, to avoid crowds. It was decided that our group would join with the Sasso Marconi group and use the Guildhall on 26<sup>th</sup> November for a private social event to include Christmas themed food from Italy and Brittany. Julia to liaise with the Sasso Social Sec and promulgate details.</li> <li>Spike kindly offered to host a Christmas Soiree at his house during December for our group</li> </ul>   | <p>Julia</p> <p>Spike and Judy</p>   |
| <b>2 The way forward for our group</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sasso have successfully used Zoom for social events which will continue and Phil suggested that our group join these. It was agreed that Spike would host our group for the next zoom (9<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm) so we could attend as a group</li> <li>Rather than focus on individual student exchanges, family/group exchanges were suggested as a way forward. There is already a family interested in this.</li> <li>There is now a link between HCC and the College at Plougasnou, Julia to make contact with the school to offer support</li> <li>Phil suggested running a "Re-interest" event to encourage new members, following publicity for the joint environmental project (see below).</li> <li>Web presence: The joint website is in need of updating on our side. Julia to liaise with Ruth to be able to action this. Our facebook page also needs updating. Phil will make Julia an administrator as this page will also be useful for the Biodiversity project and attracting new members</li> </ul> | <p>Spike<br/>Julia</p> <p>Julia</p> <p>Phil</p> <p>Julia</p> <p>Phil/Julia</p> |
| <b>Initiative instigated by Christine Bon (Plougasnou Chair)</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a grant from the British Embassy in Paris to discover and share sustainable practices of our two communities and was granted to us because of the strength of the relationship between Helston and</li> </ul>   |  |

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <p>Plougasnou and the variety of projects both towns have to improve biodiversity and encourage “sustainable “ lifestyles. It is £10,000 to split between Helston and Plougasnou. It will largely fund trips for groups from both towns to visit the other and learn from each other’s’ experiences. We hope that this will also strengthen our membership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julia has been liaising with Christine and will now publicise the grant and and formulate a plan for the Breton visit</li> </ul>   | <p>Julia</p>                  |
| <p>Any Other Business</p>   |                               |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is our turn to host a visit in 2022. Some Bretons are already planning an independent trip for Flora Day. We would like to host an event for them and facilitate the trip, bearing in mind that Flora Day is very busy for Helstonians. Julia to try and find out what their plans are etc. As there is already a trip planned as part of the biodiversity project, and travel is still difficult, no further visit is planned at the moment.</li> <li>• Michael proposed and Rebecca seconded that Julia become the third bank signatory.</li> <li>• Sadly, Chrissy Campbell has decided not to continue as part of twinning.</li> </ul> | <p>Julia<br/><br/>Rebecca</p> |

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8 52pm