

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 65th meeting of the Executive Committee held at the R.C.P.Y.C.
at 7.30 p.m. on Thurs. 10 Feb. 1994.

Apologies : KW MMcF

Present : Chairman Vice-Chairman Secretary Treasurer
BA SC LG JO JL ML SS MR JC

1. MINUTES of the 64th Executive Meeting of 13 Jan. '94
were agreed and signed as correct.

2. MATTERS ARISING

(a) From 13 Jan. 1994

(i) Local Government Review

Our Local Government Forum evaluated.

Revised draft Submission for the Local Government Commission circulated.
Any additional comments/suggestions : in writing or by telephone to AJW.

Attention drawn to the consensus at the Ditton meeting (28 Jan.)
in favour of retaining the status quo ; also to the decision by the
Secretary of State not to appeal against a High Court ruling that he
was wrong to steer the Commission towards recommending unitary authorities.
The Court ruling also strikes out the sentence in the new government
policy guidance that the two-tier authorities should only be "the exception".

(ii) Recruitment to the Society

Firmly agreed that ongoing recruitment is vital.

AFA will supply Committee with copies of his excellently devised leaflet
for distribution. There would be no shortage of willing hands to
form a working party as a policy develops.

(b) From 10 Sep. '92

The Rolls Memorial. Apparent stagnation.

JG will contact DDC and IMPACT. Depending on the outcome, a letter
to Rolls Royce may be called for.

(c) From 13 Jan. '94

Letter to the M.P. drawing attention to the possible effects on
his constituency of DHB privatisation. Pending.

See also items under this heading brought forward under A.O.B.

3. CHAIRMAN

(a) Sir Richard Knowles : available both dates.

Agreed to invite him for AGM 1995

Alternative speaker for Oct. '94 :

? Paul Bennett, Canterbury archaeology ? IMPACT

? Ian Gill (father of Burlington House) on E.K. Initiative.

? Coastal problems and protection ?

plus : illustrated talk by AFA

(b) " Time and Tide " Hammond Family history. Review for Newsletter.

3. CHAIRMAN (contd.)

- (c) CAMRA White Cliffs Winter Ales Festival
Letter of appreciation to the Town Mayor. AJW
- (d) AGM : dinner guests : Ratcliffe, Stibbs, Town Mayor : Agreed
- (e) Two letters to Chairman from member Mrs Lorraine Sencicle
(i) Factual reply called for, perhaps after legal consultation.
(ii) Requesting our co-operation with the Pageant.

4. SECRETARY

- (a) Water update - mostly in national and local Press.
Centre of action now Maurice Sayers : Alkham Valley Society
Southern Water : water stocks excellent, reservoirs full, leakage down.
Not so in FDWS and probably no prospect of Broad Oak reservoir. (JG)
- (b) Publications.
DDC Draft Economic Development Strategy 1994-95
Comments invited (Roger Madge) by 25 Feb.
JC will examine whether we can comment.

5. TREASURER

We show a Credit Balance of £ 1260.28 of Income over Expenditure.
(This includes the first £500 instalment of Eurotunnel Developments Ltd.
sponsorship of the Peverley Publication.)

The second and final instalment of £500 is now to hand.
The Secretary was able to assure that production will go ahead, perhaps
" in time for this year's tourist season. "

Letter of thanks and promise of a complimentary copy to E.D.Ltd. LW

17 Jan. Forum Meeting cost £51.60

Leeds Building Society a/c now totals £4339.69

6. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

With 4 new members, the current total : 385 (Highest number allotted : 524.)
Agreed; membership subscription to remain unchanged

7. PLANNING

- (a) IMPACT meeting : "Town Centre Management" 20 Jan. 19.00 h.
JG and LW reported. A largely repeat presentation and inconclusive.
N.B. Next IMPACT meeting Thursday 17 Feb. IMPACT Office. 19.00 h.
Subject : Further consideration of the composition of four working
groups taking the business plan forward, with a view to publishing
a promotional partnership document during the lead-up to the opening
of the Channel Tunnel.

LG will attend

- (b) Meeting with DDC Planning Dept.
Meeting with DHB
The National Trust devt. on Langdon Cliffs

LG had distributed a 5-page report on the above and Chairman and Secretary
had seen the resulting correspondence.

PLANNING contd.

A discussion in depth followed, on principles, tactics and politics with a small 'p', and perhaps the underlying tone was that, given the problems which beset the Town itself, DDC and DHB, the Society should continually stress the positive, encouraging aspects of its comments.

8. PROJECTS

- (a) Sunday 13 Mar. : Clean - up . Cadets.
- (b) Saturday 23 April : Tidy Britain Group/ National Spring Clean
- (c) Monday 2 May : Dover Pageant.
- (d) 20 - 30 May : Environment Week : Primary Schools : Beach Clean.

9. SOCIAL SECRETARY

- (a) 17 Jan. The Local Government Forum
Very successful and useful and enjoyed.
Hall mysteriously unheated. Would coffee/ tea be welcome on all occasions?
- (b) 21 Feb. Wine and Wisdom :
Bookings coming in. More needed.
- (c) Decision not to proceed with suggested joint dinner-ball, Summer or Christmas, with the Deal Society.
- (d) Suggestions for programme planning :
To vary the day of the week for meetings.
Of straw polls : Some support from members for a possible return to Dover College for the C. Feast : a wish that it should include an entertainment ; that it should not again be at the R.C.P.Y.C.

10. EDITOR

- (a) Newsletter No. 19 : Deadline: end of February. Due to appear 1 April.
To carry the Agenda for the AGM : 18 April. _____ AJW
- (b) Newsletter to include welcome and names of new members.

11. A.O.B.

From 11 Feb. '93 and 8 July ' 93 et al :

Cherry Tree Avenue car-breakers' yard.

JC had at last received one reply to his last démarche to KCC and DDC.
From John Barnes, Conservative County Councillor. His reply inconclusive.
Admitted little headway. Guaranteed greater openness. Upheld the principle of sale to the highest bidder.

It was noted that the owners of the yard have purchased additional land and are currently fencing the whole site.

From 11 Nov. ' 93.

JC Letter to M.P. re London- Dover Rail-link

Minister's forwarded reply not re-assuring. " No plan to close existing links." " The Fast Rail Link may help." We invoke equality of treatment with the Tunnel.

Date of next meeting : Thurs. 10 Mar. at 7.30 at the R.C.P.Y.C.