

The Dover Society

Minutes of the 168th meeting of the Executive Committee which was held on Thursday July 10th. 2003 in the Parish Room of St Paul's Church Dover.

1) Present:- Mr & Mrs Cope; Dr Hale; Mr Leach; Mrs Liggett; Mrs Lilley; Mr Naylor; Mr Sutton (Chmn.); Capt. Weston; Mr Woolford.

2) Apologies:- Mrs Gordon; Mr McFarnell.

3) Minutes:

The minutes of the 167th meeting of the 10th July, which had been circulated were agreed.

4) Matters arising from the minutes:

The Treasurer reported that the price of the binders for the Newsletter had risen from £3.34 to £4.47 incl. vat. it was agreed that an order for 100 be placed.

It was also agreed that the sum of £25 be donated to the Hospital Fete.

5) The Chairman:

Mr Sutton reported that he had taken up the matter of the sale of Maison Dieu House. As a result, partly at the request of the Mayor of Dover, a letter was sent to Sir Sandy Lockheart leader of KCC. Two replies have been received, one a phone call from his chief PRO, and the second a letter from Sir Sandy. In addition Paul Watkins leader of Dover District Council has been contacted who is due to see Sir Sandy in the coming week. After a long discussion it was agreed that members could contact the KCC by E- Mail (Sandy @Kentgov.uk).

Communications with the Town Clerk have continued about the future of the Christmas lights in Dover Mr Woolford will report the out come .

Letters have been sent to the President and his wife thanking them for their hospitality and to James Summerfield for his past services which has been acknowledged.

6) The Secretary:

Mr Naylor reported that a letter had been received from the Civic Trust which indicated that the cost of our subscription had risen to its current height in an attempt to subsidise smaller and poorer groups. After a long discussion it was agreed that the our membership of the Civic Trust would be reviewed before next year's subs were due and inquiries would be made to find suitable alternative insurance.

7) The Treasurer:

Capt. Weston distributed the monthly financial report and drew attention to :-

a) £392 had been collected in subs for this year and £12 for next year.

b) £16.80 had been spent on reminders to late payers.

c) Although the accounts were not yet completed the Pocohantas trip looked likely to show a loss of about £57. The current outing to Broadstairs would most likely be in profit

d) Bank interest for the quarter was £105.01. (Cafcash account).

Bookings for the outings were very slow in coming in and after some discussion it was agreed that leaflets would, once again, be inserted in the Newsletter.

8) Membership Secretary:

Mrs Cope reported that five new members had enrolled bringing the total membership to 433. They are :- Mr John Turnpenny; Mr John & Mrs Cheryl Culver, Dover Arts Cannon St.
Mr Allen & Mrs Linda Lee, Cherry Tree Ave.

9) Projects:

Mr Cope said that there had been a meeting of the groups interested in River Dour and as a result Mr Cope had been requested to send a letter to the DTC asking that a steering committee be set up to include all interested parties.

The notice for Cowgate cemetery was being prepared and would be erected at an early date. The vaults have been cleared and the Council have agreed to re-erect the fallen grave stones after the Open golf competition has finished.

There had been a meeting with the WI which resulted in a donation of £15 for Society funds and the sale of some Newsletters (£5).

10) Social Secretary.

Mrs Liggett said that booking for the August Outing (House of Commons) were very slow . Mr Leach commented on how well the visit to Broadstairs had been and wondered if such an event might succeed in Dover with the inhabitants dressing in ancient costumes . In the discussion that follows a comment was made that he/she thought they already did.

11) Planning & Local Govt.

Mr Woolford distributed the minutes of the planning S/C 73rd meeting (1.7.03) and went on to describe the council meetings he had attended where chaos seems to have reigned with a great deal of shouting and noise being generated , he compared it most unfavourably with the previous meetings he attended under the old regime. The distributed minutes highlight some of the problems encountered.

It was agreed by 3 votes to 2 that Mr Bolas be invited to give talk about the River Dour at the October meeting instead of the 'Brainstorm'.

12) The Web site

Mr McFarnell had prepared a paper showing the development and use of the Society's web site.

12) The Editor

Mr Lilley said that she had encountered some difficulty in getting hold of the new assistant Editor but thought this was just a temporary blip which would disappear when his current contract was completed.

The next Newsletter was due out on August 1st.

13) Publications:

Mrs Lilley said that the reprint of 'Memories of the Century' was selling well in contrast the Mr Green's book which going slowly.

The question of the memorial to B. Adams was raised and it was confirmed that it should take the form of a book based on his papers and sold to the members at a low price.

14) Any Other Business.

It was confirmed that the educational donation had been sent and acknowledged.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.30hrs.