

6 housing. It seemed an excellent way to deal with, in a very constructive way, what has become something of a derelict site. There was provision to retain the extensive tree cover, safeguarding the view from the town. However, a new planning application had been made to build an additional 18 flats in three blocks. John Gerrard prepared a photo-montage which demonstrated how intrusive this additional development would be. The flats appeared a poor fit within the adjacent area and did not harmonise with the neighbouring Vic-

toria Park. the photo-montage was sent as supporting material for the objection.

The Society opposed the planning application for a business park development at Farthingloe on the site of "Stalag Maxton", more properly known as the Channel Tunnel workers village. We should not forget that it is within an area officially designated as an area of outstanding beauty. Other business parks make this an unnecessary development and the committee are firmly of the view that it should revert to countryside.

DOVER SOCIETY AND DOVER TOWN COUNCIL

— JACK WOOLFORD —

THERE WAS A WELCOME NOVELTY at our Members' Meeting on October 20. Inspired by Dover Town Council's example at the Mayor-Making, we invited all the Secondary Schools in Dover to send their Head Boys and Girls and their Deputies. Only St. Edmund's Roman Catholic School responded but the contributions of Thomas Connolly and Jonathan Verrill to the Discussion Groups, notably (but not exclusively) on the adequacy of youth facilities in Dover, were splendid. They were informed, articulate, and a credit to their school. We look forward to a larger response from other schools next year.

A second surprise was the Chairman's production of the mayor's application for membership of the Society. This was received with appropriate applause.

The Dover Society campaigned for a Parish (Town) Council in the recent reorganisation of local government and has established friendly relations by attendance at Council committee meetings on common concerns. Permission to speak and to make suggestions on matters such as twinning with Calais, signposting, and the promotion of tourism is very much appreciated. The invitation to "them" to speak to "us" naturally followed.

THE ROLE OF THE DOVER TOWN COUNCIL

ROBERT BAILEY, TOWN CLERK

Robert Bailey, Man of Kent and former Senior Civil Servant, now Town Clerk, emphasised his non-political role in advising on policies but his responsibility to implement them. For this, good relations with mayor, councillors, townspeople and local societies were essential.

Dover as a community had suffered for 20 years from the absence of effective local representation after the abolition of the Borough Council in 1974, and it was this gap that the (single) Parish (Town) Council, separate and autonomous, now fulfilled.