

MINUTES OF THE DOVER SOCIETY EXECUTIVE HELD ON
11TH APRIL 2013.

Present: Jeremy Cope (acting chairman), Bill Naylor, Mike Weston, Sue Jones, Patrick Sherratt, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Jean Marsh, Sheila Cope, Glyn Hale, Mike McFarnell, and Terry Sutton.

Apologies: Alan Lee, Alan Sencicle, and chairman Derek Leach.

Minutes: Minutes of 14th March were accepted as correct.

Matters Arising: Jeremy reminded members that this was the last committee meeting to be attended by the retiring secretary Bill Naylor and thanked him for his services to the society.

Chairman's report: Jeremy reported on the latest situation on the Big Local issue and a recommendation from the sub-group formed to progress the matter.

It was unanimously agreed that the sub-group should make further investigations and to depute powers to that group to submit an application to become the locally trusted organisation (LTO) to administer the initial grant of £20,000 if the sub-group decided this was the correct thing to do.

A letter was read from society member Graham Wanstall suggesting the society was involved in issues not authorised by its constitution. It was agreed to consult solicitor Peter Sherred about this and to review the constitution.

It was agreed that action be taken to obtain a society wreath for the chairman to lay at the Zeebrugge Raid commemorations on St George's Day. *Action to be taken by Derek*

Secretary's report: Nothing.

Treasurer: Mike Weston presented the accounts for the year (for the AGM) and for the month. During the month £222 was received in subscriptions, £1,390 paid to Adam Printers for the March newsletter and the 25th anniversary publication. £80 donated to Crabble Mill corn mill trust while the March meeting, after the lottery, cost the society just under £37.

Terry pointed out that all the society's public meetings were now costing the society money. The general feeling was this was something that should be monitored.

Membership: Sheila reported membership increased to 455. New members: John and Marie Kemp, Peter Sparshott, Kevin and Susannah Verity (London), T. Friend (Newcastle) and Joyce Cockerill.

Sheila also reported the Cope "garden party" at Park Avenue would be on Saturday, June 22 (3pm).

Projects: Jeremy reported on work at Cowgate cemetery, the walk at Broadlees Bottom, the Brighter Dover initiative, the Charlton House plaque (further letter sent) and on a meeting to be held with the headmaster and bursar of Dover College about the proposed Tallis plaque.

Under the refurbishment sub-committee heading, a member reported that parts of the former Royal Victoria Hospital had been painted bright red. He suggested if the property was a listed building or in a conservation area, planning consent should have been sought. *It was agreed that Patrick (chairman of planning) should investigate.*

It was further agreed that, if necessary, a letter should be sent to KCC about roadside rubbish on highways leading to Dover. *Action to be decided by Jeremy after consultations with a DDC official.*

Town Hall: Guided tours have restarted- 10am-4 pm on Wednesdays.

Social Secretary: Patricia reported take-up on planned trips were going well. She reported on progress for the Christmas "feast" to be held this year at Dover Town Hall. Entertainment had been arranged and it was agreed the trio of entertainers should be offered a free meal. Cost of tickets estimated at: £22.50.

Concern was raised about the time the pre-public meeting meals were finishing (resulting in guests arriving at the

meeting after it had started). It was agreed that Jeremy would try to speed departure from the restaurant.

Planning: Patrick presented a written report on the work of the planning committee that included information on the hospital/polyclinic developments and that the planning application for change of use of a sea front property to a school had been withdrawn.

Press secretary- Nothing significant to report.

Editor- Alan sent apologies-nothing reported.

Publications-Nothing to report

Any other business: It was agreed Jeremy or Derek should write to Paul Watkins (political leader DDC) calling for the removal of the Big Screen from the Market Square and opposing its use for advertising.

Terry reported he had given the names of "expert" members of the committee to an Anglo-Italian not-for-profit set up that was planning to produce a glossy brochure on Dover and its history in relation to a Canterbury-Rome year 990 pilgrimage.

The meeting ended at 9 pm.