Minutes of a Meeting of the Twinning Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Cockermouth, on Thursday 15th October at 10.00am.

Present:
Councillor Chris Bridgman
Councillor Julie Laidlow
Councillor Gillian Telford (Chair)

Also present:
Mrs Jane Ollerenshaw (Town Clerk)
Mrs Amy Jeffrey (Assistant Town Clerk)
Miss Jo-Anne Wood (Events and Facilities Support)

10.00am meeting opened.

T66 Apologies. Cllr Burns and Cllr Watson had submitted apologies.

T67 To approve the minutes of the Meeting of 26th August 2026. Resolved to approve the minutes.

T68 Declarations of Interest. None.

T69 Forthcoming Trip – Final Comments and Updates. Cllr Telford advised that, due to personal circumstances, she would no longer be able to attend the forthcoming twinning trip. The Clerk confirmed that all payments had been made and that the arrangements for the trip were finalised.

T70 Gift and Transportation Arrangements. The Clerk presented the framed photograph, taken by Peter Skillen, which had been selected as a gift for the Twinning Committee. Cllr Laidlow advised that Peter had kindly offered to donate the photograph free of charge and had requested that the funds allocated for its purchase instead be donated to the Mayor's chosen charities. The Clerk confirmed that she would take the framed photograph with her on the trip.

T71 Incoming Trip 2027 – Proposed Budget. The Clerk advised that the total expenditure for the previous incoming trip, including the additional unplanned trip in April, was just over £3,000. She recommended that a budget of £4,000 be allocated for the 2027 incoming trip. **Resolved** the Committee request the Town Council allocate £4,000 in the budget for the 2027 incoming trip.

T72 Erasmus School Exchange – Proposed Separate Budget Allocation. Cllr Telford explained that the French group had established links with two local primary schools, Great Broughton and Fairfield, and that some financial support may be required to maintain these connections. The Clerk suggested supporting an activity for the children, such as a civic reception incorporating entertainment and refreshments, with a budget of £500 proposed. **Resolved** the Committee request that the Town Council allocate a separate budget of £500 to support the Erasmus school exchange.

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T73 Date of the next Committee Meeting.
Confirmed as Wednesday 11th November at 10.00am.

10.32am meeting closed.

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