

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 119th meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 14 Jan. 1999 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : JO MMcF

PRESENT : Chairman, Vice-Chairman, LW MW SC JL ML JW TS BA JeG DL SS

The MINUTES of the 118th meeting of 10 Dec. with two corrections were
passed and signed as correct.

1. MATTERS ARISING : ongoing :

* The historic plaques.

D.T. Council financial backing for the plaques will be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Chairman was in communication with DDC who are also looking into possible planning applications. They, with the Museum, suggest the inclusion of a plaque in the underpass, marking the site of the discovery of the Bronze Age boat.

Discussion continues with the Banks about insurance. TS urged that the insurance should be decided for all the plaques. The Treasurer urged that the Society should avoid taking on the ongoing cost of insurance.

Agreed : To extend the planning to the first four plaques, Nos. 3 and 4
to be the Bronze Age boat and Zeebrugge on the Museum/Market Hall.
The wording on the last will be written by BA. BA

JW withdrew the suggestion of the P.G. Wodehouse plaque, because of its location.

An updated list of proposed plaques is enclosed. SC

* The Zeebrugge Bell

No suggestions or comments on re-locating had been received.

Meanwhile : Agreed : to enquire whether it is protected by listing. DL

The next Newsletter will acknowledge BA's rôle and member Joe Harman's letter. ML

* The Dover Video-camera Club video : still being explored whether it can be included in the Dover Film Festival.

2. CHAIRMAN

Consideration was invited to the future composition of the Committee following the resignation of JG and JeG. (JeG could be available after April in emergencies.)

Leslie Cumberland remains the only prospective candidate.

Suggestions invited, also for Vice-Chairman - to JC.

Agreed : that MMcF should continue as a member of the Committee although he cannot attend regularly.

Decision awaited from DHB about the promised link-man.

3. SECRETARY

Reported : A request from DDC on behalf of KCC, Social Services, seeking volunteer Driver Escorts and volunteers to man the office.

Agreed : to put out the relevant pamphlets at the 25 Jan. meeting.

3. SECRETARY contd.

JL reported that, in a letter of appreciation of the Christmas Feast, Madame Thomas, Présidente of the Association France-Grande-Bretagne, looks forward to increasing links, in particular sharing trips.

Agreed : LW and JL will publicise at the Twinning Association.

LW
JL

4. TREASURER

Commenting on the Financial Statement, the Treasurer pointed to the sales of the Peverley Paper and the revenue from advertising and the positive balance on the Christmas Feast.

He was thanked for his co-operation which had contributed to this last.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

SC took the opportunity to thank all who had given prizes for the Christmas Raffle which had helped to finance the Christmas Feast.

Current Membership : 411 (Highest No. allotted : 718.)

One new member : Mr Gregan O'Brien, St. Margaret's Bay.

SC also reported receipt of two archives :

Copies of " Bygone Kent" : These will be stored by the Copes.

and

Records of a Dover family-business over 100 years, and programmes of concerts which funded soup-kitchens.

BA and DL expressed interest to examine, after which they will be offered to the Municipal Archive.

6. PLANNING, K.F.A.S. and Local Government.

Exceptionally, on this occasion, the meeting of the Planning sub-committee of 6 Jan '99 was reported by Chairman AJW's Agenda, Minutes by SS and a summary by LW - all distributed at the meeting !

Future reporting will be in the form of an updated Agenda by AJW.

SS was thanked for her work to date as Secretary and will continue organising the sub-committee's examination of planning notices.

JW reported the letter of advice from the Civic Trust, concerning possible action re Buckland Village.

Agreed : to send the letter to DDC but that the Society could only co-operate but not initiate action.

* SERPLAN

Comments are requested by 31 Jan.

The document will be circulated to the Planning sub-committee.

* Tony Holman had reported that the B and Q fence was restored. If confirmed we will congratulate and urge that the plot be cleared and maintained.

JW

* Crime and disorder

JC had written stressing that unemployment is a relevant factor.

6. PLANNING etc. contd.

* MFI : AJW congratulated on successful interview on radio.

* JC reported a letter from John Moir : Item : see article in current Dover Express re Victoria Crescent.
Possible candidate for an award ?

7. PROJECTS

No report in the absence of JO.

A formal letter to DHB is requested re the offer of labour on the gooseneck crane.

At this point the following questions were raised :
Public Meeting on the future of the White Cliffs Experience.

Has the Society a view or ideas ? JC will attend.
Several ideas were expressed.

JC

Future public meetings will consider ideas for the Millenium and also the future of hospitals.

8. SOCIAL SECRETARY

Thanks and congratulations were expressed to JL and all helpers which had ensured the success of the Christmas Feast.

The draft programme of meetings and speakers even into A.D. 2000 were considered and will be finalised.

Later meetings will include JG (?), J. Moir, L.Kay (N.B. DL is writing her life and times.) and BA.

9. EDITOR

The Editor is very keen to persuade Members to write accounts of meetings.

Meanwhile : 25 Jan. : Richard Sturt : AJW will record and TS will write up.

Deadline for Newsletter : 15 Feb.

M.P. to write for the Newsletter : JC to invite

JC

ML : proposed a Millenium Essay Competition for Dover Secondary Schools.

This was strongly approved in principle and a decision (partly for reasons of finance) was postponed to the next meeting.

The demand for folders for the Newsletter was discussed. 31 members had requested them from BA and LW. The overall cost of 100 would be £225 and it was considered premature to order a stock at present.

10. PRESS SECRETARY :

Welcome mentions of the Society continue on Radio and in Newspapers (very amply most recently) and the Press Secretary is to be congratulated.

A.O.B.

Suggestions also invited for the future use of the Ladywell building of South Kent College.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 11 Feb. '99 at 7.30 p.m. at the R.C.P.Y.C.