



Policy and Resources Committee - 5 July 2010

Twining – Loreley – Transfer to Rushden Town Council

Summary

Members are asked to consider whether to recommend to Council the start of the process to transfer of the District's Twining Agreement with the Loreley District in Germany to Rushden Town Council which has expressed interest in continuation and development of the agreement

Attachment(s)

Appendix A: General Treaty of Friendship

1.0 Background

- 1.1 East Northamptonshire Council agreed to the creation of a twinning agreement with the District of Loreley in Germany in 1982 and signed a General Treaty of Friendship (see Appendix A) in 1985.
- 1.2 At the time the twinning link was approved it was agreed that any related formalities should not be financed from the General Rate Fund.
- 1.3 In recent years activities have largely been organised by private individuals or most recently, most actively by Rushden Town Council who has now expressed an interest in formally transferring responsibility.

2.0 Implications

- 2.1 There are no known staff or budgetary implications that would arise from the transfer of the twinning arrangements.
- 2.2 As far as is known, no discussions have taken place with the Loreley authorities, and the transfer would be dependent on a satisfactory outcome to such discussions.
- 2.3 Twining arrangements have been concluded by other Town Councils in East Northamptonshire and it is felt more appropriate for the arrangements with the Loreley to be developed on a more local basis.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 That Members resolve to recommend to Council to initiate a dialogue with both Rushden Town Council and the Loreley District with a view to transferring the responsibility for twinning from this Council to the Town Council.

Implications:		
Corporate Outcomes or Other Policy/Priority/Strategy		
Good Quality of Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good Reputation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Good Value for Money	<input type="checkbox"/>	High Quality Service Delivery <input type="checkbox"/>
Effective Partnership Working	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strong Community Leadership <input type="checkbox"/>
Effective Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge of our Customers and Communities <input type="checkbox"/>
Employees and Members with the Right Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other:		<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision(s) would be outside the budget or policy framework and require full Council approval		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Financial	There are no financial implications at this stage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	There will be financial implications – see paragraph	<input type="checkbox"/>
	There is provision within existing budget	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure at a later date	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Decisions may have potential for income generation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk Management	An assessment has been carried out and there are no material risks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Material risks exist and these are recorded at Risk Register Reference - inherent risk score - residual risk score -	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff	There are no additional staffing implications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Additional staff will be required – see paragraph	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equalities and Human Rights	There will be no impact on equality (race, age, gender, disability, religion/belief, sexual orientation) or human rights implications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	There will be an impact on equality (see categories above) or human rights implications – see paragraph	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	Power: Local Government Act 1972, sections 144 and 176	
	Other considerations:	
Background Papers: Previous Council minutes		
Person Originating Report: Sharn Matthews, Monitoring Officer, 01832 742108, smatthews@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk		
Date: 23 June 2010		
CFO		MO
		CX

(Committee Report Normal Rev. 21)

EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

TWINNING ARRANGEMENT, LORELEY DISTRICT

On the 6th September 1982, the Council resolved :

- R.35 That approval in principle be given to the initial twinning with the District of Loreley in the form of the signing of a Treaty of Friendship by the two Councils on the strict understanding that any such formalities would not be financed by the General Rate Fund and that the Northamptonshire County Twinning Committee be invited to address a public meeting to be called by the Chairman of the Council for the purpose of establishing a district twinning organisation.

Councillor J. Finding called the public meeting referred to, which was held on 26th October 1982. Of some 125 organisations invited only 5 were represented. Despite the poor attendance a Steering Committee was set up to pursue the matter further.

Subsequently, a Twinning Committee was formed which arranged an initial visit of a delegation from the Loreley District on 7/8th April 1984. During the visit the then Chairman of the Council, Councillor J. J. Richardson met the delegation when the disparity in size both of area and population and in the number of schools, societies, etc., of the two districts was discussed together with the form of a Treaty of Friendship. Visitors also had an opportunity to tour the district.

The delegation said their Council would consider forming a twinning link with the East Northamptonshire District after their Municipal elections in June 1984.

A letter addressed to the Chairman of the Council was received on 23rd April 1985 suggesting that a return visit for the purpose of signing a Treaty of Friendship take place on 7 - 9th June 1985 in St. Gaurshausen.

Now that the Loreley District has confirmed its willingness for the twinning arrangements to proceed, the Council may wish to resolve that the twinning arrangements with the Loreley District in the Federal Republic of Germany be confirmed in accordance with Resolution 35 (1982/83) and to authorise the Common Seal to be affixed to the Treaty of Friendship.

A draft of the Treaty which was prepared for discussion with the Loreley representatives, is set out overleaf.

D. B. ADNITT,
Chief Executive Officer

Rushden Hall,
Rushden.

8th May 1985

