The Dover Society.

Minutes of the 149th meeting of the Executive Committee which was held on Thursday 11th October 2001 at Forte's Post House Whitfield.

Present :- Mrs George; Mr Gordon; Dr Hale; Mr Leach; Mrs Liggett; Mr Naylor; Mr Sutton (Chmn); Mr Woolford.

Apologies:- Mr & Mrs Cope; Mrs Gordon; Mrs Lilley; Mr McFarnell; Capt. Weston; Mrs Wood; Mr Wright.

1) Minutes of the 148th meeting held on 13 Sept. 2001 were agreed.

2) Matters arising from the minutes:

Philomena Memorial:

A note from Mr Cope was read out by Mr Gordon which stated that we have been given two superb pictures by our member Mr King. Mr & Mrs Cope are agreed that using both pictures would be ideal for our purposes. A letter has been sent to the school inviting Mrs Thomson to view them. Once her reaction has been received the organisation of the final format of the memorial can be organised.

If the School agrees with the form of the memorial, can the Editor consider whether we include a group photograph with Mr King and the pictures in the Newsletter.

3) The Chairman's Report:-

Mr Sutton opened his report by saying that there was little to report, he pointed out that reports have been circulated about the project 'Westport', which is DHBs vision of the future of the Port of Dover. As this will encroach on to Shakespeare Beach, some time in the future it will be necessary for the Society to decide what line to take. Environment or Employment will be the question.

The DDC proposed changes to the political structure of the area has been submitted to the Govt. The major change being, if approved, that the local Cabinet will make decisions and not recommendations. The citizens will be informed about any actions after they have been decided. Something to be watched with care. Finally the Chairman drew attention to the forthcoming meeting in the St Mary's Hall where Ivan Green will launch his new book.

4) The Secretary's Report:-

Mr Naylor reported that the Post House had said that they would not be able to offer us the usual accommodation for the December meeting due to heavy bookings for Christmas festivities. He undertook to seek a suitable venue for this meeting. He went on to say that Mrs Lilley had suffered an accident which had confined her to a wheel chair for some weeks She hoped however to be present at the launch of Mr Green's book and looked forward to seeing old friends.

5) The Treasurer's Report

As Capt. Weston was absent Mr Naylor read out the Treasurer's monthly statement. The financial statement of accounts was distributed and the main points from the report are:-

- a) During the month of September £12 has been received in subscriptions for the current year.
- b) Stationery etc for the month totalled £5.46
- c) The affiliation fee for the Web site cost £21,56
- d) £102 from advertising revenue plus £3.00 from the sale of Newsletters had been banked.
- e) The Vines Wines & Railway Line trip had produced a surplus of £32.50
- f) Interest received from Bank accounts for the quarter came to £131.20

As a charity an application has been made to the Inland Revenue for their permission to take part in the Charities Gift Aid scheme. Should the application be successful a refund of 29 pence for every pound paid to the Society's funds by tax paying members would be available.

The item about Insurance raised at the last meeting had been investigated and proved that cover for all Society's activities was adequate. The exception being for over seas visits where individual members should be required to take out personal travel insurance. Personal Accident cover in the UK was restricted to members aged between 17 and 84 years.

At this point Mr Leach reported that the sum of £800 had been transferred from the Publication Funds and should appear in next months accounts.

6) Membership Secretary,

Mrs Cope had sent a note saying that two new members Mrs Mary Griffin of River and Mrs Patricia Hooper of Castlemount Rd had joined the Society bringing the total number of members to 412.

7) Projects:-

Mr Gordon reported that the Cowgate Clearance was still proceeding although the Saturday attendance had become none viable. As a result it was proposed that it should be discontinued and the work proceed on Thursdays only. Agreed.

More help was now needed for the recording of graves. Mrs Gordon intended to call for more volunteers at the next Society meeting.

8) Planning & Local Govt.

Mr Woolford distributed copies of the minutes of the last meeting of the Planning Committee. He reported that the Dover District Council had raised once again the Buckland Village Project, after some discussion it was agreed that we should take no further action and that he Council should be asked to issue leaflets to the public setting out their proposals.

A MORI poll had indicated that the people of Dover did not want an elected mayor.

9) Social Secretary:

Mrs Liggett said that she had nothing to report but that she was now taking bookings for the Christmas Feast.

10) Publications:

Mr Leach Drew attention to the fact that Ivan Green would be launching his new book at Monday's meeting and would be willing to sign them for members, price £10. Inquiries are being made with a view to producing the Budge Adams memoirs on CD. Also moves are taking place to produce a film called Dover Past and Present.

A.O.B. It was reported that our Web Site requires more publicity. suggested that the Civic Trust might be able to help.

Mr Woolford said that the residents of the Western Heights had set up a group called the Western Heights Preservation Society. Subscription £5. It was agreed that we should join.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.56 hrs.

12) Date of the next meeting 8.Nov.2001. at 19.30hrs.