

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the hundredth meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 10 April 1997 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : MR ML JO PRESENT: JW JG JC LW JeG SC JL TS BA SS MMcF

The MINUTES of the 99th meeting of 13 March 1997, with two corrections of figures, were passed and signed as correct.

By arrangement, before the official business, the meeting welcomed member Mrs Snezana Lawrence Ph. D. who was to invite the Committee to consider the desirability of the Dover Society joining the Internet. This she did, persuasively and factually, with examples of inserts from Kent. She would recommend a 4 - 5 page insert for the Dover Society which would cost some £250 p.a.

The discussion after her withdrawal ranged very widely. While all agreed that this was the trend for future communication there were also very serious reservations about our participation.

Agreed : To write to Mrs Lawrence thanking her and welcoming her intervention, which we will continue to explore. LW

We request an article for the Newsletter.

We invite her opinion on the desirability of a D.S. insert in the DDC web.

: Consideration will be given to possibly setting up a sub-committee to consider possibilities, even perhaps consulting members.

1. MATTERS ARISING

Ongoing and from 13 Mar. 1997

* The Unknown Warrior plaque-unveiling ceremony : 17 May.

All in hand. Invitations to be limited.

TS has produced an excellent commemorative document and BA a framed historic contemporary photograph.

Agreed : The Society will share the cost of catering with DHB. (± £100)

* The Jarrett Memorial

The design of the orientation table was highly approved and BA was congratulated. Various suggestions were made and it was agreed that BA and JG should complete the work and consult with Lady Jarrett.

* Water

JC had written to OFWAT urging them to include costing of the safeguarding of the Dour when fixing water charges. Also to DDC. , urging them to consider contributing to the cost of the ecological management of the Dour, as they already had done to the Little Stour.

Further letters will be sent enquiring about the sources of the present generous flow in the Dour. JC

* Letter to DDC Planning re J. Godden premises.

TS recommends that now is the time to raise the matter. JC

* JG had written re litter at Priory Station. A reply is awaited.

2. CHAIRMAN

(a) 28 April 1997 AGM.

BA will print 50 copies of the 1996 MINUTES, when agreed.

Guests to dinner, variously financed : Keith Parfitt, Mike Weston,
K. Wraight L. Gage

(b) USA phone call : follow up.

(c) Town and Env. Cttee Wed Mar 19 : TC, 4 cllrs.

Signposting Steering Group.

Boundary stones : BA has more information and picture.

Public Art Trail : pro : D.SOC too: request membership of WCTA Ctee : unaware
of official reservations : Copy of DS comments to TC.

(d) LONDON FANCY BOX wins award : letter written.

(e) Deathly silence on Art Trail.

(f) Ken Scott : Free visits - but is the Peverley Paper on sale at the Castle ?

(g) GUBBINS ? TS accepts the facts as stated.

(h) Still no Choral Society report, despite " undertaking ".

TS recommends not writing as DS to the Express but a personal letter
to the owner. (Lambert)

(i) Alarmist phone-call re future of Marine Court, completely denied by JG.

(j) ANNUAL TOWN MEETING Wed. 21 May Town Hall 19.30 h.

DOVER EXPRESS

10.4: Anti statues again

: Flood pictures for Environment Agency Exhibition

: Temporary site for Miner's Statue tp Tilmanstone or Dover town

: Merger delay = Steina ferry return!

: River nursing home despite DSOC objections

: Water shortage

: Dover Festival

: Hoverspeed flourishes

3. SECRETARY

1. Kent Rural Community Council. (H.Q. in Folkestone.)

Decision continues not to join.

2. Invitation to Open Air Prom. : 7.00 p.m. 28 June, Whitfield.

3. 15 requests for Newsletter binders, so far.

4. TREASURER.

The annual Financial Statement as for the AGM was presented, showing a
credit balance of £1,217.43.

JC had also prepared an estimate of the financial situation inserting the
currently quoted costing of the Newsletter when BA hands over production.

Discussion of the long-term production of the Newsletter was therefore
taken at this point.

4. TREASURER contd.

The following was agreed :

1. To place on record our great indebtedness to Budge over the years. The Newsletter has been a flagship.
2. Highly desirable that every effort must be made to retain this quality. The credit balance should be retained to cover eventualities - in particular the Newsletter costs. BA will continue working on the next two issues.

As from Jan. 1998 we will accept the present formal quote from Adams Printers : £900 per number. (Advertising this year yielded £482.) We will continue with three issues in 1998.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

New members : 4, making the current total 440.

Mr Alan Brooks . Former Dovorian

Mr R.W. Kennett . From Snodland

Mr L.R. and Mrs A.M. Wood. The Gateway.

6. PROJECTS

Nothing to report in the absence of JO.

MMcF recalled the 'Promoting Dover', which had recently come before the Chamber of Commerce.

We had rejected the proposed discount for members and the Chamber of Commerce also rejected this.

The Committee however was unanimously in favour of backing " Promoting Dover ".

7. SOCIAL SECRETARY

24 Mar. Good response for mini-trips.

28 Apr. AGM. All in hand.

Speaker now Keith Parfitt, who was in charge of the Townwall Street dig.

May, June, July excursions : slow response but early days yet.

Ann Coffey (Association France/Grande-Bretagne) has sent their social programme, with mutual invitations to join.

She requests booking for Hovercraft/Goodwins trip which we are invited to join. 22 May or 4 June. (We recommend the latter.)

LW

24 Sep. Buckingham Palace.

£19 inclusive coach and entrance. (No queueing)

Joan and Dick will be representing the Society at the lunch inaugurating the Dover Festival 1997.

A recce had been carried out for the trip to Le Touquet. (" Time spent on reconnaissance is seldom wasted." " Army Training Manual.")

It was agreed to re-imburse PK for the car crossing and petrol.

Agreed : Future claims for expenses must be agreed in advance.

8. EDITOR

Not present. See para 4 above.

9. PLANNING

(a) Wellington Dock Slipway

Jonathan Sloggett's friendly letter of refusal to a request not to infill the slipway noted.

(b) Wellington Dock Shopping Complex. Planning application for Phase B.

A letter of support sent to DDC commending the quality and appearance of Phase A. Reservations were expressed about the parking.

(c) Reclamation of Harbour, up to Castle Jetty.

DHB intention is to provide concrete wave-breakers on the sea-wall facing the town.

(d) Folkestone Road Flats.

Planning permission has been refused. JC to write to DDC objecting to the parking of a bulldozer on the site.

(e) Old St James Hotel

A joint letter with (d) above to DDC about the condition of this property.

(f) Development for housing of former Castlemount School site.

AG had reported that the development consists of good quality housing and to be welcomed. The only reservation is that plans do not provide details of external finishing nor do they provide any idea of how the estate would look from the Town. JVC will write after further study by JG and SS.

(g) St James Street Gardens

The only concern is that the adjacent Henly site is an eyesore. Should there be access to the centre of the garden, with seats ? JC will write after JG has inspected the site.

(h) P & O Russell Street Ticket Office : wall and fence.

2-metre high wall/fencing too intrusive. Letter of objection. JC

(j) Belvedere at Waldershare

Although the belvedere is outside our area of benefit, AG asks that we write supporting the high quality plans for restoration. JC

(k) Bicycle routes in Dover

JG has mapped a proposed route running from the seafront to Buckland Bridge. Such a route would be the spine of any cycle route network. JG JW JC LW walked this route on Sat 5 April and the intention is to submit it to DDC.

(l) Dover's empty shops.

Without local Council compulsory powers, and finance, there appears little that can be accomplished.

10. A.O.B.

BA presented the handsomely mounted certificates for the presentation photographs for KW and IG.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 8 May 1997 at 7.30 p.m. at the R.C.P.Y.C.