

The Dover Society.

The minutes of the 172nd meeting of the Executive Committee which was held on Thursday 4th December 2003 in the Parish Room of St Paul's church Dover.

- 1) Present: Mr & Mrs Cope; Mrs Gordon; Dr Hale; Mr Leach; Mrs Liggett; Mrs Lilley; Mr McFarnell; Mr Naylor; Mr Sutton (Chmn.); Capt Weston; Mr Woolford.
- 2) Apologies:
There were no apologies.
- 3) Minutes.
Minutes of the 171st meeting held on 13th November which had been circulated were agreed.
- 4) Matters arising.
Mr Cope said that the River Watch survey would go ahead as the money was now available. The piano concert in January would also go ahead as DTC had agreed to pay £100 for each performance, one in January and one in April.
Mr Leach reported that his inquiries had revealed that a liquor licence for sales at our meetings was indeed required. It was proposed that an annual licence costing £10 be obtained. Agreed.
- 5) The Chairman.
Mr Sutton said that as there had only been a three week gap since his last report he had little to report. He went on to say that he had attended a reception prior to the turning on of the Christmas lights and how pleasing it was to find the DTC and the TCM working together, and recalled the part played by the Dover Society last February in initiating the raising of funds for the Christmas lights.
- 6) The Treasurer.
Capt. Weston distributed the monthly financial report and drew attention to the following points:-
 - a) £6 had been collected in subs for 2004/5.
 - b) £38 has been paid in for advertising in the Newsletter.
 - c) £ 269 was paid out for a 'strimmer' for use in Cow Gate Cemetery
 - d) The October meeting made a loss of £25.29.

Capt Weston went on to say that at the last two general meetings the spouses of the guest speakers attended the pre-meeting dinner. The cost of these meals were met by donations from members of the E/C but he thought the time had come to regularise the position. After a discussion it was proposed by Mr Leach and seconded by Mr Woolford that where the partners of guest speakers attended the pre-meeting dinner the cost would be borne by the Society's funds. This was agreed.
- 7) The Membership Secretary.
Mrs Cope said that there had been two new members; Mr Paul Wells of Gt Mongeham and M/s Deborah Gasking of Elms Vale. This brought the total membership to 439. She went on to say that three of the volunteer distributors had resigned but suitable replacements had been secured.
- 8) Projects.
Mrs Gordon said that the index of the graves in Cow Gate was now complete. However the Society's records still required to be checked.
Mr Cope said that the bottom area of the cemetery had been cleared and that the new strimmer had been most satisfactory. As reported under item #4 the survey of the River will go ahead.

9) Planning and Local Govt.

Mr Woolford Distributed the minutes of the 77th meeting of the Planning S/C and drew attention to the discussion on the feasibility of having a rail link from Dover to the fast rail link which is proposed to run from Folkestone to London. It appear that the reason for not including Dover in the present plans is that the Shakespeare tunnel is too narrow to provide exits from the sides of the train in emergencies. It appears that the new trains cannot provide exits from either the front or back of the passenger accommodation. It was agreed that the Society should pursue the matter and that letters be sent to the Deputy Prime Minister and to the SRL.

10) Web Site and proposal for Film Show.

Mr McFarnell said that he proposed that that a film show of the recent events in Dover be held in March 04 in the new Theatre at the Discovery centre. The film would be produced by Mr McFarnell of town events but pointed out that some finance would be required. It was agreed that £30 of time would be donated by the D/S. The Chairman would make inquiries as to whether old films made by Ray Warner could be shown.

11) The Editor.

Mrs Lilley thanked all the contributors to the latest Newsletter and asked for more copy.

12) Publications.

Mr Leach said that Mrs Atherton's book was selling very slowly but most of the sales had slowed down . Mr Woolford volunteered to produce a review of the 'Society's' books. for members.

The scanner used for reading copy was still out of action but there was a chance of obtaining one on loan.

13) AOB.

A request was made that a copy of the Newsletter be sent to Sandwich AS. Agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10

Date of next Meeting 8 January 2004