

Refurbishment Sub-Committee

Jeremy Cope

First I report the sad loss of Roger Marples, a very diligent member of our committee. Roger made a most positive contribution and we shall miss him. We are joined by Sylvie Parsons who is already taking an active part and should be well known to members with her work on the Dover Town planters which this year, with their geranium towers, have provided a splash of colour. Well done Sylvie. Pam Brivio is now settled in as our secretary not only taking the minutes but also providing a really expert input.

Section 215 of the 1990 Planning Act is reported in the July report and in this newsletter by Pat Sherratt in the Planning Report. Pat has spearheaded a campaign to enforce repairs to the exteriors of properties now taken up by the District Council and supported by Dover Town Council with survey work carried out by the Society. We are seeing very positive results. Congratulations to Pat and members of this committee who are involved.

Hurrah - the District Council have agreed to adopt and implement a zero tolerance policy on breaches of litter and dog fouling laws. At the moment we understand that the Council are working out the rules to be adopted so that there is a strict but sensible application of the law. The sooner the policy is implemented the better. It gets better; the Town Council had a litter clear up day. Many Society members took part but it was unfortunate that the

date clashed with a Cowgate working party and a River event which meant the Chairman had to play the part of a scarecrow rather than collect litter. I know what I would rather do.

I reported on a bid to fund the work to set up a walkway between the Castle and Langdon Cliffs. I am afraid that the bid was made but rejected. We will now set about working out a more modest scheme using volunteers to clear and maintain the path but we will have to get Kent Pathways on side if we are to make progress.

Other matters to note:

Street trees and KCC Highways - there has been no meaningful progress.

Connaught Park pond looks even more positive with a repair scheme being prepared.

Maureen Morris produced a very learned article on Dover Priory published in the July newsletter.

The Society has made a submission on the District Council's Heritage Strategy which, if adopted and actively implemented, should significantly help to make the most of Dover's historic legacy. The Air Raid Warden's Post next to Dover Priory Station - the Society is looking to discuss its future care.