

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Provost's Sub-Committee of Strategic Policy & Resources Committee

20 April 2016

TWINNING CELEBRATIONS AND TREATY OF PERTH 19 to 22 AUGUST 2016

Report by Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report proposes to invite the Mayors of Perth's twin cities to visit Perth during Treaty of Perth celebrations over the weekend of 19 to 22 August 2016, to mark the 60th anniversary of twinning with Aschaffenburg, Germany; 25 years twinning with Cognac, France and Pskov, Russia and 15 years twinning with Perth, Ontario, Canada.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 The City of Perth is twinned with Aschaffenburg, Germany; Cognac, France; Pskov, Russia; Perth, Ontario; Bydgoszcz, Poland and Haikou, China.
- 1.2 In 2016 Perth will reach four significant twinning link anniversaries:

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|------------------------|----------|
| Aschaffenburg, Germany | 60 years |
| Cognac, France | 25 years |
| Pskov, Russia | 25 years |
| Perth, Ontario, Canada | 15 years |
- 1.3 To celebrate the 60th anniversary with Aschaffenburg, the Provost and an official delegation have accepted a formal invitation from the Oberbürgermeister to visit Aschaffenburg in June 2016.
- 1.4 To celebrate the 25th twinning anniversary and the 1,000th anniversary of Cognac, the Mayor of Cognac has formally invited the Provost to visit Cognac from Friday 2 to Sunday 4 September 2016. This is the subject of a separate report.
- 1.5 The Mayor of Pskov, Russia has extended an open invitation to the Provost to visit Pskov to mark the 25th twinning anniversary.
- 1.6 To celebrate the 15th twinning anniversary and Perth, Ontario's 200th anniversary, the Provost has accepted a formal invitation from the Mayor of Perth, Ontario, Canada to visit in July 2016 to participate in their Homecoming Event, the biggest event of their 200th anniversary year-long celebrations.

- 1.7 In addition to Perth's twinning links, there are a number of towns and villages throughout Perth and Kinross who have elected to maintain active twinning links, for example, Inchtute and Fléac, France; Pitlochry and Confolens, France; Dull and Boring, Oregon, USA.
- 1.8 2016 marks the 750th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Perth in St John's Kirk, when the King of Norway ceded the Western Isles and the Isle of Man to the Scottish Crown and brought about 750 years of peace between Scotland and Norway.
- 1.9 A copy of the Treaty of Perth will be on exhibition in Perth Museum and Art Gallery from 7 June to 28 August 2016. It is planned that numerous related cultural activities will take place in the Museum and Art Gallery over this period of time.
- 1.10 The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo has offered to bring the Mini Tattoo to Perth on Sunday 21 August 2016. The 600 Mini Tattoo performers participating would include the King's Guard of Norway, a world class Tattoo act.
- 1.11 The Consul General of Norway has confirmed that she would accept an invitation to attend the Treaty of Perth Celebrations on 21 August 2016.
- 1.12 The Council's Corporate Events Officer is developing proposals to hold numerous Viking and medieval events throughout Perth City Centre on Sunday 21 August 2016.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 The Treaty of Perth celebrations will be held on Sunday 21 August 2016 to mark the 750th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Perth in St John's Kirk, Perth.
- 2.2 The Treaty of Perth 750th anniversary celebrations in August 2016 be used in order to mark Perth's significant twinning anniversaries in 2016.
- 2.3 It is proposed to invite the Mayors of the City of Perth's twin cities of Aschaffenburg, Cognac, Pskov, Perth Ontario, Haikou and Bydgoszcz to visit Perth from Friday 19 to Sunday 21 August 2016. In addition to the Treaty of Perth celebrations, the proposed programme for the weekend would include a visit to the Weeping Windows Sculpture at Balhousie Castle and the charity event at Perth Racecourse, the STV Appeal Carnival Party Day.
- 2.4 All other active twinning links in towns and villages throughout Perth and Kinross would be invited to participate in the celebrations.
- 2.5 It is proposed to accept the offer from the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo to bring the Royal Edinburgh Military Mini Tattoo to Perth on Sunday 21 August 2016.

- 2.6 As part of the Treaty of Perth and Twinning celebrations, it is proposed to hold an event in St John's Kirk, where the Treaty of Perth was signed in 1266. The format would be similar to the Provost's Suppers held in St John's Kirk each January, with traditional food and musical entertainment. Up to 130 guests would comprise visiting Twinning Mayors; representatives from Norway; representatives from the Western Isles and Isle of Man; representatives from Friends Organisations involved in the Perth Twinning agreements and representatives from active twinning links throughout Perth and Kinross.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is considered that the 750th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Perth in St John's Kirk, Perth in 1266 provides an opportunity not only to mark the 750th anniversary itself, but also to mark the significant twinning anniversaries between Perth and Aschaffenburg, Cognac, Pskov and Perth, Ontario in 2016.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Provost's Sub-Committee:
- i. agrees to mark the 750th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Perth in St John's Kirk Perth by holding a supper in St John's Kirk on Sunday 21 August 2016 for up to 130 guests.
 - ii. agrees to use the Treaty of Perth celebrations to mark the significant twinning anniversaries between Perth and Aschaffenburg, Cognac, Pskov and Perth, Ontario by inviting the Mayors of Perth's Twin cities to visit Perth over the weekend of 19 to 22 August 2016.
 - iii. agrees to accept the offer from the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo to bring the Royal Edinburgh Military Mini Tattoo to Perth on Sunday 21 August 2016.
 - iv. agrees to delegate authority to the Head of Democratic Services, in consultation with the Provost, to finalise the arrangements for the events detailed in this report.

Author

| Name | Designation | Contact Details |
|------------------------|--|------------------------|
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Approved

| Name | Designation | Date |
|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| John Walker | Depute Chief Executive, HCC (Corporate and Community Development Services) | 13 April 2015 |

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

| Strategic Implications | Yes / None |
|---|-------------------|
| Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement | Yes |
| Corporate Plan | Yes |
| Resource Implications | |
| Financial | Yes |
| Workforce | No |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST) | No |
| Assessments | |
| Equality Impact Assessment | No |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment | No |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | No |
| Legal and Governance | No |
| Risk | No |
| Consultation | |
| Internal | Yes |
| External | No |
| Communication | |
| Communications Plan | No |

1. Strategic Implications

1.1 Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

The draft Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2013-2023 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the achievement of these objectives.

1.2 Corporate Plan

Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2013-2018 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the achievement of these objectives.

2. Resource Implications - Financial

2.1 The costs associated with a supper at St John's Kirk for up to 130 guests on Sunday 21 August 2016 to mark the 750th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Perth are anticipated to be in the region of £5,500.

2.2 Costs associated with the Twinning visitors from Aschaffenburg, Cognac, Pskov, Perth, Ontario, Bydgoszcz and Haikou are anticipated to be :

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Transport | £ 200 |
| Accommodation | £2,400 |
| Hospitality | £1,800 |
| Civic Gifts | £ 600 |
| Charity Racing Day and lunch at Perth Racecourse | £2,400 |
| Visit to Balhousie Castle/Weeping Windows sculpture | £ 200 |
| Total Twinning Civic costs | <u>£7,600</u> |

- 2.3 Costs relating to staging the Royal Edinburgh Military Mini Tattoo are anticipated to be approximately £10,000.
- 2.4 The total estimated costs of £23,100 relating to the Treaty of Perth and Twinning celebrations in 2016/17, as detailed in this report, can be met from 2015/16 budget flexibility arrangements for Democratic Services, already agreed by Council.
- 2.5 The Head of Finance has been consulted on the financial implications for the proposals and has indicated his agreement.

3. Consultation

3.1 Internal

The Provost and the Chief Executive have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

4.1 Letters of invitation from Twinning Mayors