

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE  
TWINNING SUB-COMMITTEE  
HELD IN THE BANN VIEW COMMITTEE ROOM  
CIVIC HEADQUARTERS  
THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7.05 PM**

- Chair** : Councillor Knight-McQuillan
- Present** : Alderman Hickey;  
Councillor Baird (Mayor) and Councillor Chivers
- Officers Present** : P Donaghy, Democratic & Central Services Manager  
S Duggan, Committee & Member Services Officer
- In Attendance** : C Kirkpatrick, Hon Secretary - Coleraine Twinning  
M Wilson, Chairman Association  
D Bartlett, Vice Chair - Limavady Twinning  
S McGregor, Treasurer Association  
L McMullan, Secretary - Moyle Twinning  
S Blaney, Chairman Association

**SUBSTITUTIONS**

Councillor Chivers replaced Councillor Nicholl for the transaction of business for the evening.

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recorded for Councillors McCorkell and Nicholl.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM CURRENT FOUR TWINNING ASSOCIATIONS, TO HEAR THEIR VIEWS ON FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS**

The Chair welcomed the representatives from the four Twinning Associations and thanked them for their continuing work. The Chair stated that Council recognises the valuable contribution they have made in their legacy Council area and continue to make in the new Council area.

The Chair advised those present that Council has agreed that the Twinning Sub-Committee will lead a review of current twinning arrangements. As part of the review the Sub-Committee would like to consult with the current Twinning Associations. She advised that the views of the Twinning Associations will help Elected Members when they come to make recommendations in the report which the Sub-Committee will present to Council in due course.

The Chair explained that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council inherited a budget of £14,700 from legacy Councils and has continued to provide funding to Twinning Associations based on the contributions made by the legacy Councils pending its review of Twinning.

<b>Twinning Association</b>	<b>Legacy Funding (rolled over by CCGBC)</b>	<b>Current Elected Member Representation</b>
<u>Limavady TA</u> Vigneux Sur Seine Westport Co Mayo	£2,700	3 Councillors
<u>Coleraine TA</u> Municipality of La Roche-Sur-Yon (France)	£5,000	4 Councillors
<u>Ballymoney TA</u> Vanves (France) Douglas, Isle of Man	£5,000	4 Councillors
<u>Moyle TA</u> Pourrieres (France) Ballinasloe, Co. Galway Covington, USA	£2,000	3 Councillors

The Chair assured the representatives the format of the discussion was very informal and that Elected Members were interested to hear views on:

- The aims of Twinning Associations for Twinning and plans for the future in terms of activities and projects;
- Elected Member representation on current Twinning Associations;
- Financial support from Council (legacy Councils provided contributions, help in kind, civic hospitality);

The Chair invited the representatives from the Twinning Associations to offer their views. Following the discussion the following suggestions emerged:

- Support for the Council and the existing Twinning Associations to work together to harness and develop the individual strengths and focus of each Association e.g. business, tourism, educational or sporting links.
- The establishment of a 'Twinning Forum' consisting of Twinning representatives, Elected Members and Council officers to enable collective working and sharing of knowledge which would lead to benefits, streamline twinning activities and avoid duplication of effort in the organisation of events.
- Support from Council in the form of advice and support from officers across Council departments including a lead officer for Twinning matters.
- The development of a Twinning Portal on Council's website.
- Financial support for Twinning Associations with the possibility of a separate 'civic' budget for exceptional or extraordinary expenditure in relation to twinning activities.

In relation to the current funding for Twinning Associations the Chair clarified that Council had rolled over legacy funding to date. The Mayor stated that she would like to see an improvement in the level of support for Moyle Twinning Association and asked that this be considered in Council's rate setting process in early New Year. The Chair stated that the review would include a recommendation on the level of future funding for Twinning Associations.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.