



# Le Quesnoy Sister City Committee Minutes

**Time:** 5.00pm  
**Date:** Monday, 10 October 2016  
**Venue:** Committee Room, Cambridge Service Centre  
Waipa District Council  
23 Wilson Street, Cambridge

## 1 PRESENT

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### Members

John Bishop, Acting Chairperson

Julie Epps, Sue Milner, (Cambridge Community Board); Toni Eames, Delysse Storey, Miriam Farrell, Brian Farrell, Bill Brocklebank; Linda Robinson (Alliance Francaise de Hamilton); Sebastien Lemercier, Steve Tritt, Paul Murphy (Cambridge Brass Band)

### In Attendance

Noelene Barr, Committee Secretary

### RESOLVED

*That John Bishop be acting chair in the absence of Mike Pettit.*

B Farrell/M Farrell

## 2 APOLOGIES

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### RESOLVED

*That the apologies for absence from Mike Pettit, Philip Coles, Sue and Tom Pickering be received.*

Milner/Epps

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to be passed onto Sue and Tom Pickering.

## 3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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File: 180-06-05/3

Minutes of the Meeting held 15 August 2016 were included in the agenda.

### RESOLVED

*That the minutes of the meeting held 15 August 2016, as circulated with the agenda, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.*

Eames/Epps





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## Matters Arising

### 3.1 Government Subsidy – Descendants of New Zealand Soldiers

Staff from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage have advised that the Government does not have a budget available to subsidise attendance at events (domestic or overseas) for descendants of New Zealand soldiers during the commemorations of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World War I.

For your information, the programme of domestic and overseas ceremonies is available at the following website [www.ww100.govt.nz/national-ceremonies](http://www.ww100.govt.nz/national-ceremonies)

A ballot was held for attendance by Gallipoli descendants last year due to the space limitations on the Gallipoli peninsula and the high demand by New Zealanders to attend the centenary of the ANZAC landings. Success in this ballot entitled the ticket holder to attend the dawn ceremony only with attendees arranging and paying for their own travel.

Deleyse Storey reported that barriers were erected for security reasons which restricted access to the battle sites for the commemorations of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

### 3.2 Liberation of Le Quesnoy – Friday, 4 November 2016

A community event in conjunction with “Alfresco Bites”, a food market held on Friday evenings, is not possible as the market does not commence until beginning of December.

Julie Epps said that a quintet of players from the Cambridge Brass Band will be on hand for the picnic, and petanque would be played at the Cambridge Bowling Club.

Cambridge Club is now domiciled in the same venue and the facilities could be available, however entry may be restricted to members only; a private room may be available to be hired.

Julie Epps to liaise with Sebastien Lemerrier regarding catering for food and wine, and with John Bishop who will provide an article to Your Cambridge News to promote the event. Julie also to discuss with Grant Middlemiss.

### 3.3 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Le Quesnoy – November 2018

#### 3.3.1 Armistice in Cambridge – Funding Shortfall/Support

A proposal relating to specific events is required to enable funding support to be provided by either the Cambridge Community Board or Council.





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Julie Epps advised that there will be a funding shortfall for the events planned and will provide information at the next committee meeting outlining what is required.

## **3.3.2 Sculpture – Blessing of Site**

A site for the sculpture has been identified by staff. The date of the blessing to be advised to staff to enable the site to be tidy.

## **3.3.3 Commemorative Stamps 2018 - Update**

An email has been received from the Stamps and Coins Team of New Zealand Post advising that Le Quesnoy will definitely be included in 2018, on a stamp and most likely on a coin too. The story of the Cambridge Le Quesnoy connection will be told within the commemorative booklet that is published as part of the stamp issue. Steve Tritt had provided the brochure, The Cambridge Le Quesnoy Connection, to New Zealand Post to provide graphics and details of the connection. No further information is required at this stage.

## **3.4 Alliance Francaise de Hamilton**

Julie Epps reported that she and Linda Robinson have not as yet had a meeting with the President of Alliance Francaise de Hamilton.

## **4 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE**

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### **4.1 Sister Cities New Zealand – Article, “Bonjour Bastille Day”**

An extract from the August 2016 edition of the Sister Cities New Zealand newsletter, “Bonjour Bastille Day – Cambridge Goes French for a Day” was included in the agenda. The article was written by Julie Epps.

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the article, “Bonjour Bastille Day – Cambridge Goes French for a Day”, included in the Sister Cities New Zealand newsletter dated August 2016 be received.*

Eames/Murphy

## **5 LE QUESNOY NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION – VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE, 17 – 20 FEBRUARY 2017**

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The working group, consisting of Sue Milner, Linda Robinson, John Bishop and Mike Pettit, compiled the draft itinerary which was included in the agenda.

The draft itinerary was discussed as follows -







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## **Friday, 17 February 2017 – Waipa District Council, Cambridge Service Centre**

The delegation is travelling to Cambridge from Gisborne via the East Cape so will not arrive until late in the afternoon or early evening. Hosts to be contacted an hour before they arrive.

## **Saturday, 18 February 2017**

Breakfast with host families; visit to the Cambridge Farmers' Market (optional)

### **10.30am Oak Arboretum – Blessing of Site for Le Quesnoy Memorial Sculpture**

**Invitees** – Fred Graham (Sculptor), local Iwi, Anglican Vicar

A short blessing similar to what occurred for the sculptures on the Waikato Expressway.

### **11.15am Brunch – Venue?**

Sue Milner offered the use of their residence which is in close proximity to the Oak Arboretum. However with the probability of numbers attending being at least 78 (26 delegates and 52 hosts) plus others, the use of a private residence may not be practical with the issues of toilets, parking and lack of space for catering having to be resolved. Mike Pettit has offered the use of the hall at the Cambridge Primary School and Sue Milner suggested the Cambridge High School being a better option due to its location. John Bishop to discuss further with Phil McCreery, Principal of the school.

Free time following brunch.

### **6.00pm Dinner**

A private residence was suggested as the venue for a barbeque dinner however the same issues as for the brunch venue would need to be resolved. Cambridge Town Hall or St Andrew's Church hall are other options.

## **Sunday, 19 February 2017**

### **10.30am Visit Avantidrome, meet at the Cambridge Service Centre**

### **12.00pm Formal Lunch, Don Rowlands Centre, Mighty River Domain**

Address by Mayor Jim Mylchreest

Cambridge Brass Band, National Anthems (Paul Murphy)

New Zealand Youth Choir, an item by members residing locally; the choir performed in Le Quesnoy as part of a European tour (Steve Tritt)

Other facilities to be visited such as Rowing NZ, Canoeing, World War I Trench.





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The Main Hall to be booked as the Karapiro Room won't be large enough.

2.00pm Depart; free time with host family

5.30pm Petanque at Cambridge Bowling Club followed by dinner

Free time with the host family for the remainder of the afternoon following lunch and evening was the preferred option for committee members.

## Monday, 20 February 2017

Depart 8.45am – St Andrew's Church; arrival to allow sufficient time for visitors to wander through church before final farewells. Ensure church is open.

- **Interpreter** - Delysse Storey said that it was important to have the services of an interpreter on hand for the Mayor's speech to ensure that it is understood by the delegates. John Bishop advised that the services of an interpreter have been discussed and it should apply to all speeches. Sebastien Lemerrier offered his services.
- **Local Interest Groups** - Julie Epps queried if the members of the French Connection, which is a social group of French people living in Cambridge, could be involved; Sue Milner suggested that this could be alerted to town residents via an article in the paper.
- **Cambridge Le Quesnoy Friendship Association** - To enable members to be involved, details of the delegation's visit to be included in the next newsletter.
- **Formal Lunch on Sunday** - could be the opportunity for others to attend such as members of the association and local interest groups; attendees other than the delegates, hosts and committee members, would need to register and pay in advance.

The draft itinerary to be amended and discussed further at the next meeting.

## 6 PROPOSED VISIT TO LE QUESNOY 2018

Marie Coles, Business Development Manager of Innovative Travel Company, advised via email, that there has been a delay in obtaining a quote from France as they have been busy with recent Battle of the Somme commemorations. The intention is to provide two options – escorted tour from New Zealand to include Le Quesnoy and Armistice Day commemorations and a land only option for Le Quesnoy and a few days visiting World War I landmarks in conjunction with the first group. Information will be provided as soon as it is available.

Paul Murphy advised that the Cambridge Brass Band is continuing with plans.







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## **7 A COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE FOR ARMISTICE ON REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 13 NOVEMBER 2016**

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A light luncheon will be provided following the service for members of the Cambridge/Le Quesnoy Friendship Association, military personnel and others who have assisted with the ceremony in the Edwardian Room of the Cambridge Town Hall. Last year, members of this committee and the ANZAC Day and Armistice Remembrance Organising Committee, provided a plate of sweet food and a caterer provided the remainder.

Paul Murphy queried if committee members would like to act as hosts for those attending the service as 10 countries will be represented. There will also be visitors from out of town who would appreciate being looked after in this manner. The service has been simplified as not all the anthems will now be sung.

Details regarding the service will be included in the newsletter for the Cambridge Le Quesnoy Friendship Association.

Committee members will provide a plate of sweet food for the light meal following the service.

Miriam and Brian Farrell will provide a display of information relating to Le Quesnoy at the Armistice in Cambridge event at the Mighty River Domain and use the pull up banners as part of their display; to be returned to the hall for the civic service on Sunday.

Julie Epps advised that Herb Farrant, President of the New Zealand Military Historical Society will present a seminar on the Battle of the Somme at the Mighty River Domain during the weekend.

## **8 GENERAL**

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### **8.1 New Zealand Remembrance Trail – Discover the New Zealand Specific WW1 sites around Flanders Fields, Belgium**

10 booklets have been purchased from The Passchendaele Society Incorporated.

## **9 NEXT MEETING**

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To be held on Monday, 5 December 2016 which is scheduled earlier in the month than usual, due to Christmas.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.17pm.





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**CHAIRPERSON**

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**DATE**

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**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

