

Refurbishment Committee

Jeremy Cope

The improved alternative on the Upper Road pathway from Bleriot Memorial to Langdon Cliffs now seems more of a possibility. KCC pathways have agreed that the pathway is still extant but needing substantial work to make it safe for use. I have told the Ramblers and Mike Weston keeps Dover and Thanet Rights of Way informed. You never know...

We continue to have problems with litter and dog fouling. It's not as bad and things will never be perfect but I would urge you to contact Dover District Council if you have problems. The response is usually quite prompt. A new problem are the Morrisons' shopping trolleys. Since they have removed the £1 deposit, trolleys have appeared in the town and more particularly in the Dour. Mike Weston has complained to Morrisons. If you come across lost trolleys do contact Morrisons.

Sylvie Parsons wanted to improve the appearance of Dover Priory Station with two areas of plantings and raised considerable amounts to fund the project. The railway company undertook to maintain this for 5 years i.e. weed and tidy the flower beds once completed. The first

bed was planted but not looked after – it appeared quite neglected. Quite rightly Sylvie did not feel that donors' money and volunteers' time should be risked in this way and the project and funding have been cancelled. Rather disappointing. Railway company black mark.

Another matter that concerns us is the look and feel of our town; how might we make a better destination for tourists? Dover has such a rich history and so much that is special but at times we struggle to realise a fraction of its potential. For example our conservation areas are not cared for as they are in Deal or Sandwich and I am afraid that some on the District Council seem unaware of many of our treasures. John Cotton keeps the committee informed on this subject and his list is rather long. He is involved with Dover Big Local who are also becoming concerned with raising the tourist profile both to create jobs and to enhance our environment.

Our member Di French has begun a campaign to limit speeding on Maison Dieu Road. Such a campaign would make the road a less dangerous experience for pedestrians and residents whilst making it safer for motorists. So far she has had a very limited response from those responsible for such matters and it has been agreed that the Society will take up the cudgels. I do wonder if our one way system has reached its sell by date especially now that we have "bypasses" to the Docks. Two way traffic would be likely to reduce speeding and car noise but in the authorities' eyes the motor car is god. I will report next time but don't hold your breath.

