



EUROMAYENNE

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON SATURDAY 19th OCTOBER 2024

On Saturday 19th October 2024 at 10:00am, the Ordinary General Assembly of the EuroMayenne Association, whose registered office is located at «*Maison des Associations*», 130 rue de la Visitation, Mayenne (53100), was held in the room of the old refectory at «*Maison des Associations*», 130 rue de la Visitation, in Mayenne (53100).

54 members were present or represented, the quorum being fixed at 30 members present or represented in the association's internal rules approved by the Executive Committee on 17th September 2022.

Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, President, opened the meeting and thanked the participants for their attendance. She invited the participants to have a thought for Gilberte BREHIN, Maureen KNIGHT, Stuart HANDLEY, Pamela ROBINSON, four of our members and former members, who sadly passed away since our last AGM in October 2023.

The President reminded the audience of the agenda for this AGM:

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Approval of the minutes of the EGM and AGM on 14th October 2023**
- 3. Activity Report 2023-2024 and discussion with the audience**
- 4. Financial Report 2023-2024**
- 5. Election of Executive Committee members**
- 5. Any other Business**

The President thanked the following for their presence:

- Madame Lyssia SAULNIER, Deputy Mayor of Mayenne for Attractiveness, Twinning and City Centre, representing Monsieur Jean-Pierre LE SCORNET, Mayor of Mayenne,
- Monsieur Pierre DOUILLET, President of the Haute-Mayenne Free Time University,
- Monsieur Jean-Loïc DELAHAYE, Co-President of The House of Europe in Mayenne,
- Madame Françoise MARCHAND, Executive Committee Member of The House of Europe in Mayenne,

The President also informed the participants that Monsieur Guillaume GAROT, Member of Parliament, who was attending another AGM in Laval, would be likely to join the AGM at around 11.30am.

1 – Apologies

Apologies were received from:

- Monsieur Yannick FAVENNEC, Member of Parliament,
- Madame Géraldine BANNIER, Member of Parliament,
- Madame Elisabeth DOINEAU, Senator,
- Monsieur Guillaume CHEVROLLIER, Senator,
- Madame Valérie HAYER, European Deputy,
- Monsieur Olivier RICHEFOU, President of the Departmental Council,
- Monsieur Florian BERCAUT, Mayor of Laval,
- Monsieur Jean-Pierre LE SCORNET, Mayor of Mayenne and President of Mayenne Communauté,
- Madame Stéphanie LEFOULON, Departmental Councillor, Deputy-Mayor of Mayenne,
- Monsieur Antoine VALPREMIT, Departmental Councillor, First Vice-President of Mayenne Communauté, Mayor of Sacé,
- Monsieur Michel FERRON, Executive Committee Member of The House of Europe in Mayenne and General Secretary of the Houses of Europe National Federation,
- Madame Jacqueline DALIBARD, Co-President of The House of Europe in Mayenne,
- Madame Annick BAYER, Vice-President of the Haute-Mayenne Free Time University,

- Monsieur Michel BUSSENEAU, Past-President and Honorary Member of the EuroMayenne Association,
- Madame Yvette BUSSENEAU, Honorary Member of our Association,
as well as Sheelagh ABBOTS, Fiona BETTON, Patrice BOMPAIS, Nicolas BONE and Sheryl MILLS, Julia and Stephen BOSTOCK, Gérard BOURSIER, Ian DAVIES, Jacqueline and Leonard FORSHAW, Janet and Fred GREATOREX, Alison and David KEHAYA, Gloria KENNERLEY, Dany and Michel LIEBERT, Philippe MASSIOT, Charlène and Laurent MORAZIN, Jackie and Alan ROBERTS, Clotilde SEDOUGA, EuroMayenne members.

The President reminded the audience that all notifications and reports to be presented at the meeting had been sent out by email to all members of the association on 4th October 2024, as all members have email addresses. A copy of the various reports could also be consulted in this room.

3 members present were needed for counting the votes just in case a vote by secret ballot would be decided. Sylviane GUYONVARCH, Sylvie QUINTON and Linda POWELL volunteered and the members present approved their candidatures.

2 – Approval of the minutes of the EGM and AGM on 14th October 2023

The President reminded the audience that the minutes of the EGM and AGM on 14th October 2023 had been sent out to all members together with the notification sent on 4th October last.

There were no particular comments on these two documents.

The minutes of the EGM and AGM on 14th October 2023 were unanimously approved less one abstention.

3 – Activity Report for 2023-2024 and discussion with the audience

This report had been sent out to all EuroMayenne members together with the notification on 4th October 2024. Pam DAVIES, Executive Committee Secretary, and Peter WOODS, Vice-President, gave a summary:

Membership

235 members on 31/08/2024 (204 on 31/08/2023)

196 members to date.

39 % new members in 2023-2024 (highest turnover)

Average age: 60

Many thanks to Roselyne SPEYER, Gloria KENNERLEY and Simon KING who is the new Membership Secretary.

French Courses

Many thanks to the Town of Mayenne which offers us a free room at the Old Mairie.

Many thanks to Alain FAUCON, our teacher, for his collaboration with our association for 20 years now.

Many thanks to Peter WOODS, our French Course Coordinator.

Conversation Workshops

Mayenne:

Evening: **18** participants (12 French speakers and 6 English speakers) on average.

Afternoon: **10** participants (6 French speakers and 4 English speakers) on average.

Laval:

9 Participants (6 French speakers and 3 English speakers) on average at the evening workshop.

We are looking for 1 or 2 new anglophones.

Lassay-les-Châteaux:

16 Participants (9 French speakers and 7 English speakers) on average at the evening workshop.

Many thanks to Lycée Don Bosco (Mayenne), Maison de Quartier des Fourches (Laval) and Lassay Mairie for their rooms, and to Colette BERRON, Lynn CHESTERS (Mayenne), Armelle JAMELOT (Laval) and Paul-Henri PROUST (Lassay-les-Châteaux) for their coordination of our workshops.

School Interventions

No interventions in 2023/2024.

Many thanks to Simon KING, in charge of our school interventions, and to all our native English-speaking members who had volunteered for these interventions.

Volunteer Assistance Network

This year, we had no assistance requests.

Many thanks to Lynn CHESTERS and Sylvie QUINTON for their coordination of this network.

Monthly Outings

We organised **13** outings from September 2023 to August 2024 with **24** participants on average (outings).

Thanks to our Activities Committee members (Lynn CHESTERS, Pam DAVIES, Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, Armelle JAMELOT, Valérie MASSEROT, Paul PUNCHARD) for organising these outings.

Monthly Teas

12 participants on average at la Visitation.

27 participants to our «*Galette des Rois*» last January.

Many thanks to Eileen CLIMANCE for coordinating these meetings.

Interest Groups

Crafts: **7-10** participants on average.

Gardening: **3** Meetings and **3** garden visits.

Walking: **8** walks and **9** participants on average.

Reading: **9** meetings and **12** participants on average.

Cinema: **9** meetings and **9** participants on average.

Many thanks to Lynn CHESTERS, who has been in charge of our Activities Committee for 13 years, and to all our interest groups leaders (Susan CHARNOCK, Stephen BOSTOCK, Pam DAVIES, Martine and Patrice BOMPAIS, Gérard BOURSIER, Susan JAMESON), for their commitment and hard work in organising our leisure activities.

Also many thanks to Susan JAMESON, who has taken over from Lynn CHESTERS as Chair of our Activities Committee.

«Families with young children Group» Project

We are still looking for native English-speaking couples with young children living in Mayenne , so as to create a new interest group allowing French and English-speaking families with young children in Mayenne to participate in appropriate activities, If you know any, please feel free to tell them!

EuroMayenne Fair

Our Executive Committee is reflecting on the future orientations of our Fair.

After having been in charge of our Fair Committee for 20 years, Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE has decided to step down from this role, but no one has volunteered so far for taking over this responsibility.

Communications

Facebook

Our Association's public Facebook page has **584** Followers

The private group for our members has only **20** members

Our Gardening Group private page has **13** members

Our Craft Group private page has **8** members

Our Walking Group private page has **7** members

Our Cinema Group private page has **4** members

We encourage all our members to check our Facebook pages regularly and sign up!

EuroMayenne website:

EuroMayenne members are invited to go and have a look at our website regularly for the latest updates on all our activities.

Many thanks to Ian WATSON, who has been in charge of our Communications Committee for 6 years, and to Julie WATSON for her hard work in updating our website and Facebook pages.

Project of bilingual guide for medical emergencies

This guide would be designed to help native anglophones make phone calls to medical emergency services.

This year we obtained a €1000 funding from FDVA (*Fonds de Développement de la Vie associative*) to print a number of copies for people who do not have access to the Internet, so that we could distribute a printed version of this guide widely in our department.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee would like to address their warmest thanks to all our members who have given a lot of their free time to organise the different activities of our association during the year 2023-2024, as well as all those who have participated in our outings and events. If you would like to take on more responsibility in our association, please do feel free to let us know!

There were no questions in relation to this report.

The Activity Report for 2023-2024 was unanimously approved.

The President then informed the audience that the Executive Committee members would now like to share an important information with them.

This year, following a proposal from the President, they have reflected on a more collective governance of our association.

At their meeting on 8 June 2024, they decided that our association would from now on have 3 co-presidents in place of the President and 2 Vice-Presidents.

Then, at their meeting on 28 September 2024, they approved the division of responsibilities between the 3 co-Presidents as proposed by the Board members.

Delegations	Assistants
- Organising and running the AGM, Executive Committee & Board meetings - Communications & Events	- Executive Committee Secretary - Chair of the Communications/Events Committee
- Existing and new activities (linguistics, outings, groups)	- Chair of the Languages Committee - Chair of the Activities Committee
- Accounts, financial administration, human resources management, Membership	- Treasurer - Membership Secretary

Following the election at the Executive Committee meeting this afternoon, EuroMayenne will have 3 co-presidents and all our members will of course be informed of the result of this election.

4 – Financial Report 2023-2024

Roselyne SPEYER, treasurer of the association, presented the Financial Report and the Audit Report for 2023-2024.

The President thanked Roselyne SPEYER for her great efficiency in managing our accounts, as well as Anne DUGUERET, a EuroMayenne member, who has audited our accounts this year.

There were no questions in relation to these reports.

The Financial Report 2023-2024 and the Audit Report on the Accounts 2023-2024 were unanimously approved less one abstention.

5 - Election of Executive Committee Members

There was no AGM in 2020 because of the Covid pandemic and the confinements. There were therefore two AGMs in 2021, the one in 2020 postponed to March 2021 and the usual one in November 2021.

Consequently there were no Executive Committee member mandates coming to an end in 2023 and therefore no elections last year.

Today, the mandates of Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, Simon KING, Valérie MASSEROT, Georges PLESSIS, Paul PUNCHARD and Peter WOODS are coming to an end.

Ian WATSON and Lynn CHESTERS resigned from their positions as administrators in December 2023.

Valérie MASSEROT had decided not to stand for re-election and she was thanked warmly by the President for her commitment and participation on the Executive Committee.

This means that there are 8 vacancies.

On 8th June 2024, the Executive Committee decided to rebalance the mandates of the Executive Committee members, with 4 mandates until 2025, 4 mandates until 2026 and 4 mandates until 2027.

Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, Simon KING, Georges PLESSIS and Peter WOODS are standing for re-election and have agreed to serve a 2-year term until 2026, in order to rebalance the mandates on the Executive Committee.

Paul PUNCHARD is also standing for re-election for a further 3-year term until 2027.

Susan JAMESON was co-opted by the Executive Committee on 20th April 2024 and is standing for re-election for a 3-year term ending in 2027.

A call for applications had been emailed by the President to all members on 19th September 2024.

2 applications had been received: Patrice BOMPAIS and Sheelagh ABBOTS, for a 3-year mandate until 2027.

The 8 candidates presented their candidatures in alphabetical order:

Sheelagh ABBOTS (absent, candidature read by Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE), Patrice BOMPAIS (absent, candidature read by Martine BOMPAIS), Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, Susan JAMESON, Simon KING, Georges PLESSIS, Paul PUNCHARD and Peter WOODS.

There were no questions in relation to this election.

As there were no more candidates than positions to be filled, the President asked if the participants agreed to vote with a show of hands. There were no objections.

Results of the vote

- Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE, Simon KING, Georges PLESSIS and Peter WOODS were unanimously re-elected for two years.
- Paul PUNCHARD was unanimously re-elected for three years.
- Sheelagh ABBOTS, Patrice BOMPAIS and Susan JAMESON were unanimously elected for three years.

Following this AGM, the Executive Committee will meet and elect the Officers (3 Co-Presidents, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Secretary, Deputy Secretary).

5 - Any other Business

There were no questions or information for those attending this AGM.

As there was no other item on the agenda, the meeting was closed at 11:44am and the President invited those present to a convivial aperitif.

Nicole DEVEL-LAIGLE
President