



Le Quesnoy Sister City Committee Minutes

Time: 5.00pm
Date: Monday, 20 April 2015
Venue: Committee Room, Cambridge Service Centre
Waipa District Council
23 Wilson Street, Cambridge

1 PRESENT

Members

Mike Pettit, Chairperson

Elwyn Andree-Wiltens, Philip Coles, Julie Epps (Cambridge Community Board), John Bishop, Sue Pickering, Tom Pickering, Toni Eames, Miriam Farrell, Brian Farrell, Anne Lee (Alliance Francaise de Hamilton), Sebastien Lemercier, Steve Tritt

In Attendance

Noelene Barr, Committee Secretary

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That the apologies for absence from Sue Milner, Delysse Storey and Grant Middlemiss be received.

Bishop/Epps

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

File: 01-80-05

Minutes of the Meeting held 16 February 2015 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held 16 February 2015, as circulated with the agenda, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Epps/M Farrell

Matters Arising

3.1 100th Anniversary of the Liberation of Le Quesnoy / Armistice in Cambridge 2018

3.1.1 New Zealand Listener Article – Letter of Response

The letter from the Board responding to the article in the New Zealand Listener was included in the agenda for information purposes.





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RESOLVED

That the letter dated 20 February 2015 to the New Zealand Listener, be received.

Pettit/Bishop

Mike Pettit said that there was another article referring to Tim Shadbolt, Mayor of Invercargill City Council, donating funds to the New Zealand Memorial Museum in Le Quesnoy and discussed this with him at the recent Sister Cities conference.

3.1.2 New Zealand Defence Force – Letter

RESOLVED

That the Le Quesnoy Sister City Committee recommend that the Cambridge Community Board submit a request to the New Zealand Defence Force that military personnel be present in Cambridge for commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the liberation of Le Quesnoy in November 2018.

Bishop/Eames

3.2 Promotional Brochure - Draft

The draft promotional brochure was included in the agenda for comment and feedback.

RESOLVED

That the draft promotional brochure depicting the relationship between Cambridge and Le Quesnoy be received and approved.

Eames/Andree-Wiltens

Members were very impressed with the brochure and requested their thanks be passed onto Council staff.

3.3 Construction of a Maze – Update

A meeting of the Armistice in Cambridge Committee has yet to be held for this year.

4 NEW ZEALAND POST, COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS - 2018

On behalf of the committee, Steve Tritt approached New Zealand Post requesting that commemorative stamps be issued, depicting the relationship between Cambridge and Le Quesnoy, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the liberation of Le Quesnoy in 2018. New Zealand Post has advised that work on this would not start until later this year and have requested items of interest that could be used on stamps or part of a commemorative book.





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After general discussion, the three iconic images on the brochure were suggested, ie the stained glass window (St Andrews Church), the New Zealand Memorial in Le Quesnoy and one of the images depicting the soldiers going up the ladder on the ramparts. There is also a photograph in the cabinet of Raymond Poincare, President of the French Republic reviewing New Zealand troops who liberated Le Quesnoy on 4 November 1918. An aerial photograph of Le Quesnoy showing clearly that it's a fortified town is another possibility. Steve Tritt to progress this with New Zealand Post.

5 GENERAL

5.1 Anzac Day

Mike Pettit reported that Grant Middlemiss and Eris Parker have compiled two large posters featuring Cambridge soldiers of World War I whose names are on the Cambridge cenotaph. There are 95 names with accompanying photographs with the exception of nine soldiers. The poster is accompanied by a book with information relating to each soldier. The poster and book will be on display at the town hall on Anzac Day.

A recording of the war diary of James Watson, who was one of the first five Cambridge soldiers who enlisted for World War I, has been provided by his family and will also be played at the hall.

A light show depicting a Gallipoli theme projected onto the front of the town hall will be held on Friday, 24 April from 7.00pm to 9.00pm on a five to ten minute loop. Flyers have been distributed to all primary schools for the oldest and only child of each family and an article will be in this week's newspaper. The clock tower and cenotaph will also be lit in red representing the poppy.

Toni Eames and Mike Pettit are to be the wreath bearers on Anzac Day and lay the wreath on behalf of the citizens of Le Quesnoy.

5.2 Free Standing Pull Up Banner – Display Purposes

Julie Epps queried if a pull up banner could be purchased by the committee to be used for display purposes and said that it would cost approximately \$300.00 including art work. General information to be included, iconic images and the website address. Photographs of Le Quesnoy were on display at the town hall during the Street Carnival as part of the Autumn Festival which created a lot of interest.

RESOLVED

That the Le Quesnoy Sister City Committee recommend to the Cambridge Community Board that a free standing pull up banner be purchased for display purposes.

Epps/S Pickering





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5.3 Acknowledgment

Miriam Farrell requested a special acknowledgment, or invitation to Armistice, be made to Phyllis Moore and Lyall Mason, whose father James Mason was awarded the Military Medal at Le Quesnoy.

John Bishop suggested that an open invitation to the commemoration of the 100th anniversary be included in the newsletter to members of the Cambridge/Le Quesnoy Friendship Association to ensure that everyone is included.

Mike Pettit said that a newsletter will be distributed following Herb Farrant's return to New Zealand so the most recent information from Le Quesnoy can be included. Herb was recently interviewed on Radio New Zealand when he spoke about the New Zealand Memorial Museum in Le Quesnoy. An invitation to be made to Herb to attend the next meeting.

5.4 World War I Trench – Mighty River Domain

John Bishop said that the community isn't making the most of the World War I trench located at the Mighty River Domain. The resource consent allows the trench to be in place for four years and some progress should be made on this otherwise there is a danger of it turning into a "white elephant".

Sebastian Lemercier said that the Cambridge Middle School raised the idea of groups of school children visiting the trench leading up to the anniversary year.

Julie Epps said that staff have to be on hand when the trench is open and said that Liz Stolwyk, manager of the domain, would be the point of contact.

There are military historians available in the community who could provide manpower. A calendar of open days for schools to visit could be created and a unit of work for the school children put in place to provide information as part of the visit. It should be highlighted during the next four years of the 100th anniversary of World War I.

6 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 15 June 2015 at 5.00pm.

The meetings thereafter are scheduled on the third Monday on a bi-monthly basis as follows –

17 August

19 October

7 December (scheduled earlier in the month due to Christmas)

There being no further business 5.51pm.





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CHAIRPERSON

DATE

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

