

The Dover Society.

Minutes of the 153rd meeting of the Executive Committee which was held at the Post House Whitfield, on Thursday 14th February 2002.

1) Present: Mr & Mrs Cope; Mrs George; Mr & Mrs Gordon; Dr Hale; Mr Leach; Mrs Liggett; Mr McFarnell; Mr Naylor; Mr Sutton (Chmn); Mr Woolford.

2) Apologies;

Apologies were received from Capt. Weston. & Mrs Lilley

3) The Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 10 Jan. 02 were presented and agreed.

4) Matters arising:

not yet — The donation to St Radigund's School had been received by the Treasurer and the sum of £ 640 had been forwarded to the School. A letter of thanks had been sent to the donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

5) The Chairman.

Mr Sutton said that he had received a letter of resignation from the Committee from Mrs A. Wood, the item was noted.

He went on to say that he had been invited to a meeting with the DDC to take place on 20.2 when the position of the Grappling Iron would be decided.

Mr Sutton read out a letter which he had sent to the Charity Trustees requesting a meeting to talk about their commercial properties in Dover. No reply as yet.

He reported that he had received a request for the annual subscription of £30 to the White Cliffs Tourist Association. It was proposed by Mr Cope that it should be passed to the Treasurer with a recommendation to pay. Agreed

6) The Secretary.

Mr Naylor said that the Agenda for the AGM had been prepared and that any member of the committee who wished to withdraw should indicate before the papers went to print. He pointed out that with the resignation of Mrs Wood there were two vacancies on the committee if the maximum number of 16 permitted by the constitution is to be maintained. After some discussion Mr Cope proposed and Mr Gordon seconded that the existing members of the Executive be proposed en bloc at the AGM. Agreed

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary distributed copies of the monthly Financial Report and read out comments which Capt Weston would have made had he been able to attend

7) Membership Secretary.

Mrs Cope said that five new members :-M/s Craske; Mr Staff Grimes; Mr & Mrs John & Philippa Johnson ; Mr F. Woodbridge had joined since the last meeting. This brought the number of members up to 422.

8) Projects:

Mr Gordon reported that the Cowgate project was going well. Mr Martyn Webb had agreed to take part in the March meeting which would cover the history of the Cowgate Cemetery.

Mrs Gordon said that the recording of the headstone details was continuing. Details of Plot 2 were now complete and that good progress was being made on Plot 1 which was the area bombed in WW2.

She went on to say that she had been told that the Unitarian Chapel in Snargate St. would be opening to visitors on 14/15 of September and that it would be an idea if local Primary Schools were invited to visit and perhaps their Choirs (if they have one) might like to provide some back ground music during the visit.

How do we progress?

9) Press Secretary.

Mr Sutton said that he had little to report but he was pleased the Mr Wooldford's Book on Hartlepool had been mentioned in both the local and national press.

10) Planning & Local Govt.

Mr Woolford distributed the minutes of the planning subcommittee which was held on Tuesday 5th Feb. It was also reported that English Heritage had expressed interest in the interiors of buildings in Townwall St but was having difficulty in gaining access to photograph. The Planning S/C were asked for ideas.

Mr Woolford said that he had received a letter from Mr Moir CEO Dover District Council announcing that he was seeking early retirement, which he confidently expected to be granted, and he thanked Mr Woolford and the Society for their help and commitment during his period of office. Mr Woolford said that he would reply to the letter on a personal basis and it was agreed that he should include the thanks and good wishes of the Society for a happy and contented retirement. Mr Sutton said that he too would be writing to Mr Moir.

11) Social Secretary.

Mrs Liggett said that she had bookings for 73 people for the Wine and Wisdom evening and more were still arriving. She said that unfortunately she would not be able to supervise the distribution of the supper but would prepare and leave everything ready. Mrs Cope volunteered to take over.

12) Publications.

Mr Leach said that the Ivan Green book was to appear on the Castle bookstands in February. That he and Mrs Lilley had met with the Adams family to discuss the Memoirs of Budge Adams, and the family were not in favour of publishing a complete book, however they did say that articles from the memoirs could possibly be done.

They found the making of CDs of the slide collection acceptable. Discussions on this are continuing with the museum.

The family also agreed that the whole collection of the slides and books would be donated to the Society as this was in line with Budge's wishes. A discussion by the Committee then took place to try and decide on a suitable venue for the collection.

It was decided that talks should take place with the museum officials with a view to the housing the records in the Reference section. Conditions on the ownership and the access to the records must be satisfactory before proceeding down this path.

13) Any other Business:

Mr Cope said that he had sought prices for the production of an Honours Board for the Philomena Memorial to be housed in the DGS Messrs Ray's Signs had quoted £300 for the production of the Board and about £20 for the annual inscription of the winning names. This produced an animated debate where among other things it was pointed out that the Society would have a continuing annual liability of around £50 to maintain the prize.

It was agreed that more quotes should be sought and the Treasurer asked to comment.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.40hrs.

The date of the next meeting is 14 March 2002 At the Post House., Whitfield.