

Swindon Borough Council

Town Twinning Network

Thursday, 30 August 2018

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices

At 6.00 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

Claire Ellis
Nick Martin
Kevin Parry

Labour Councillors

Kevin Small (Chair)
Junab Ali
Imtiyaz Shaikh

Cristina Bennett, Swindon Ocotal Link
Hassan Nur, Salahley, Somalialand
Cecilia Olley, Swindon Ocotal Link
Nazma Ramruttun, Swindon Mauritius Friendship Twinning
Dave Richardson, Highworth Twinning Association
Mark Sarnowski, Swindon Torun Link

Committee Officer: Iain Tucker (Telephone 01793 463605)

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

3. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

4. Minutes (Pages 5 - 6)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2018

5. Swindon City of Sanctuary - Presentation

Date of Despatch: 28 August 2018

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website.

(<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

Access Arrangements – *The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.*

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

Town Twinning Network - Terms of Reference

The Town Twinning Network seeks to promote co-ordination and co-operation in the development of Twinning Links with the Twin Towns of Swindon (currently Salzgitter and Ocotal) and other existing Twinning Links with towns in the Borough. It will also encourage the development of other international friendship links between the people of the Borough of Swindon and communities in other countries.

The Town Twinning Network will act as a co-ordinating body for interested groups and individuals seeking to promote twinning links with the Twin Towns of Swindon (currently Salzgitter and Ocotal).

The Town Twinning Network will seek to co-ordinate fund raising and publicity in relation to Town Twinning but will not itself undertake these activities.

The Town Twinning Network will seek to encourage the development of international friendship links and commercial links between the people of Swindon and communities in other countries by the provision of a forum for discussion and the exchange of information.

The Town Twinning Network will receive and consider applications for Town Twinning grants and make recommendations to the Council.

The Town Twinning Network shall not hold funds or enter into any financial transactions.

TOWN TWINNING NETWORK

WEDNESDAY, 6 JUNE 2018

PRESENT:- Councillor Kevin Small, Councillor Junab Ali and Councillor Kevin Parry

Apologies for absence were received from Cristina Bennett (Swindon Ocotal Link Association)

1. Appointment of Chair

Resolved – That Councillor Kevin Small be appointed Chair of the Town Twinning Network for the Municipal Year 2018/19.
(Councillor Small hereupon took the Chair)

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair

Resolved – That Cristina Bennett be appointed Vice-Chair of the Town Twinning Network for the Municipal Year 2018//19.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded members to declare any known interests in any of the matters to be discussed at the meeting. No such declarations were made.

4. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

5. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2018 be accepted as a correct record.

6. Future of Town Twinning

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report concerning the future role of the Town Twinning Network and whether the Council intends to continue to develop friendship links including the development of a statement about the role and benefits of a friendship link.

Resolved – That the Town Twinning Network:

- (1) Notes the report
- (2) Confirms there are values in maintaining support for friendship link
- (3) Continues to support town twinning activities, such as promotional and marketing activities, through the use of existing Council resources, and with engagement with young people.
- (4) Take no further steps with regard to the friendship link with Chattanooga USA
- (5) Seeks clarification from Cabinet if a friendship link with Mauritius should be pursued.

7.

Swindon City of Sanctuary Meeting

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report concerning what questions to pose and who to invite to the special meeting to be held in July with the Swindon City of Sanctuary.

Resolved – (1) That the special meeting with the City of Sanctuary be held on the 31st July 2018.

(2) That the 3 political groups be asked what questions to ask and who to invite to the special meeting of the Network to be held on the 31st July 2018.

8.

Reports from Town Twinning Associations and Links

The Network received a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services inviting the representatives of the Town Twinning Associations and Links present at the meeting to provide updates on twinning activities undertaken since the last meeting.

The Chair advised that representatives from Salzgitter were visiting the Borough between the 20-25th July 2018.