

Barry May

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 133rd meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 13 April 00 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : TS BA DL

PRESENT : Chairman Secretary Treasurer Membership Secretary Social Secretary
ML JW JO JG LG GH SS MMcF

As Agreed : the Committee was first addressed by Bill Fawcett DHB about the proposed Water Sports Centre. In just over one hour he outlined the ongoing consultations with DDC and all concerned bodies (which so far have only focussed on the location.) (He will at a later date return with the design.)

Committee members advanced their views and it was agreed that the Planning sub-committee will return to the matter, consult with the Council planners, and report their conclusions.

The MINUTES of the 132nd meeting of 9 March 00 were passed and signed as correct.

1. MATTERS ARISING ongoing and from 9 March.

(i) The historic plaques

Two more unveilings, as specified in the Agenda : Monday 17 April.
Three-line whip to committee members, as on previous occasions.

(ii) The historic flagstones.

The Treasurer reported that £130 had been contributed so far towards the cost of £145 for the first one. The Chairman will appeal to members again JC at the AGM and it could still be possible to proceed to a second one.

(iii) The Philomena memorial.

In the absence of BA and Barry Late no further information.

(iv) The " White Cliffs " painting.

In very bad condition. It has been examined by Deborah Colam and Christine Waterman who do not consider it merits restoration. The Chairman will consult with DHB to see whether they own it and whether they might restore it for JC display - for example, in the new Cruise Liner Terminal.

2. CHAIRMAN

(i) The Zeebrugge ceremony : Easter Sunday.

The Chairman, JO, JW, SC and TS will attend and lay a wreath.

(ii) The Chairman will attend the Royal Naval Day in Dover (18 May.)
All invited.

(iii) The AGM

N.B. Revision to the Agenda :

Mike Bayley will not be standing for the Executive Committee but Mrs A.M.Wood (member No. 685) is duly proposed.

(iv) Street trees.

KCC will not finance any planting. There is still some hope with DDC. MMcF reported that the willow on the river island in front of B and Q has been staked.

(2. CHAIRMAN contd.)

(v) Member David Atwood wishes to donate a lectern for meetings, the Chairman to have custody.

JC will write accepting and thanking.

3. SECRETARY

(i) The Secretary reported the full and the local Environment Agency plans for the Kentish Stour Catchment, which includes the Dour. These show a full knowledge of the aquifers and long-term planning for abstraction and resources management (which was not the case when we had cause for concern in the period of drought.)

(ii) The Rotary Club had made their annual request for support of their hospital Fete (15 July).

The Chairman will ask members at the AGM to contribute to a prize.

Some Society members and Committee members are personally involved but we cannot this year make further contribution.

(iii) The Secretary requested those Committee members who will be reporting at the AGM to give their notes to him afterwards, as was done last year, to help with the Minutes.

The account of the AGM for the Newsletter will be written by LG.

LG

4. TREASURER

The Treasurer presented and explained the balance sheet as it will be presented at the AGM, as well as the current monthly statement. The situation is healthy but every effort must be made to keep down expenses.

The opportunity was taken to thank Bruce Lilley for his valuable work with the advertising.

Agreed : to make every effort to attract advertising from :
Pfizer SAGA and Seafrance.

Agreed : to continue the subscription to KFAS.

JO generously suggested that the credit in the Projects Fund could be transferred in the next financial year to the General Fund - for example for the Millennium Project.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Good news : 8 new members.

Mr. N. TURNS Victoria Park (Interest : European Affairs.)

Mrs JOYCE HARRIS Waterloo Mansions.

Mr. Steve and Mrs Brenda SLOCOMBE Park Avenue

Mrs Patricia STREATER Deal

Mr. I.E.HURN John Owen's neighbour and Buckland Mill expert.

Mr. R. and Mrs B. LANG Lydden

Thus : Current membership: 407 Highest number allotted : 756

6. PROJECTS

JO making his farewell, looked forward to the planned souvenir programme which he will be completing and to supporting the proposed memorial for Admiral Ramsay.

He also thanked the Projects sub-committee and all the committee members who had supported the projects over the years.

7. SOCIAL SECRETARY

Joan reported a slow take-up from the booking-slips circulated with the Newsletter, but it is early days.

The AGM is in hand and JW reported speakers complete up to the end of the year.

There was discussion about the Jan. 2001 meeting and about Cllr. Woodbridge and also the appropriate date to invite the new Director of DDC Planning to speak.

8. PLANNING, KFAS, and Local Government.

JW again drew attention to the KFAS Spring Conference 20 May.

He commented and amplified the Minutes of the Planning sub-committee of 4 April, which had been circulated, in particular where we had made objection.

Maurice Miles would be reporting to the next meeting, on the Buckland Village project but JW was not over hopeful. Relevant is that there have been only three applicants so far for the HERS scheme and the grants are to be increased.

JW also reported on the meetings of the Transport sub-committee and the Town and Environment committee, of DTC. The latter had suggested a clock and a lamp to mark the entrance to Buckland Village!

HG had drawn attention to Mr. Tiltman's project to revive the service of (paid) cruise-liner welcomers. There was no very enthusiastic response

ML

but ML agreed to examine what is proposed.

From the DOVER EXPRESS :

13.4: 24 Tower St houses OKd v. DSOC objections: inadequate parking

: Biggin St Amusement Arcade appeals v. planning refusal.

: Nadeem Aziz DDC Planning Director on 2nd Chunnel: reinstate rail access to W. docks: extend CTRL to Dover (£50m!): Westport train ferries = new breakwater & reclamation: coach service from Manston?

: BAB & Punishment plaque unveilings Mon Apr 17

: Councillors' expenses: Deputy Ldr £5,800

: White Cliffs Business Centre open: power house of development: fin.help & advice

: DDC Cabinet by 1 vote: secret sessions? recommendations to policy ctee meeting in public.

: Publicity for DSOC Newsletter

9. EDITOR

As always, there was appreciation and praise expressed for Newsletter No.37.

ML will limit to 44 pages in future to avoid increasing postage cost!

She requested contributors to make sure that all items are submitted -even if running late !

Comments were invited on whether or not Ferry Focus should become a regular feature, as had been suggested.

Progress was reported on the Dover book which is virtually ready for the Press.

10. PRESS SECRETARY

in absentia but thanked and congratulated, as always, on the quantity and quality of the cover which the Society enjoys in the Dover Express and in particular, this time, on the very informative summary of the talk by R. Bowditch 13 Mar.

A.O.B. MMcF drew attention to the new guide to Dover - in four languages.

After goodbyes to Sybil and John, the meeting closed at about 10.00 p.m.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 11 May.