

FROME TWINNING ASSOCIATION
Thematic Networking Committee Meeting held on 2nd February 2016
at 2.00pm at the Elliott Building in Park Road

Present: Alan Glover, Justin Worringham, Pat Boyd, Rachel Blackledge, Damon Hooton and Sue Worringham

Anna Francis (Resilience Officer at Frome Town Council) and Laura Parry (Projects Administrator at Frome Town Council) also attended the meeting

1. **Apologies** Pat Oatley , Elizabeth Wakefield, Hilary Daniel and Margaret Brulais
2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 14th January 2016**
These were agreed and signed
3. **Thematic Networking**
Anna Francis reported that the programme for the trip was well advanced.

We have 30 Poles, 30 French and 27 Germans coming for the weekend including young people. We need 92 to break even so we are five short but SW said there were 6 singers from a choir in CG coming at the same time so they could attend one of the talks which would give us our required number of visitors from the twin towns. We do need to know arrival times

Accommodation

Polish

The Travel Lodge at Beckington is booked for the Poles but they have now decided that they are not staying on Sunday night so DH will be receiving a refund from Travel Lodge. Since the meeting on 14th January the committee has decided to pay for breakfast each day. The Poles had also asked if we were paying for the evening meal on Thursday but it was agreed that as they are not staying with families they will have to pay for their own food and DH will contact the Woolpack in Beckington to get a price for a group meal. Jackie Wheeler has all the costings for accommodation and breakfast. We still do not have a list of visitors which we need so rooms can be allocated at the Travel Lodge. DH will meet the Polish coach on arrival in Frome.

French and German

Hopefully we have enough hosts to accommodate our visitors but the young people may have to stay in families who do not have young people as Frome College have not found hosts. We have received the German list but are still waiting for the French list and as soon as we have received that SW will send parental consent forms and a copy will be given to the host family. SW has our Child Protection Policy that was agreed with the Town Council 3 years ago. SW will meet the French and German coaches to introduce the young people to their hosts and there will also be another member of the Committee to meet each coach.

AF asked about our insurance if there was an accident during the visit. AG will contact HD and ask him to look at our Public Liability Insurance.

Hosts will be offered a donation of £30 per host to help cover their costs. RB suggested that a form is given to the hosts at the Hosts Meeting asking if they would like to receive the donation as it was felt that some hosts would be happy not to receive the £30.

Food

Thursday

Apart from the Poles, hosts will be providing an evening meal for their guests on Thursday evening.

Friday

There will be a buffet lunch at Rook Lane and in the evening there will be a choice of two restaurants, Dragon Pearl who can take 40 for a buffet style supper or Castello who can take 70 but they would require orders in advance. Each guest will have a £20 voucher to cover the cost of their meal. Edventure will hold a pizza evening for the young people.

Saturday

Buffet lunch at the Cheese and Grain but a cheaper option than was mentioned at our last meeting (£5 instead of £8) and the evening meal will now be at Rook Lane as it was felt the Silk Mill was too small to accommodate 120 people. This would still be a curry meal and there would be a bar and entertainment. SW said the Frome Choir and the GC singers would have been practising in the evening so could come and sing for our guests and it was agreed this was a good idea.

Sunday

Coffee would be provided at the Silk Mill for the closing ceremony.

At the moment the cost of the food is about £5,400.

As numbers are limited hosts will be invited to either the Friday or Saturday evening meal and will be given a form to decide which they would like to attend.

Translations

We still have not received the reports from the twin towns but AF hopes they will be here by 8th February. AF said that they are going to spend money on equipment so there can be simultaneous translations during the seminar on Saturday. The twin towns may bring fluent translators with them but Anna would be able to do Polish to English and visa versa.

Programme

This is fine and the only alteration is that the visits to Malaby Biogas and Tellisford Hydro will be in the morning and not the afternoon. On Friday afternoon those interested in Finance, Policy and Planning will go to Rook Lane.

The Saturday seminar will finish at 4pm and then 3 representatives from each town will prepare a report on the two days for the Sunday closing event. AF will enquire about a room at the Cheese and Grain.

The closing event will be at the Silk Mill and the press will be invited to attend this.

Pippa Goldfinger will make the keynote speech and the Mayor and Deputy will be invited to attend the opening and closing event.

Post Thematic Event

The following week there needs to be a meeting of the core people involved to do a report and to discuss any lesson learnt from the event which may be of help to Poland who will be holding the final Thematic event in September.

Administration

All the guests will need a welcome pack with a map of the town, pens and a small pad of paper and a list of where all the guests are staying. Each town will be given a copy of the new cartoon style map of Frome to take home.

As we are having simultaneous translations we will not need so many paper copies but these could be put on the Town Council website for anybody to download if they wish.

A hosts meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th February at 7.00pm when all welcome packs and other information will be given out. Venue to be decided

4. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting which will be a special Thematic Networking meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th February at 2pm at the Elliott Building behind the new Town Hall in Park Road.

