

TOWN TWINNING NETWORK

WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2016

PRESENT:- Councillor Kevin Small, Councillor Junab Ali, Cristina Bennett (Swindon Ocotol Link), Councillor Claire Ellis and Councillor Caryl Sydney-Smith

Apologies for absence were received from Mark Sarnowski, Hassan Nur and Cecilia Olley

1. Appointment of Chair

Resolved – That Councillor Kevin Small be Chair of the Town Twinning Network for the Municipal Year 2016/17

(Councillor Small hereupon took the Chair)

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair

Resolved – That Councillor Caryl Sydney-Smith be Vice-Chair of the Town Twinning Network for the Municipal Year 2016/17

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

No declarations of interest were made.

4. Public Question Time

There were no public questions

5. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2016 be accepted as a correct record.

6. Reports from Town Twinning Associations and Links

The network considered and noted a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services listing the Town Twinning Associations and Links in and around Swindon.

Verbal reports were given from the following Town Twinning Associations and Links present at the meeting.

Swindon Ocotol Link (SOL)

Christina Bennett reported on events held during the recent cultural visit to Swindon by two guests from Ocotol Nicaragua. She referred to the Civic Reception held at the Civic Offices on the 6th May 2016, a night of dance at the Wyvern Theatre and the Spanish Evening held at the Arts Centre on the 9th May 2016. She advised the Network that all events had been a great success and undertook to provide a more

detailed account of the cultural visit to a future meeting of the Network.

The Chair suggested that a press release could be issued covering the work Swindon has done for Ocotal.

Swindon Salzgitter Twinning Association (SSTA)

The Chair advised that the Mayor of Salzgitter would be visiting Swindon in early October 2016. He gave a brief description of the geographic area and other features covered by Salzgitter, together with its major employers including a steelworks and Manns Trucks.