

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 109th meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 12 Feb. 1998 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : JO

PRESENT : Chairman Both Vice-Chairmen Secretary Treasurer Membership Secretary
Editor Social Secretary Press Secretary BA MR SS MW

Before opening the meeting the Chairman expressed the sympathy of the Committee
with the Gerrards in their double bereavement.

The MINUTES of the 108th meeting of the Executive Committee of 8 Jan. '98
were passed and signed as correct.

1. MATTERS ARISING :

From the meeting of 8 Jan 1998.

* The Society's project of re-decorating the historical signs.

JO had telephoned his report : Work had begun. It had entailed very con-
siderable administration : Health and Safety, confirming insurance cover,
equipment, etc.

JC reported that temperatures are very low at 07.30 a.m. for outdoor work.

* Possible re-print of the Peverley Paper.

The Treasurer reported that Peverley himself recommends against re-printing.
Stocks are still held in the shops. He considers that we have done very well.

Agreed : to accept his professional advice.

* The future of the Archives.

Re-confirmed : BA agrees to store them. AG has agreed to transfer them.
Written reminder to AG. LW

With special reference to back numbers of the Newsletter : BA holds
very considerable stocks.

Agreed : BA to keep 10 copies of each issue.

One complete set to be offered to Dover Town Council.

TS

2. CHAIRMAN

(a) The Chairman and TS reported the meeting of 28 Jan. re Public Art.
The Mayor is to chair a public meeting to seek ideas to raise cash to appoint
an adviser for E. Kent! Connaught Park was mentioned as a possible local site
but the meeting ranged widely outside the D.S. area of benefit.

N.B. South Kent College Lottery application for a Contemporary European Art Centre.

(b) Basket Ball.

The Town Council will discuss possible sites with DDC.

(c) From 19 Jan.

Sat 13 June confirmed for Ramsgate visit.

No fee, so far, for lecturer Wade.

2 CHAIRMAN contd.

- (d) Landfill Tax : probably not specifically for Dover. Enquiry continues.
- (e) Signpost Steer Mon. 19 Jan : JG : MINUTES.
- (f) Steve Franks quote for printing Newsletter : £834.25 incl. V.A.T. : c.f. Adams : £850. Confirms we stay with Adams.
- (g) The Chairman proposed a commemorative plaque for Malvern House, London Rd. where P.G. Wodehouse was briefly at school. This led to a general examination of the desirability of historic plaques.

Agreed :

The possibility of erecting a number of historic plaques to be examined as a possible D.S. Millennium project. Estimated cost : ± £100 each. TS will mastermind this.

TS

- (h) AP for 27 April : Conservation : " New Zealand to Japan via Sydney and Penang. " : N.B. J.G.
- (j) AGM : Vacancies arising on the Committee : Mike Sartin deceased
MR } AG } resigning

Agreed : To approach Mrs Lesley Gordon and Dr. Mason
Agenda can be included in the April Newsletter.

(k) A copy of Prescott's Local Government Modernisation paper has been ordered.

DOVER EXPRESS

5.2: Buckland bed cuts: PUBLIC MTG TOWN HALL THU MAR 12 AT 19.00

: MFI threatens to quit if not relocated at WCBP

: Eurotunnel awarded for Samphire Hoe

12.2: 2nd Cruise Liner Terminal by summer 2000?

: Buckland Hospital etc changes: 2 letters: article

: S. Kent Coll Lottery bid for Contemporary European Arts Centre

: F&D Water Services say both demand management & resource development needed incl new reservoir: metering working

: MFI threatens closure if not allowed to flit to Whitfield

: Husk of Lydden wants to become MOT Testing Centre

: DHB wants rail improvement with or without Channel Tunnel High Speed Rail Link

3. SECRETARY

- (i) The Kent and Canterbury Hospitals NHS Trust had written twice inviting Representatives to meetings in Jan. and Feb. No one could attend.

Agreed : No action.

The future of Buckland our prior concern. (An excellent consultative document is available at the Public Library.)

Arguments advanced :

Dover's strongest case : An international port (c.f. airports) needs appropriate hospital services.

If downgrading, nationally, is inevitable then assured good transport is essential, for patients and visitors.

3. SECRETARY contd.

The public meeting called for 12 Mar. in the Town Hall clashes with our Committee meeting.

Agreed : Rather than change the committee meeting or send representatives : Letter to the Chairman of the Public Meeting, setting out our views. LW

(ii) A publicity letter from Neptune Radio includes an invitation for the D.S. to speak.

TS is already giving a series of talks and he will be mentioning the D.S. TS

(iii) The Highway Management Unit, DDC, had sent us very detailed specifications for the re-furbishment of Worthington Street, inviting queries or comments.

It merited only approval and encouragement.

(iv) The evening with France Grande-Bretagne : 24 Jan.

Seven of us went, plus 28 members of the Dover Choral Society with Conductor Michael Foad (Dover Society Member).

LW reported briefly. Read all about it in the Newsletter, quoted from Nord Littoral

4. TREASURER

The accounts were presented and explained.

The Halifax will no longer credit interest-tax free. This difficulty is being pursued.

JeG JC

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Again, no new members to report, the first time this has happened twice in succession. Total membership remains at 429 with 703 the highest number issued.

SC had received a detailed and very demanding letter containing business proposals from Germany which she had deftly copied to all concerned.

6. PLANNING

1. The MFI / Russell Street Car Park controversy:

We endorse the Council's decision not to agree to re-location in the Business Park as that would increase out-of-town shopping. Equally we are opposed to allotting parking at Russell Street as it could jeopardize the future development of the Saint James' area.

2. The Committee endorsed comments and proposals of the planning sub-committee on DDC's notes on parking strategy, with one exception :

" To limit traffic in Pencester to buses only" was put to the vote and defeated. (It was agreed to recommend that the bus station should be re-located at the railway station.)

3. Other matters under consideration :

• Castlemount development :

The modifications agreed are not more than cosmetic .

Agreed : to write, seeking to limit tree-felling.

JG

6. PLANNING contd.

- Old Park Barracks
- English Heritage re-planning of parking at the Castle and Bleriot Memorial.
- Radio telephone masts.
We shall write about the proposed one above River as it is in an AONB
- Parking at the Police Station
- Flats in the Folkestone Road now acceptable.
- KW's plans to save the Alkham Valley
- The MP has replied to our submission re an Integrated Transport Policy which he supports.

4. The Committee endorsed all the comments on the DDC draft Local Plan on which the Chairman and KW had done a great deal of work.

7. EDITOR

Contributions for the April Newsletter almost complete.

Agreed : to finance a scanner if a compatible one can be found.

8. SOCIAL SECRETARY

- * The definitive programme of events up to the end of the year was distributed. It will be printed on the inside back cover of the Newsletter.
- * The fee (£100) for the Boltons agreed.
- * Tina Fullinger to be approached to speak in the Autumn. (The proposed meeting about antiques will no longer be possible.)

9. PROJECTS

JO in absentia had telephoned :

- * The Cadet Shakespeare-Beach Clean : Planning continues with DHB.
- * The D.S. display at the Council Offices has had its time and is booked again for the Autumn.

10. A.O.B.

- * BA had received only four interested replies re a History section.

Agreed : that this is not enough support to continue.

- * JC's comments on an economic strategy for DDC (now due) went through on the nod, given his professional expertise.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 12 Mar. 1998 at 7.30 p.m. at the RCPYC.

APOLOGIES : JG JeG ML