

13 July

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 135th meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 8 June 2000 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : BL ML DL HG MMcF

PRESENT : Chairman Vice-Chairman TS Secretary Treasurer
Membership Secretary Social Secretary Chairman of Planning etc. BA LG AW

Before the business JW invited a pause for thought and sympathy for Mrs Dorothy Smith (member No. 515) who is now a widow.

1. MATTERS ARISING : from 11 May and ongoing.

(i) The historic plaques.

SC reported continuing progress.

The request for grants to DDC and DTC :

The grants for the first four plaques have been received and the DDC grant will be paid for all invoices up to 31 Dec.

Designs are still awaited for the last five plaques and have been promised for the end of this week.

Listed-building planning permission is awaited for the Zeebrugge plaque.

Discussions continue with the owner of the Maritime Hall (No. 8)

Plaque No 10 (Dover's place of execution) may be best located on the end wall of No. 2 London Road.

(ii) The historic flagstones.

The Council reported 40 subscribers so far and that the path should be completed towards the end of the year.

JW and BA each submitted three suggested choices for the inscriptions. A written vote was taken.

The result :

- 1. : 1066
- 2= : 1940 and 1217
- 4. : 1257
- 5. : 1216
- 6. : The mass-production bicycle factory

(iii) The Philomena memorial.

All the material considerations are well in hand. Astor-school handicraft will design and shape the wood. Plaque design and dimensions awaited.

JC/SC

Final approval of the siting by the Vicar and Church Wardens awaited.

TS

(iv) The "White Cliffs " painting.

DHB not interested in displaying. DTC (James Summerfield) interested.

(v) The Water Sports Centre. No reply so far from DHB.

DL had proposed the beach near Boundary Groyne. Already proposed and considered too steep and exposed to westerly weather.

(vi) Advertisements for the Newsletter.

No additional ones so far. Clive Taylor will pay.

2. CHAIRMAN

(i) The Chairman had represented the Society at the RN Presentation which was an excellent occasion.

(ii) The committee voted that £50 should be donated to the Admiral Ramsay statue fund.

(iii) The Civic return-visit to Bruges (2 Sep) : an open invitation to all Doverians to join. The Chairman urged the Committee to attend. Members to be invited in a note in the Newsletter.

JC
ML

(iv) The " Picture Dover " community project.
DTC invites photos for an exhibition next winter.
Meeting : 1 July, at South Kent College.

TS
AW
JL

3. SECRETARY

No personal report.

4. TREASURER

The Treasurer presented the monthly Financial Statement and Commentary.

We now have £51 towards the third heritage flagstone.

Bookings for the summer outings are coming in slowly.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

There were no new members this month and four memberships lapsed.
Thus : the highest allotted number remains at 764 and current membership total is 410

N.B. The committee does not meet formally in August but members are cordially invited to foregather chez Copes in Park Avenue :

7.30 p.m. on Thursday 10 Aug. R.S.V.P. if you are unable to attend.

6. PLANNING et al.

JW focussed first on KFAS' concern about possible uncontrolled development at Manston Airport. (Dover would be within the " stacking area " .)

(KFAS could arrange a speaker for our November meeting.)

The concern is because some development of ex- RAF airfields does not need planning permission, but may be contrary to the Kent Structure Plan.

Currently there is a planning application to extend 20 acres for concrete runways. A maximum ultimate aim could be 10 m. passengers a year.

Possible positive gains for Dover could include employment and support for cruise liners.

Agreed : DDC to be approached to ascertain their attitude .

The Buckland Village Project

On Friday 2 June JW and Mike Bayley and Maurice Miles re-visited the area to make an appraisal of the project. A draft report is appended. The memorandum of the visit will be sent to DTC.

6. PLANNING etc. contd.

JW (and TS) also reported on the " Brainstorming Session", not uncritically. The Chairman was also invited to sign, on behalf of the Society, for the Community Planning Charter. Both the above can only be approved as protestations of Good Intentions.

JW, wearing one of his other hats, also reported the current very advanced state of the draft list of speakers at meetings from Oct. 2000 - Nov. 2001.

7. SOCIAL SECRETARY

Those who had taken part in the excursion to Loseley Park, house and gardens, had praise , especially for the house and for an enjoyable day.

Future take-up : Marlowe theatre : only 22 so far; Faversham 28. More welcome.

8. PRESS SECRETARY

No personal report. (Many well-informed interventions.)

9. EDITOR

The absolute deadline for copy for the August Newsletter : 19 June.

A.O.B. TS drew attention to the DTC announcement (Dover Express 8 June) of the planned appointment of two independent members of the Standards Committee. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to the social area of the R.C.P.Y.C. (among other things) to mark JW 's approaching birthday.

Date of next meeting : Thursday, 13 July, at 7.30 p.m. at the R.C.P.Y.C.