

THE DOVER SOCIETY

The MINUTES of the 121st meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 11 March 1999 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : TS JG DL BA MMcF

PRESENT : Chairman Secretary Treasurer SC JL ML JW JO JeG SS

The MINUTES of the 120th meeting of the Committee, of 11Feb. '99 were passed and signed as correct.

1. MATTERS ARISING :

* The historic plaques

The cost of erecting and fixing still to be agreed with D.H.B.

JG

The problems of legality/insurance remain intractable.

The Chairman will approach the Chief Executive of DDC with a scheme.

JC

* The Zeebrugge Bell

The Chairman's letter to the Dover Express had set out the Society's position.

The Secretary reported from the Minutes of the DTC Twinning and Civic Functions committee on the subject :

The Council has purchased two historic videos of H.M.S. Vindictive from the Imperial War Museum.

They could be hired/borrowed ?

JL

The Council committee considered proposals regarding the location of the Bell. (It was reported that it might require some maintenance. It was agreed that this should be brought to the attention of DDC Technical Services.)

It was also agreed that the possibility of a suitable plaque for the Bell, that was visually more accessible, should be pursued with the Dover Society in the first instance.

It was resolved to recommend that the DTC should support the retention of the Bell in its current location.

* Dover Twinning Association. (The DTC committee's second responsibility)

The Chairman will write to record our dissatisfaction that our two representatives have not been informed of meetings.

* The Dover video-camera Club video

The present Festival includes some Club material but future changes in the Dover Film programme will make it not possible to show the video in question.

* The public meeting of 16 Feb. concerning the future of the White Cliffs Exp.

The Chairman had presented our suggestions at the meeting and had written to Madge approving in particular the suggestion of an art gallery - so far without a reply.

* Awards :

Agreed : that at a suitable occasion there should be awards, with Press coverage, to the Community Awareness Group of the Royal Mail Sorting Office and the Victoria Crescent.

1. MATTERS ARISING continued :

* The Channel 1 films of Britain and Dover in 1940 : the firm's representative is very satisfied with our sources and interviewing will continue.

2. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman explained the consultation and voting which preceded the resolutions and nominations for the Committee, with two vice-chairmen.

The Chairman reported with approval the meeting of DODS which resolved to purchase the former college of technology, a move which would benefit the Town.

Request : Please RSVP to the lunch chez Copes : Goodbye to the Gerrards
12.30 Sunday 18 April

A note for your diary :

Music for All : Concert : Kent Music School
Sat. 10 July : Dover Cruise Terminal.

In aid of R.N.L.I.

3. SECRETARY

* The Ramsgate Newsletter:

Noted were : (i) Their system of sponsorship for the Newsletter.

(ii) Their awarding of stars to local enterprise.

This to be considered by the Planning sub-committee. JW

(iii) Their station on the Internet.

To be considered in the light of Dr. May's talk on the subject at KFAS.

* The Dover Town Centre management.

A group " to examine ways of developing a vision for the future of Dover's town centre."

First meeting : 9.00 a.m. Town Council offices ; Thursday 11 March.
We were not represented.

Agreed : that in future we must be represented, if necessary by rota.

|| The next meeting of the group will be
8.00 a.m. on Tuesday 30 March at DTC Castle Street.
Breakfast will be served.

4. TREASURER

The Treasurer presented the Financial Statement in writing and drew attention to items as follows :

This month £16 of 1999/2000 subscriptions have been paid in.

Expenditure on photocopying and stationery went up by £15.07 this month and total for room hire costs went up £10 - this being the cost of the RCPYC room for last month's meeting.

Affiliation fees increased by £25 - this was the fee for renewing membership of the White Cliffs Tourism Association, as agreed at the last meeting.

The January meeting made a profit of £16.48 and the February Wine and Wisdom should make a profit in the region of £70.

AGREED : To donate £35 to the Corn Mill.

Halifax/ bank interest increased by £331.75 this month. It was correctly paid gross.

|| REQUEST : Any claims for expenses by the 20th of March, so that they may be cleared by the end of the financial year.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

There was one re-instatement this month :

Mrs Hazel Baldwin of Temple Ewell.

Also one new joint membership :

Mr and Mrs Lee of Brookfield Road.

Current total : 413 (Highest number allotted : 72)

6. KFAS , PLANNING and LOCAL GOVERNMENT

JW invited attendance at the KFAS meeting :

Sat. 24 April : Maidstone Town Hall.

Subject : Shopping and consumer issues in Kent.

JW then reported the 30th meeting of the Planning sub-committee of 9 March :

Apologies: KW: Tony Holman not notified: SS will contact.

Present: JW/LW/JG/JC/MW/SS/MR

1. Minutes of 28th meeting of Feb 1999 accepted correct.

2. Matters Arising

- a. 977/8 Churchill Hotel: Flagpoles removed but DEXPRESS reports rear entrance rejected.
- b. London Rd/ Buckland Village: EH accepts Conservation Area refurbishment, adding shops opposite Town Hall but clipping bits off London Rd: DDC Implementation Plan by Mar 16: June start: possible further DDC, etc, funds for extension of area: JW to consult Town Clerk on publicity and inform Civic Trust.
- c. DHB has responded to Mrs O. Sherrard of Hythe on her alleged blocking of the view of Snargate St from the De Bradelei extension.
- d. GPO/FWW facade: 2nd application approved but John Clayton to be informed of no response to two letters criticising departure from planning procedures.
- e. Reply awaited from Coop re riverside maintenance.
- f. Dover Priory litter has been cleared: monitoring will continue.
- g. DExpress reports High St Surgery planning consent but consultation period has not expired: JC to query.
- h. Millennium Bandstand: public design consultation reported as impending.
- j. JC reported comments on Dover Economic Survey.
- k. Dog Fouling: although East Cliff is not statutorily designated for cleansing, DDC engineers will cleanse and monitor, for which DSOC will thank them.
- l. Draft Regional Planning Guidance: DSOC response acknowledged.
- m. White Cliffs Experience meeting reported by JC/JG/LW.
- n. Award to Victoria Crescent recommended. John Moir to be thanked for involvement.
- o. DODS purchase of Ladywell building commended.
- p. Conversion of Apostolic Church from housing to Community Centre welcomed.
- q. Invitation to Town Centre Management Group welcomed, notably for possible demolition of post-war Market Square buildings.

3. Planning Applications:

DOV/98/01210-01212: Castle Hill change of use of office to ensuite b&b: sign: 99/00027: St Mary's School tree pollarding: SS commends both.

4. TC Planning Cttee: SS reports King Lear proposed conversion of skittle alley into accommodation: no action.

5. Town & Environment Cttee Feb 17 1999: JW reports

: Chalk Coast Communities Project: survey duplicating work already done by WCCP.

: Millennium Bandstand logjam: DDC wants Business Plan but that wld cost DTC £2000.

: Economic Development Strategy criticised: our submission circulated.

: Serplan: our criticism of glossy repetitiousness echoed: Dover should be a deprived area as well as Thanet: Dover = traffic: therefore don't penalise the car!: what does DDC say?:

: only place for Bowling Alley is E. Kent garage.

6. KFAS, PLANNING and LOCAL GOVERNMENT contd.

With reference to 2 (k) above :

Agreed : to send a thank you letter to DDC.

DOVER EXPRESS

4.3: Mayoral vacancy

- : Four more dog wardens needed?
- * : DHB seafront cycle route
- : Port pollution is safe
- : TS on early days of DDC
- : Council tax increase
- : Cllr Bannister says GPO not listed and justifies GPO demolition on traffic problems
- * : DHB justifies road developments: assumption of expanding port traffic: stacking area costs
- * : Italian defence of WCE: English teaching centre for foreigners
- * : DODS to buy Ladywell bldg?
- : Work on Lord Warden House
- * : Churchill Hotel entrance: back or front?
- : High St surgery: DSOC suggestion rejected
- : Mar 9-12 Ray Warner film on Dour. etc

11.3

- : Crabble Mill organic market Sun Jun 20
- : Langdon Cliffs Gateway Centre turfed roof: open April
- : Cllr Bannister lists Dover's good things: tourism, arts, town centre, port
- : Cllr Rees defends MFI refusal: MFI quitting: cf De Bradelei
- : MFI staff reproaches: national firm to take over site?
- : WCBP factory & office scheme
- :

7. EDITOR

There was further discussion of sponsorship for the Newsletter.

Ideally, sponsorship should be ongoing.

Agreed : to approach DHB and de Bradelei for the April and August numbers, respectively.

JC

: Also proposed : to approach Sea France and Arjo Wiggins - at least for advertisements.

The Schools competition.

The proposed circular and poster were approved and it was agreed to invite Rev. M. Hinton to join the judges.

Initial contacts will be made with Heads of schools with possible visits later by committee members.

ML

8. PROJECTS

Thanks : to committee members who are representing the Society at the Film Festival. (Newsletters going well.) It is the last Film Festival in the present format.

The programme of projects remains as previously reported with the additional possibility of replacing a tree in Russell Gardens.

The next project : Operation " Looking Fine" (Sunday 14 Mar. 10.00 - 12.00) is set up, with an operational order of naval precision.)

Request for information : re the founder of the Unitarian Church which is celebrating its 180th anniversary.

9. SOCIAL SECRETARY

The programme April - December was presented in print and is as inviting as always.

15 March meeting :

Talk by Gwyn Prosser

Sufficient group leaders are available and JW will record the talk and write it up if necessary.

10 PRESS SECRETARY

in absentia but very present in the Dover Express, including many references to the Society and particularly to be congratulated on his historic article on the 25 years of the Dover District Council.

A.O.B. JW invited the Committee's attention to the public consultation on the three proposals for the design of the millenial bandstand for Pencester garden.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 8 April 1999 at 7.30 p.m. at the R.C.P.Y.C.

Apologies : LW

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.