

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 44th Executive Committee, Thurs. 12 March
at 19.30 at Cambridge Terrace

Apologies : A.J.W. C.D. P.D.

Present : Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, B.A. , M.L. ,
P.K. , L.C. , J.O. , M.McF. , J.C. , S.C. , M.R. ,
S.S. , A.G. , K.W.

1. Minutes of Executive Committee No. 43 of 13 Feb. signed as correct.

2. Matters arising : from 9 May .

3 (a) J. Peverley publication.

In the absence of the Chairman the Secretary described and praised the quality and extent of the work going into this. J.P. delighted with 1st. dummy. 2nd dummy proceeds AJW/D.Welby. Kirk Alexander will contribute. Legal O.K. from Peter Sherred.

The Committee, while fully appreciating that we are committed to this publication, expressed concern about the financing, given the present financial climate.

After considerable discussion the following decisions were taken :

A more precise estimated costing of a 1000 run was called for, based on No. of pages/illustrations.
(B.A./J.G.)

J.G. and J.C. would then advise on a list of possible sponsors to be approached.

Of the letter to sponsors :

The name of David Shaw should not be prominent.
The reference to £50 should be re-phrased.

ALL contributors should be acknowledged.

from 10 Oct

3 (c) Letter to Minister re future rôle of D.H.B..
No reply from Minister and no acknowledgement from shadow minister Prescott, who was sent a copy.

from 9 Jan

4 (b) Buses to and from Marine Station. M.L.

J.G. reported there are some information notices but they could be and will be supplemented and improved.

5. Chairman's Report.

(a) Spring Conference KFAS Sat 9 May at Maidstone. K.W. to attend.
No further takers.

(b) Chairman's article for Newsletter on history of amenity societies prompted by an article in the Independent on Sunday.

(c) The Chairman is to chair Shepway Friends of the Earth Question Time on Green Issues to all Shepway Parliamentary candidates, Thurs. 19 Mar. 20.00 h. in the Congregational Church, Folkestone.

4. Treasurer's Report.

The treasurer explained the difficulty of "drawing the bottom line" with some charges outstanding and the annual audited account in preparation.

The present situation :

Credit balance : £1188.65 Concert Fund : £218.10

Projects Fund : £631.17

A rough and quite encouraging forecast was distributed in writing.

5. Press Secretary

Lydden pond had had publicity in Dover Express, some freebies and on Radio Kent.

J.O. gave briefing for further publicity.

A new poster for the Public Library is in hand. B.A.

6. Membership Secretary :

Highest number : 396 Actual membership : 328 New: 4 Left : 0

7. Projects.

(a) Lydden Pond. Two work sessions reported :

23 Feb. with White Cliffs volunteers and award ceremony.
1 Mar. 5 workers.

The straw and puddling, helped by rain, seems to be effective.
Next work party : 22 Mar.

18 May number of "ME" magazine will report the project.

During May the pond will be left for, hopefully, nature to do its work.

(b) Lousyberry Wood

Dead saplings- happily few - replaced.

(c) 4 May Pageant

The cost of the tent may be sponsored.

Mrs Owen will be in charge of 'dry' refreshments.

Help needed with refreshments, raffle, (prizes) and Druids. Help will be asked from members at the AGM.

(d) Article on Light Vessels in the May Newsletter .

(e) Environment Week 1992 : 17 May

Another R. Dour clean-up planned, with Cadets
Pencester - Technical College

8. Social Secretary

(a) Succession : Two possibles approached unable to accept. L.C. Has prepared complete advisory notes and an account of arrangements already made, for handover.

(b) Mon. 24 Feb. Conundrums and Conviviality in Dover Museum: in every way successful ; congratulations to all concerned.

(c) Mon. 13 Apr: pre-A.G.M. dinner.
Decided not to invite the Shaws on this occasion, having in mind the election.
Not anticipated that the Guilfords would be able to come. Caring letter to be sent to the Countess (BA/PJ/LW) with back numbers of Newsletter in binder.)
Guests therefore : Rees 2 Moirs 2
Therefore important not to greatly outnumber the guests. Committee to be limited to 5/7 maximum :
AJW 2 KB 2 (?JG 2) BA
Others willing to 'stand in' if necessary to make up number : KW, LW, MR, ML .
With the smaller number it would be possible and very desirable to have the dinner chez Berrys. They are willing.

(d) Sat 23 May : Dover Festival vineyard (Ash), Sandwich tour , guided by Sandwich Society. Afternoon trip : 1300- 1700. No tea included. Fully organised. Donna Sowerby will publicise c. 10 April. Special circular to members about the same time. One coach. £6 perhead. Bookings to K.B. P.K. in charge on the day.

(e) Sun. 24 May. Guided historic Walks. From Market Square. 1400 h. AJW/ KW / LW et al. PK co-ordinating meeting. Jon Iveson for maps. Headmaster's permission for College Visit . (LW)

(f) Sat. 20 Jun. Chatham Dockyard. Arrangements complete. Booking slip in May Newsletter. Bookings to M.L. who will contact Dockyard and be in charge on the day , plus Berrys.

(g) Trip to France Sat 19 Sep preferred to 26 Sep ? Investigations started. Reply awaited from Mme Lefébvre. U.K. coach investigated. Good value, may be best buy if 52 seater coach full.
Do we want an Accueil reception ?
Should we avoid or profit from special offer days ?
Should we change to Boulogne ?
EC will hand over arrangements to EW.

(h) Mon. 12 Oct Awards and/or members.

(j) Mon 23/30 Nov. (Both dates provisionally booked at S. Mary's Hall. Final choice of Date to be made by Prof. Curry.)
An Evening with Dickens : BBC sponsorship only £100 Our liability could be up to £500.
The maximum we could charge would be £2 - to an audience of how many ?
Decided we must opt for S. Mary's Hall.

(k) Sat 12 Dec. Xmas Feast. Headmaster's Secretary sees no difficulty.

9. Planning Committee

A.G. having now removed and no longer working in the area, regretfully and regrettably resigns the chairmanship of the Planning sub-committee.

- (a) DDC has modified parking conditions, Seafront, Douro Place but warden/policing needed.
- (b) DDC Parish Review : comments and suggestions by 30 April.
- (c) 2 Cannon Street (Clowns Restaurant) amusement arcade. Objections registered : decision awaited.
- (d) Southern Water £20 m clean-up pledge : overdue but welcome.
- (e) White Cliffs Countryside Project award. Congratulations.
- (f) A.G. retains interest in the Cannon Street area. Opposed to TSB moving into Metropole Buildings. Opposed to planning permission given to new shop front : property Cannon St/Mkt. Sq.

10. Editorial

- (a) Proposed Society Greeting Card : in mind, though not in hand.
- (b) Appointment of archivist. PK will consult a candidate.
- (c) Newsletter deadline : 25 Mar
- (d) The questionnaire to members approved. Will be in May number.

11. DONM Because of the General Election : decided to change the date of the next meeting to:

Thurs. 16 April

Some advantages were also seen in having this after the AGM.

12. A O B

- (i) The Agenda for the AGM was accepted without change except for the resignation of AG from the Planning Cttee.
- (ii) The Vice-Chairman read an appreciation of Lin, founder member and Social Secretary, from the Chairman.

The meeting ended with a toast and naturally mixed feelings, cheered by Lin's assurance that she looks forward to returning.