

BILLERICAY MAYFLOWER TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 February 2010

Present:

Committee

Brian Hughes (Chairman)
John Brown
Geoff Douglas (Membership Secretary)
Doreen Shaw (Social Secretary)
Mick Staines
Pat Staines
Linda Walsh (Acting Secretary)
Alan Wood (Treasurer)
Vera Wood

Trevor Draper (Adviser)

Membership

Beryl Brown
Terence Gandy
Sheila Gandy
Margaret Hitchins
Anne Howell
Ken Howell
John Humphries
Pamela Nice
J Phillips
J Rhodes
Ann Stansfield
Ray Stansfield
Marion Wilson

Apologies:

David Bremner
Terrence Jolly
Noreen Ray
Daphne Thomas

1. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19 September 2008 were **AGREED**.

2. Chairman's Report

A verbal report on the year's activities was **RECEIVED** from the Chairman.

- 2.1** There had been some changes to the committee: Mik Dunn had resigned and been replaced by Linda Walsh as Acting Secretary; Andy and Marilyn Wait had recently resigned due to ill health.
- 2.2** "Fundraising, social and promotional activities had included: coffee mornings; quiz nights; bric-à-brac sales; a Strawberry Fayre; a display in the Library; an "open morning" and display in the Reading Rooms; participation in the "open evening" at the Town Council offices on the Christmas Fun Night; and also attendance at the Round Table Fireworks Evening."
- 2.3** Other local events had included the presentation of the Twinning Charter to the Town Council for display in its offices. In co-operation with the Billericay Twinning Group arrangements had been made to replace the town sign on London Road. A model of the "Mayflower" had been purchased for presentation to Mayflower School. The Association had sponsored "Billericay in Bloom", had representation on the Town Tourism Project Group, and been invited to become involved in "Greening Billericay".

Chairman's Report (Contd.)

- 2.4 The Chair of the Billerica Twinning Group had visited briefly. Progress in further developing links with Billerica included the establishment of a pen-pal scheme between Quilters School in Billericay and Thomas Ditson School in Billerica. A proposal to produce a promotional video aimed at their counterparts in Billerica had been well received by Billericay Youth Town Council.
- 2.5 The membership list had been updated and the number of confirmed members was in excess of 200.
- 2.6 The Chairman wished to record thanks to all members of the committee, and also to the newsletter distributors. In particular, many thanks were due to Alan Wood, who had kindly taken on additional tasks and responsibilities during the past year.

3. Annual Accounts

- 3.1 A verbal report was made by the Treasurer, who pointed out that the accounts covered a period of 15 months, the year end having been changed to end December. There was an increase in cash at bank and in hand. The audited annual accounts were **RECEIVED** and **APPROVED** by the meeting, their adoption having been proposed by Geoff Douglas and seconded by John Brown.
- 3.2 The re-appointment of Paul Hiscock as external auditor was proposed by Alan Wood, seconded by Brian Hughes and **AGREED** by the meeting.

4. Election of Officers and Committee

- 4.1 The following officers were **ELECTED** by the meeting:

Brian Hughes MBE Chairman	Proposed: Alan Wood Seconded: Terence Gandey
Mick Staines Vice Chairman	Proposed: Brian Hughes Seconded: John Brown
Alan Wood Treasurer	Proposed: Brian Hughes Seconded: Geoff Douglas
Linda Walsh Secretary	Proposed: Brian Hughes Seconded: Geoff Douglas

- 4.2 The following committee members were **ELECTED** en bloc by the meeting:

John Brown
Geoff Douglas
Doreen Shaw
Pat Staines
Vera Wood

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5. Visit to Billerica

The Chairman reported that the Committee had considered arranging a trip in the spring of 2011, with visitors being based in Boston and travelling to Billerica perhaps for a few events. The meeting was broadly in favour of this proposal and approximately 15 members were interested in principle in joining this trip.

6. Future Events

Suggestions from members included:

- Participation in the Fun Day at Sun Corner.
- An evening lecture on New England, for example, on settlement after the arrival of the “Mayflower”.
- Coach Trips, for example, a day out in the summer, and a show in the winter – response to this suggestion was to be sought in the next newsletter.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 It was suggested that an additional model of the “Mayflower” be acquired, to be displayed at the Town Council offices when not being used for promotional purposes and this was **AGREED** by the meeting.

7.2 The Chairman had received a letter from the Town Clerk about “Billericay in Bloom” and it was **AGREED** that the Association should once again sponsor the event.

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Chairman

Date: