

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 136th meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 13 July 00 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : JW AW BA

PRESENT : Chairman, Both Vice-Chairmen, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Sec.,
Editor, HG, LG, GH, MMCF, BL.

1. MATTERS ARISING : from 8 June and ongoing.

(i) The historic plaques.

1. The Zeebrugge plaque, for the Museum.

Listed building permission received and the plaque ordered. Anticipated delivery date mid-August. Details of opening to be discussed by the sub-committee and communicated to Christine Waterman.

2. The Lord Warden plaque. Design sent to Jonathan Sloggett with request that he inform us whether we or the Board are to seek listed building consent.

3. Dickens in Dover. John Adams (owner) has given verbal consent to our seeking listed building consent. A draft application discussed and passed as acceptable with Clive Alexander. Application to be prepared and signed by John Adams. (Cost of Ordnance Survey maps £23.)

4. Maritime Hall. A reminder sent to RMT's property agent together with a copy of the design and a photocopy of one of our installed plaques.

5. William Burgess

DTC discussed our design on 11 July and accepted.

Chris Barnett will be approached and hopefully confirm.

The aim : to install the Zeebrugge and Burgess together.

6. Place of Execution.

Request for permission to erect our plaque on the end wall of No. 2 London Road sent to Municipal Charities. Response awaited.

The plaque designs were received on 20 June and immediately sent to property owners and others concerned.

(ii) The heritage flagstones.

The third, with the 1066 inscription, ordered.

(iii) The Philomena memorial.

TS presented the formal written permission from the Rev. Batten for the siting of the tablet.

(iv) The "White Cliffs" painting.

DTC have the picture for inspection. After further examination : confirmed that the condition of the picture does not permit restoration.

Current suggestions : that a copy be made of some parts, other parts to be kept. A final report awaited.

(v) The water sports centre.

See Minute of the Planning sub-committee. Our proposal rejected. Details of the Board's intentions awaited.

Meanwhile : have we any further proposals ?

(vi) "Picture Dover" community project. A lively interesting meeting. TS has begun photos. JL not yet. AW ?

2. CHAIRMAN

The £50 voted as the Society's donation to the Admiral Ramsay statue fund had been sent to the Brigadier.

The Civic return visit to Bruges (2 Sep). The Chairman noted those willing to attend.

The Chairman referred to the Autumn (Sep/Oct) lunch party with our President which has taken place in the last two years.

He took note of those who would wish to attend this year. It helps to keep the President informed of what we are up to.

The need to continue the work of John Owen end the Projects sub-committee.

A Newsletter invitation for volunteers was suggested. BL suggested ad hoc leadership of individual projects, without a committee. He also distinguished between "projects" and proposed "ongoing schemes" for which we really have not the means or the manpower.

Ideas and proposals for the work could be included in the discussion groups at the October meeting and in the Newsletter. ML

Agreed that the Committee should return to the subject, with ideas, in September.

The Dover Transport Museum.

The Chairman drew attention to the appeal for help to save the Museum, in the Dover Express. It was agreed to consider a Society evening visit, which would be at least a token of support.

Mention of the DTC Zeebrugge Exhibition of 2001 raised the issue of our planned information panel on the Maison Dieu, below the Zeebrugge bell.

This has inevitably been deferred while the historic plaques are being erected.

Agreed : It would be very desirable and appropriate if the panel could be in place by St. George's Day 2001. Given the formalities arising from a listed building, this may prove difficult.

The Chairman had been invited to the DHB " performance meeting " and will attend and report back. The public is invited and BL recommended the occasion : 6.00 p.m. 26 July.

3. SECRETARY

' Twinning - hands across the Channel '

The Secretary and the Social Secretary had received invitations from our friendly Association France-Grande Bretagne, Calais, for our members to join their June and October outings. (They do not meet during August and September.)

The first visit is to the airport at Marck with a cold lunch and the possibility of a flight.

With the relatively slow take-up on our own excursions we decided to decline.

The October trip to Middelburg in Walcheren is very attractive but the timing would really call for overnight stay in Calais, for comfort. (It could be arranged more simply in a future programme without a pause in Calais.)

4. TREASURER

The Treasurer presented the monthly Financial Statement and Commentary. Bookings for the summer outings continue to be somewhat slow but so far they have more than covered their outgoings.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

There were no new members to report. The highest allotted number therefore remains at 764. Current membership : 404.

We learnt with regret of the death of Mrs H. Larsen (member No 69) of St. Margaret's Bay.

Sheila again invited the Committee to gather socially at 53 Park Avenue at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 10 August. See also the last item in these Minutes.

6. SOCIAL SECRETARY

Joan presented a printed, full and very attractive programme, from Sep. 2000 to Sep. 2001.

The French trip of this September is (not as in the draft in the April Newsletter) but a visit to the Arques Crystal Plant and the Nord Calais area, where we hope to have Monsieur Georges Fauquet of Les Amis du Vieux Calais as our guide. (He and his Wife recently became members and many of our members will remember him as our outstanding guide on our earlier visit to Calais town.)

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

In the absence of JW the members of the planning sub-committee present amplified and explained where necessary the Minutes of the sub-committee meeting of 4 July.

Particular attention was paid to the Buckland Village project.

On Manston Airport TS queried the "Times" figure of a planned throughput of 22m passengers annually. He also reported more fully the proposals at the meeting about the St. James' area. Plans are available at DDC and the planning sub-committee should study them.

There was considerable discussion and support of HG's petition for Castle Avenue (and Park Avenue) traffic calming.

8. PRESS SECRETARY

No personal report but the Society continues to enjoy ample notices in the Press.

9. EDITOR

The Editor thanked all contributors on the excellent punctuality of submissions this time.

The August number kept within 40 pages.

R.E. Hollingsbee's new book will be reviewed.

The Society's "Dover: Collected Memories of a Century" should be ready by October for a November launch - in time for Christmas.

The question of possible financial support from Society funds to be considered at the September meeting. (Agenda) LW

A.O.B.

MMcF drew attention to the pamphlet :

"The Queen Mother, Celebrating 100 years.", published by Kent Regional Newspapers, written by TS and printed by Adams Printers.

Marketing has been done by John Owen and MMcF and the charity quotient from their sales is in favour of the Dover Society.

Date of next meeting :

Formal committee meeting : Thursday 14 Sep. 7.30 p.m. at the R.C.P.Y.C.

Informally, socially, with refreshments :

Thursday 10 Aug

at 7.30 p.m. at 53 Park Avenue and, please, R.S.V.P.