

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 83rd meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 19 October at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

Apologies : The Chairman KW JL

Present : Vice-Chairman JC and JG, Secretary, Treasurer, SC. ML. LG. JO. TS. SS. BA. MR. MMCF.

1. The Minutes of the 82nd meeting of the Executive Committee of 14 Sep.
were passed and signed as correct.

2. MATTERS ARISING

(This section was taken last, to allow for the unavoidable late arrival of Vice-Chairman JG.)

From 9 May 1991 : The Peverley Publication.

BA presented a mock-up proof which was highly commended. It was complete except for a few illustrations still awaited. (JG offered to exert pressure to expedite these.)

JG

Note was taken of a recent publication on the same subject by a certain Burridge which it was agreed in no way affected our publication.

From 10 May 1992 : The Rolls Memorial

(a) JG reported that DDC had confirmed their ownership of the statue.

(b) Initial cleaning, estimated at £6000 : DDC accept responsibility but request assistance from DHB. BA reported that Rolls might contribute during the next financial year.

From 13 July 1995

(a) Proposed privatisation of Dover Harbour Board.

JG and TS supplemented and commented the abundant coverage which this subject is receiving in the local and national media.

No decision is expected before the year end.

A further letter will be sent to the Minister, copied to the M.P.

AJW
JG
JC

(b) Our submission to DDC re Old Park Barracks

Agreed that our submission aims to generate ideas, without engaging in research and detailed planning.

JO KW and LG will collaborate on a submission, copied to the Sports Council, and DDC Sports Development Officer : Clapson.

JO
KW
LG

(c) Our comments on the DDC Draft Local Plan.

A copy of these will be distributed to the Ex. Committee.

BA offered

It has been acknowledged by Cllr. S. Bannister, Chairman of DDC

to copy.

Planning sub-committee. He has not yet come forward for further discussion. Perhaps, promising, is his special interest in the riverside walk.

3. CHAIRMAN

(a) 26 Sep. Centre for Kentish Studies : Dover Archives computerised. Deferred to November meeting in the absence of KW. KW

(b) N.T. Centenary Cottages, Langdon Cliffs. LG reported the opening celebration, attended by him and the Chairman. Lack of finance may ultimately produce a visitors centre of the reduced scale which we recommended.

(c) Wye Conference : P.R. article : NEWSLETTER AJW
ML

(d) Biggin Street Blight : Meeting 18 Oct. MMcF unable to attend. No retailers attended. JO reported. Improvements here, and in general, can only be achieved with the good will of property owners. Of the Dover litter problem in general : ML will write, as from the D.S. about the specific problem at East Cliff. ML LW will write congratulating Kenning Car Hire on tidying up their site. LW Decision on a more general approach to the DDC deferred until the Nov. meeting.

(e) The circulars inviting the public to the Ray Smith/Alistair Snow presentation on Public Art will be distributed at the Meeting 23 Oct. LW

(f) Reported that OP Dan Bloomfield, Secretary of the Kent Action Group offers help on behalf of the Kent Association of Parish Councils re the future of Dover Borough Council. Lesley Cumberland informed and asked what stage reached.

(g) NCCT nomination paper : WR proposed by KFAS and seconded by DS : signed JC and LW.

(h) Strongly agreed that the Chairman should write to the Dover Express supporting the retaining of the Children's ward at Buckland. AJW

(i) The draft Chairman's letter supporting objections to the proposed changes in local government in N. Kent : JG and JC will co-ordinate comments. AJW
JG
JC

DOVER EXPRESS

19.10: Gassing dams sea front: AWARD
: GP pickable as Lab. candidate
: Terry Birkett new leader
: Buckland NatWest Bank spare
: Queen Mother asked to repel French invaders
: Dover Trafalgar Day parade "on Sunday"
: RVH opening
: Dover Castle 10.00 Sun Oct 22 Orde of the Blak Prysse

4. SECRETARY

(a) We supported the River Conservation Society's wish to be informed and consulted re DDC tree work. No difficulty so far as the local weekly press list of TPO's - and all planning applications. (They had only to ask.) Other tree work is not normally subject to consultation. This will be pursued. Consultation is sometimes necessary.

(b) Miss Simmonds had written thanking us for our attention to her concerns about River Parish Church.

(c) Letter sent outlining our views on access/ parking at Langdon Cliffs.

SECRETARY contd.

(d) Connaught Park : ARG thanked for his suggestions. ML with MMcF is organising a well-prepared questionnaire for the Members Meeting of 23 Oct.

(e) Colin Smith, Director of Dover Transport Museum and new member had written expressing anxiety about the lease of the Museum and our recommendations for the future of Old Park. Replied explaining the present position.
(A similar exchange of letters took place with LG in Jan. 95.)

5. TREASURER

(a) K.M. Insurance. More information needed from Zurich before a decision can be reached. We have time. The present policy valid until Mar. 1996.

(b) Charity Commissioners and Trustee responsibilities explained. Full information available and some changes in preparation.

(c) Kent Trust for Nature Conservation.

Agreed : to be listed in the Directory for Kent 1996 ; not to purchase the Directory ; to subscribe £10.

(d) Agreed to continue membership of Transport 2000.

(e) The Treasurer had information about the proposed Demelza House Children's Hospice in Rochester. The donation from the Vardon recital could be donated to this hospice ?

(f) The accounts were presented in writing, in somewhat simplified form.

6. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

New Members : 7 612 Mr F. Scott Dickson Road
 613 Colin Smith (son of Barry) Alfred Road
 614 } Mr and Mrs James The Gateway
 615 }
 616 Mrs Rose Storm-Tortensen
 617 } Mr and Mrs Hearnden Crabble Hill
 618 }

Current membership : 405

A number of Committee members volunteered to assist with the Port of Dover PODEX exercise : Wed. 8 Nov.

7. SOCIAL SECRETARY

In the absence of the Social Secretary, the following decisions were taken ::

(a) A Newsflash will be needed, before the end of October, to cover the Museum Quiz and the Christmas Feast. ML
JL
BA

(b) At the Christmas Feast two Awards will be made :
to the Royal Vic. and the Paper Mill, the recipients to be guests.
Guests will also include Michael Foad and his music makers.

(c) The remaining awards - perhaps 4 - to be made at the AGM. (Julian Owen also a speaker.)

(d) Date for Visit to Buckland Paper Mill : 11 May 1996.

(e) 18 May : Vardon Organ recital.

Publicity always a problem. MMcF will investigate progress re pillars MMcF

8. PLANNING

(a) Awards: Carried : IMPACT, in particular Snargate Street Royal Vic.
Buckland Paper Mill. It was noted that the Mill was also the overall winner of KCC Environment Awards for Kent business.

Yet to be considered : DHB : seafront; St. Edmund's School extension, Sunny Corner.

Presentations : see 7(b) and (c) above.

PLANNING contd.

(b) LG outlined his project for a Dover Society bid for Millenium funds for the new Pharos on the Western Heights.
Warmly welcomed by the Committee.

(c) The Public Meeting of 17 Oct. re Dover St. James.

The Planning sub-committee will consider and report back.

9. PROJECTS

(a) 22 Nov. → Tree-planting proposed.

(b) Riverside Walk.

Discussion with IMPACT. Use of disabled network with particular ref. to the steps beside the bowling green. Pursue with Councillor S. Bannister.

(c) Display at Members Meeting 23 Oct.

(d) We should support White Cliffs projects.

10. EDITOR

(a) NEWSLETTER will include Knowles' friendly reply to Newsletter criticism. AJW
ML

(b) Dover Museum 12 Oct. "An eye for the past". SC will report. SC

(c) There were two prizewinners for the competition in the August Newsletter.

(d) The nominal deadline for copy for the December Newsletter is the end of November but as early as possible, please.

11. Date of next meeting :

Thursday 9 Nov. at 7.30 p.m. at the R.C.P.Y.C.