

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 132nd meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 9 March 2000 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : ML JO DL GH LG

PRESENT : Chairman Vice-Chairman TS Secretary Treasurer
Membership Secretary Social Secretary JW BA HG SS
and Barry Late by invitation

The MINUTES of the 131st meeting of the Executive Committee, with one correction
of a date, were passed and signed as correct.

1. MATTERS ARISING :

Ongoing and from 10 Feb.

(i) The historic plaques

General :

(a) The application for millennium funds to DDC formally confirmed. However, there is a deadline of end of August, which we will meet.
(b) John Peall and Clive Alexander contacted to confirm planning requirements (if any) on remaining sites.

1. Bronze Age Boat.

Still in abeyance. Latest rumours say building will be demolished by end of March.

2. First Aerial Bomb and 3. Last Shell : Both now unveiled. Two very successful occasions. The Chairman thanked all those who had attended.

4. Instruments of Punishment. Agreement of President sought on unveiling date.

We suggest first part of April. Agreed that should be a historical background chat, as with the first two plaques. TS volunteered to speak on this one.

5. Zeebrugge Mortuary Plaque. Confirmation of listed-building planning permission still awaited from Christine Waterman.

6. Lord Warden / Napoleon III.

Further contact with Jonathan Sloggett : likely unveiling date early June.

Museum has confirmed wording but with a suggestion. Listed-building consent required.

7. Dickens in Dover - 10 Camden Crescent.

Property-owner phoned 9 Mar. that he accepts the plaque and will confirm in writing.
(Enthusiastic) Listing will be required.

8. Maritime Hall - Phillip Yorke. Written to property owner. (RMT)

9. William Burgess - Dover Council Offices;

Agreed that the Council Offices would be appropriately near to the historic site.

10. Dover's place of execution - bottom of Tower Hamlets.

The exact position of this plaque is being considered. (Eagle or Vanes.)

(ii) The Philomena memorial.

TS had spoken to the Rev. Batten who confirmed that the memorial could go ahead.

It was agreed that the tablet should be similar to the historic plaques.

BA will propose the wording and design. The Chairman agreed to obtain a quote.
Barry Late volunteered to acquire suitable wood for the mounting post.

(iii) The Chairman presented the proposed Agenda for the AGM, which was approved.
(Agenda and Minutes of 1999 must be with BA by mid-March, for inclusion in the
Newsletter.)

JO SC JL SC will speak of their activities at the AGM

(iv) Databox 2000 :

TS agreed to accept responsibility for this and any contributions should be addressed to him.

1. MATTERS ARISING contd.

(v) The historic flagstones.

Agreed that members will be asked to donate at the March meeting. JC

At best, this could lead to two Society flagstones.

BA and JW will confer further and agree the choice and wording, by 13 Mar.

2. CHAIRMAN

(i) The Chief Executive of DDC had replied thanking for our congratulations on the Millennium celebrations.

(ii) The Chairman had continued lobbying about replacing trees but so far without success.

He had attended the Memorial Service to the Recorder, the Supper Dance and the Visit of the Prince of Wales to the Museum.

(iii) Mr Smith of Camden Crescent had drawn attention to a large painting, previously on display at the White Cliffs Hotel, which is now in storage.

Barry Late agreed to speak to J. Sloggett. Our proposal would be that it should be restored and re-displayed at the Churchill.

Alternatively, it could be displayed in the Maison Dieu or in the Town Council offices.

3. SECRETARY

(i) The Town Clerk had forwarded a request from Calais for possible contributions to an exhibition of local artists' wartime paintings.

Agreed that we could not help, particularly in the short time before the exhibition.

(ii) The renewal of subscription to the Civic Trust was now due. They invited consideration of increasing our insurance coverage. (Health and Safety.)

Agreed : to pay the increased subscription and to continue the present insurance coverage.

4. TREASURER

The current financial statement was circulated as usual, and explained and commented.

£376.58 had been paid for the second and third Millennium plaques and we had received a donation of £30 from Lloyds TSB.

The Christmas Feast had made a surplus of £151.78 and the Wine and Wisdom £107.83.

Agreed : to make a donation of £50 to Crabble Cornmill.

The Chairman will forward the donation, with thanks, to Clive Taylor.

The Treasurer urgently requests that any outstanding claims for expenses be submitted to him BY MARCH 20 AT THE LATEST.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

No change on last month's figures.

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

JW invited Committee members to the KFAS Spring Conference, 20 May, Pegwell Bay. He drew attention to K.F.A.S. Bulletin No 12. K.F.A.S. had written to John Prescott re housing requirements in the S.E. Could this have influenced the revised estimate of 4000 dwellings for the next 5 years ?

JW enlarged on the MINUTES of the Planning sub-committee, which had been distributed.

He considered that Mike Bayley would be a valuable recruit to the Committee.

Maurice Miles continues canvassing activity in Buckland Village.

Bill Fawcus wishes to talk to the Society about the proposed water sports centre. the Chair was quite clear that we must take into account (some) members' objections. In principle, we are in favour.

Barry Late recommends that, in general, we keep ongoing communication with the Harbour Board.

Agreed : to invite Fawcus to speak to the April Committee meeting.

JW

We had examined 13 Planning applications.

LIDL and the Ladywell Fish and Chip shop had been approved.

JW reported the meeting of the DTC Tpt sub-committee.

There had been a great improvement against lorry-parking at the Gateway. One more consultant had been appointed on Town Centre matters. Buckland Village had been designated as part of Town Centre but there was no report on the HERS scheme.

There is still uncertainty about the harmful effects of radio masts. (This was said in the current Civic Trust bulletin.)

The new " cabinet system " at the DDC : All committees, except the Planning Committee will disappear,

We wish to be informed about this - and a replacement speaker is needed for 13 Mar. : R. Bowditch will speak.

7. PROJECTS

JO has agreed to continue with the planned souvenir programme even after his resignation.

He has said that we would be supportive of the statue of Admiral Ramsey.

8. SOCIAL SECRETARY

20 July : Marlowe Theatre visit.

JW continues recruiting and confirming of speakers for October and beyond.

The Chairman proposed to invite Cllr Woodbridge to speak on Dover in the War. (This was warmly welcomed by all who know him.)

BA and TS could offer supporting slides.

9. PRESS SECRETARY

Had nothing further to report but there was warm approval for the quantity and quality of the cover which the Society is enjoying in the Dover Express.

A.O.B.

It was noted that DTC Housing Committee is planning to renovate 60 empty properties per year, to gain extra housing.

(The Civic Trust bulletin reported very considerable numbers of empty properties in the S.E. - relevant to the Minister's statistics of housing requirement.)

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 13 April.

FROM THE DOVER EXPRESS :

9.3: Bench/Townwall St demolition

- : Regional priority fr A2 dualling? Otherwise nix
- : LG Commission cld. change ward boundaries, clrs., etc: starts Jul 31: group views invited: PC AGENDA
- : 1000 jobs on Whitfield enterprise, port & industrial zones? W.C.Business Park Centre April 7
- : No 2nd Chunnel before 2010 according to Eurotunnel