

The Dover Society

The minutes of the 164th meeting of the Executive Committee which was held in the Parish Room of St Paul's Church Dover on Thursday 13th March 2003.

Present:

Mr & Mrs Cope; Dr Hale; Mr Leach; Mrs Liggett; Mrs Lilley; Mr McFarnell; Mr Naylor; Mr Sutton (chmn); Capt. Weston; Mr Woolford.

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Mr & Mrs Gordon; Dr Lane.

Minutes:

The minutes of the 163rd meeting which had been circulated were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes;

It was agreed that the anonymous donation to Elvington Primary School should be under the second option of the Society's Charitable Status ie Educational purposes.

Chairman's Report:

Heritage Open Day.

Mr Sutton reported that in accordance with the decision at the last meeting he had written to the DDC suggesting that the Grand Shaft be opened for Heritage Open day. No reply to date.

Christmas Lights:

A letter had been sent to Mr Robert Bailley suggesting that a Town Meeting be called to see if Dover should have lights this Christmas and if so to set up the organisation to raise funds and undertake the necessary arrangements. The answer was a meeting with him where the suggestion was made that the DTC should take on the whole project. He is to put that as the preferred option to the councillors. Failing acceptance he will suggest a town meeting.

The question of the arrangements for turning on the lights was then raised and Mr Webb of TCM said that he would organise it. Contact has been made with Mr Alan Alcocks TCM Chairman concerning payment for the organiser's time. To be put to his Board.

Dover in Bloom

A meeting to discuss Dover in Bloom was convened and a second one is to follow. It was agreed that Mr Woolford would represent the Society.

Mr Sutton concluded his report by saying that he had attended a meeting addressed by Mr Andrew Mawson O.B.E. on the subject of entrepreneurship. A meeting is to be held in the Bingo Hall on 16 April at 0915 hrs with the same speaker.

The Secretary:

Mr Naylor pointed out that the AGM was looming and the agenda was being prepared he asked if any member of the E/C wished to stand down. It was agreed that the existing committee would be proposed for re-election with the exception of Dr Lane, Mr H. Gordon, and Mr Wraight.

The Treasurer:

Capt. Weston distributed the monthly financial statement and pointed out £22 had been received in subs. for the coming year. The Christmas Feast produced a profit of £135.61 congratulations are due to Mrs Joan Liggett and her helpers for their organisation. The 'Wine & Wisdom' evening showed a surplus of £108.22 The money was divided between the Society and the nominated charity of the Quiz Master which this year was the Crabble Corn Mill.

In response to a letter from Mrs Lilley the Editor, asking for sponsorship for the Newsletter Pfizers have sent a cheque for £500 most welcome.

The total out goings for the month amount to £58.41

Membership Secretary;

Mrs Cope said that there had been no new members during the past month so that the total number of members remained at 418.

Projects:

Mr Cope reported that the Cowgate exercise was still continuing successfully. He went on to say that the River Dour had been surveyed except for the area occupied by river side building (eg Buckland Mill Development) and that the Council had donated £1700 towards the costs.. There had been a meeting with Mr Somerfield and Mr Bolass at which it was decided to ask the DTC to survey the riverside buildings.

Riverwatch supported by DTC has taken on the task of cleaning the actual river. This will be one of the subjects at the Bingo Hall meeting mentioned by Mr Sutton. Support for the river clean up has come from Mr Skelton of Snargate St who has donated £500 of waders for use in the river.

Social Secretary:

Mrs Liggett reported that the booking forms for the summer outings were nearly all available and that the prices had been pared down., however the 'Pocohantas' trip required a minimum of fifty people otherwise the operators would not accept our booking.

Press Officer

Mr Sutton said that reports on Society activities had appeared in both local papers.

Planning & Local Govt.

Mr Woolford distributed the minutes of the last planning committee meeting (69th) he drew attention to the fact that permission for the Sex Shop had been refused, that Westmount had not reached its reserve price at auction, that residents on Marine Parade sought support in opposing the conversion of some flats into an extension for the Churchill Hotel., and that funding for Dover in Bloom would be required, it was expected that appeals would be made to traders in the town.

The Editor

Mrs Lilley suggested that some photographs of the 'Shame' sites in the town should appear in the April Newsletter Agreed. She said that the next edition would be 40 pages and asked if contributors could have their copy in for future editions well before the deadline. She concluded by saying there had been no inquiries for the Editor vacancy.

Publications

Mr Leach said that sales had slowed down but hoped that they might improve with the start of the tourist season. The Budge Adams slides were now a third of the way towards completion with some 600 now in the computer.

Any Other Business;

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.15hrs.

Date of the next meeting 10th April