

AGENDA 10, Enc iv) Ashington & Newbiggin by the Sea - Town Twinning Visit - October 2024

Following meeting attended by representatives of Ashington and Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council's and the Town Twinning Association, the following plans are proposed:

Visit of German guests will take place from Monday 21 – Saturday 26 October (Sven Wiertz (Stadt Director of City of Remscheid), Sven Wolf (Regional MP), Christian Gunter (Councillor), Nadine Gaede, (Councillor), Bjorn Gottshalk (Remscheid Town Twinning Group). The focus of the visit is the 40th Anniversary of support from the Remscheid community to the Wansbeck Miners Support Group during the Miners Strike of 1984/85. The consensus of the group is that this should be viewed in more historical than political context given the anniversary.

MP Ian Lavery has committed to coming to part of the day and the visit will be supported by the Ashington & Newbiggin by the Sea Town Twinning Association.

It was agreed Friday 25 October would be the 'Civic Day' to hopefully enable the areas MP to attend events.

It was agreed to purchase two plaques to recognise the 40th Anniversary of the support for the Wansbeck mining community. Plaques to be displayed in the Remscheid Room, at Ashington Town Council (Remscheid Room) and Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council offices.

Unveiling of the Ashington plaque on Friday 25 April, at 10:00am at Ashington Town Council Office.

Unveiling of the Newbiggin by the Sea plaque on Friday 25 April, at 11:00am, at Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council Office.

Buffet lunch in the Latimer Room at Newbiggin Maritime Centre from 12noon -1pm.

Following which, at Newbiggin Maritime Centre a general invite to the public will be made (from 1pm-3pm) for people to share Town Twinning experiences. A photograph exhibition (on a PowerPoint loop) to be developed to support the event. Ashington Male Voice Choir to be invited to provide music including the song Requiem form Fell 'Em Doon, given the mining context.

Meal on the Friday evening, at approximately 7pm, with Councillors/staff and members of the Town Twinning Association, in Morpeth. Request made for the cost of the German guest's meal to be provided by the Town Councils.

The Council is asked to contribute £400 which can be taken from the Events and Engagement budget to support the costs associated with the events which we expect to be £600 in total. Newbiggin Town Council will contribute £200.

- 1. Plaques £100 approx.*
- 2. Buffet lunch in the Latimer Room at Newbiggin Maritime Centre £200 approx.*
- 3. Ashington Male Voice Choir £50 donation.*
- 4. Cost of 5 meals for visiting guests £200 approx.*