

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 138th meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 12 Oct 00, at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : ML JW BA

PRESENT : Chairman Both Vice-Chairmen Secretary Treasurer
Membership Secretary Social Secretary HG LG GH MMcF BL AW

1. MATTERS ARISING from 14 Sep. and ongoing.

(i) The historic plaques

The installation of the two plaques on 10 Oct. was voted a completely successful occasion and all concerned were warmly congratulated, Terry, *Madge* and Derek in particular.

The siting of the Napoleon III plaque on the former Lord Warden Hotel is agreed, with a ceremony to be presided by the Chairman of the Harbour Board or J. Sloggett.

It was suggested that Lorraine Sencicle could be invited to be the speaker for the Dickens plaque.

A future Society publication will be a "Plaques Trail" tourist pamphlet.

(ii) The Philomena Memorial.

In the absence of BA there was no further information.

(iii) The " White Cliffs" painting :

No decision so far from DBGS re restoration. The Chairman had declined the invitation to accept possession.

(iv) The proposed Water Sports Centre.

In view of ~~public~~ reservations, including some members, ~~we cannot unreservedly welcome the DHB plan.~~ *we agreed 5 reserve our position*

Agreed : We agree to the siting and await the proposed design.

Letter to DHB.

JC JW

(v) The Picture Dover Project. Prints still awaited.

(vi) The President's Lunch.

The President and Chairman were thanked for hosting this enjoyable occasion.

(vii) The proposed Vera Lynn statue. The member proposing has not so far acted upon our suggestion to test opinion.

(viii) The Tourism Debate.

Madge had replied that the Council is indeed committed to tourism. We will continue to press and it is hoped to secure support from KCC.

TS
MMcF
JC

(ix) Waterloo Mansions flower beds : no reply from DHB to date.

(x) Additional copies of the Hidden Fortress :

Agreed to get a quote for a re-print, to confer with Doug Welby and report to the next meeting. The Western Heights Association could be consulted. The book could be put on the web.

Not more than £5 was considered to be a viable price.

The wish was to go ahead, subject to the Treasurer's approval.

2. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman had received a certificate from Databox 2000 for presentation to Terry Sutton, for his contribution, which he duly presented to Terry.

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Secretary would be resigning at the 2001 AGM. If there was no successor forthcoming from the Committee a possible member to take up the Secretaryship, suggested by DL, was Mrs June Dyer and he will approach her.

The Chairman will be representing the Society at the unveiling of the Ramsay statue on 10 Nov.

Notices for the 16 Oct. Meeting.

Invite letter to the Press, opposing the proposed Amusement Centre
Publicise the Crabble Mill refurbishment appeal.

Publicise the Thames Cruise on Pocahontas.

3. SECRETARY

The Crabble Corn Mill had sent their appeal for the restoration.

After discussion it was agreed to make a donation of £30 forthwith and to publicise the appeal, as above.

Southern Water had sent a supply of an informative pamphlet celebrating the completion of the Dover and Folkestone Waste Water Treatment Scheme. (Copies were available.) This is particularly gratifying to the Society as pressing for the scheme was the Society's first major campaign.

4. TREASURER

The Treasurer commented and explained the monthly financial statement.

Notably, £237 had accrued from Doug Welby's sales of the Hidden Fortress.

The French trip will make a small loss and bookings are awaited for the Christmas Feast.

Our deposit account has been transferred from the Halifax to CafCash because of superior interest : 6% instead of ± 3.25%.

For convenience we retain the current account at Barclays.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Total membership remains at 410.

Time passes and thought should be given to increasing the subscription. The revised amount would be proposed at the AGM, for imposing the following year.

6. PROJECTS

Cowgate Cemetery

19 Oct. A meeting will discuss the future of Cowgate Cemetery. Our long-term vision for the cemetery does not coincide with that of the White Cliffs Countryside Project.

Agreed £15 for 2nd of nov Rctye.

6. PROJECTS CONTD.

Roundabouts

(DDC is recruiting a private company to raise money for work on roundabouts.)

Is such work within our scope ?

Perhaps we should limit ourselves to alerting where work is needed ?

Sponsorship

For inclusion in the Group Discussions :

Possible jobs/projects - including roundabouts.

Seek projects/ ideas, and, how many would work ?

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

In absentia JW had supplied a revised Minute of the October meeting of the Planning sub-committee and his file.

Decisions required on the following :

1. Council grant for the " Buckland Village" project was now £5000 in lieu of £500.

After considerable discussion it was decided that we are not equipped to use such funding. It should be administered by professionals - and the response to the HERS scheme is not encouraging.

JC
JW

JC will draft a letter for JW

2. Manston Airport

The committee did not wish to intervene at the present time.

It was considered that we are not qualified to oppose and we can also see possible advantages.

The meeting was opposed to subscribing to the Manston Airport Group.

3. The Godden/ Geo. Lock Amusement centre.

Agreed that this should be opposed - copy to Town Centre Management.

Argument as before : reduction of retail centre etc.

8. SOCIAL SECRETARY

Bookings for the Christmas Feast slow - publicise on Monday.

JC

Guests : Town Mayor

Gwyn Prosser (as a member, to pay.)

President

The AGM 1001 will be changed to 30 April - to avoid the Bank Holiday

9. PRESS SECRETARY

TS expressed his satisfaction at the excellent publicity given to the Plaques⁵ ceremonies.

10. EDITOR in absentia

The Editor thanks contributors who all sent in their contributions punctually.

The discussion groups at the 16 October meeting:

5 or 6 groups suggested.

Subjects :

* Projects (see Projects para above)

Brainstorming.

Ideas for projects.

Members willing to work.

How do members see Cowgate Cemetery ?

Dover and Tourism

The Future of the White Cliffs Experience

A possible alternative plaque for the Philip Yorke, Lord Chancellor, intended for the Maritime Hall. Permission proving difficult.

Suggestions for future installation ceremonies.

A.O.B.

DL reported that the Collected Memories of a Century could well be ready for sale at the November meeting.

The meeting closed at 21h.50

Date of next meeting : Thursday 9 Nov. 00 at 7.30 pm. at the R.C.P.Y.C.