

THE DOVER SOCIETY

MINUTES of the 144th meeting of the Executive Committee held at 7.30 p.m.
on Thursday 12 April 2001 at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

APOLOGIES : AW BL

PRESENT : JC DL TS LW MW SC JL ML JW GH HG LG MMcF

The MINUTES of the 143rd meeting of the Committee of 8 March 2001.

The Secretary requested the following insertion at his paragraph :

" Also, DDC have started the planting which was requested and will return to it in the Autumn. "

The Minutes were then passed and signed as correct.

1. MATTERS ARISING from 8 March and ongoing.

(i) Update and any further action re Budge Adams responsibilities and archive.

The database had already been put to use for the Newsletter distribution.

The database for slides was not yet to hand. ML confirmed that action concerning papers and slides was slow.

The book Collected Memories is in profit. Such monies could be used for a memorial. The form of memorial not yet decided but could be a further book.

AGREED : All plans to be put in writing and submitted to the Adams family. ML

(ii) The internet site.

The general questionnaire, as only a limited number of committee members are qualified to comment, was cancelled.. W

JW, speaking from his KFAS experience, was strongly in favour of a website.

AGREED that we move onto the web, that we register with search, that there should be a counter (hidden at the end of the site).

Administration : Site manager : MMcF Assistants : HG LG

A colour copy will be brought to the next committee meeting.

The cost will be very little - nil for the present.

An article in the Newsletter to attract viewers.

MMcF ML

(iii) The historic plaques and panel.

The delay on the tenth plaque (Dover's Gallows) at the Bridge St. crossing will be very considerable - at least three months.

The Zeebrugge information panel will be ready by Wed. 18 April, in good time for the Zeebrugge ceremony : St. George's Day 23 April. Ten have agreed to attend this :

Meet at the Town Hall by the War Memorial at 1130 a.m.

MMcF will video the procession. We will lay a wreath, floral, tri-colour † £20

(iv) The Philomena memorial.

Reply from DGGs. Memorial trophy welcomed.

JC will discuss details with DGGs : a silver " rose-bowl", engraved, (School to be responsible for later names-engraving.)

Cost : £50 - £100 - perhaps less - but expenditure Agreed.

2. CHAIRMAN

The AGM.

BL standing down. HG volunteers as Projects co-ordinator and will speak about projects at the meeting.

JC will preside over the whole meeting.

JC/SC had represented the Society on board the Illustrious and at the Mayor's luncheon party.

At this point ML invited all the Committee, plus spouses, to meet at 5 East Cliff at 12.30 on Sun. 29 April. Bring food and wine.

3. SECRETARY

Nothing to report.

4. TREASURER

The Treasurer presented the monthly Financial Statement with the following Commentary :

During the last month £46.00 were collected in subscriptions for the coming year 2001/2002.

We received £15.45 in donations last month all of which was given to be used on our Zeebrugge Bell plaque project. A donation of £60 was given by the Society, as agreed at the last committee meeting, to the Crabble Corn Mill Trust.

£173 was collected last month in advertising revenue for the Newsletter

Postage, photocopying costs etc. totalled £70.42 for last month. This high figure was due to payments to committee members for expenses incurred in the last year. Room hire for the March committee meeting was £15.00.

The last meeting of the financial year, the March meeting joins the list of completed functions. As you can see we almost broke even for that meeting, making a small loss of £3.82

Bookings are still coming in for the Summer outings – The London Eye and the trip on the Princess Pocahontas are both doing very well. In fact the London Eye is sold out and Joan tells me we have a waiting list should anybody drop out.

Finally, quarterly interest from our bank accounts have been added to the figures of bank interest. From our current account at Barclays we received for the quarter the sum of 70 pence gross. From our Caf [Caf = charity aid foundation] gold account we were credited with £127.19 for the past quarter which averages out as 5.51% p.a. gross

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

SC reported 8 new members.

Howard Cleaves (Trees)
Mrs Lilian Jones (E.V. Road.)
Clive Fletcher (Intro. by GH.)
Mrs Rita Donnelly (Waterloo Mansions)
Mr Robert Greenhalgh (Castle Avenue)
Mr Stuart Webb (Folkestone Road)
Mr. Martyn Burton Avenue Road (Terry's D. Express article re Ivan Green.)
Mr Tony Bones Churchill Street

This brings the total membership to the very creditable 423. (Highest allotted Number : 787)

SC was warmly congratulated.

At the AGM DL will sit with SC at the receipt of custom. JW as usual, and Tessa George, will sell raffle tickets. There will be eleven dining before the meeting.

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

As HG takes up responsibility for Projects and leaves the Planning sub-committee a vacancy arises. Volunteers ?
SC will look through records for any members who, on joining, expressed a related interest.

JW went through the Minutes of the Planning meeting of 3 April which had been distributed with the Agenda of this meeting, explaining and expanding as necessary.

He was now able to add the findings of the T and E Committee of 11 April which he had attended.

T&E CTTEE APRIL 11: JW

- a. Budget includes Buckvill £2500: London Rd £44,000 - Bridge St clock, seat & plaque.
- b. Town Council website www.dovertown.com
- c. Street Trees: removals: RB mentioned DSOC interest: JC
- d. Neighbourhood Management endorsement: dubiety: NB DSOC too.
- Dover one of 10 out of which 3 will get some improvement funding: 3 wards nearest seafront
- e. Improved Town Guide: JW thanked for correcting French spelling mistake.
- f. Dover Town Investment Zone - St James & York St: marketed to 1100: 140 responses but no expressions of interest: if not SEEDA cld purchase non-DDC land & fund Burlington demolition. SEEDA more int. in Buckland Mill: bus station? LIDL going ahead
- g. Town Centre Strategy: DDC seeks funding for Project Manager
- h. White Cliffs Experience: £3/4m funding gap for library.
- j. Post Office Manual Data Entry Centre: Dover, M'chester or Sheffield.

Of street trees : More fully :

Trees removed have been listed. DDC will keep/replace extant trees but not those which used to be there.

The draft Dover Society response on Local Government Options was unanimously approved by the Committee and will be forwarded.

7. PROJECTS

HG as co-ordinator expressed the personal opinion that, as a project, Buckland Village is a non-starter.

He reported a turn-out of seven at the cemetery project this day : $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours of successful work.

8. EDITOR

The Editor stressed the ^{need} to keep up the number of advertisers. (£70 for a whole page, three issues.)

Suggestions invited. Seafrance suggested.

Agreed to continue to keep the Newsletter to 44 pages maximum.

We need to continue to remind members (at the AGM and meetings) of the change from booking forms.

ML warmly thanked Joan, Sheila and Jeremy for all their help.

Cemetery walks will be announced at the AGM and in the August Newsletter.

Deadline for the next number : 11 June. All reports have been allotted and agreed.

There was unanimous agreement that the April number was up to the usual high standard.

9. PRESS SECRETARY

Nothing to report but the Committee's congratulations and thanks for all the reports in the Dover Express.

10. SOCIAL SECRETARY

As reported also by the Treasurer, the bookings for the London Eye and Pocahontas are very strong : 51 and 47 re-spectively. Very satisfactory.

JW is well advanced in preparing the programme of winter talks.

A.O.B.

(i) There was some discussion, led by TS, whether there should perhaps be one speaker instead of two as at present. This was not decided. Advantages and disadvantages were advanced.

It was agreed that we should continue with brainstorming sessions once a year (Nov. or March) and the question of speakers could be debated there.

(ii) DL reported on the Listed Building application for Buckland Mill. English Heritage had judged that the building did not merit listing and the Secretary of State had accepted their refusal.

Finally, the Chairman asked for any items to be brought up at the AGM.

The meeting took the opportunity to thank and praise the Chairman for his successful period of office.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 10 May : usual time and place.