

# The Dover Society

Minutes of the meeting of the E/C which was held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in the Parish Room of St Paul's Church Dover.

- 1) Present: Mr & Mrs Cope; Dr Hale; Mr & Mrs Hooper - Sherratt; Mr Lee; Mr Leach (Chmn); Mrs Marsh; Mr McFarnell, Mr Naylor, Mr Sencicle; Mr Sutton; Capt. Weston; Mr Woolford.
- 2) Apologies. Apologies were received from Mrs Morris; & Mrs Rapley.
- 3) Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> September which had been circulated were approved with minor amendments.
- 4) Matters Arising: The Council has refused to provide a flag pole and tricolour for the Bleriot Memorial site. Mr Cope said that letters should be sent to various Councillors including the Leader seeking a change of mind. A discussion then took place concerning the provision of a plaque for Mr Pattenden a distinguished worthy of old whose grave has disappeared. The Church authorities at St Mary's say that if one is provided it must be sited in the graveyard, however the cemetery is surrounded by a low wall and all our plaques are, in the main, sited high to avoid vandalism. Watch this space. Charles Stewart Rolls the first man to fly the Channel both ways was killed in an air crash in 1910, A discussion took place as to what steps should be taken to commemorate his centenary.
- 5) The Chairman ;Mr Leach said that most of his points had been covered but he had a request from the Rev Sherratt for publicity for an ecumenical service to be held on 6th December at Our Lady of Dover's Church which is on Buckland estate in support of the Rescue Services in Kent. The annual Remembrance Service is on 8<sup>th</sup> November
- 6) The Secretary: Mr Naylor said that he had received a letter from the Council inviting a rep. from the E/C to a meeting where the future of private development in Dover will be discussed. It was agreed that Mr Sherratt would attend.
- 7) The Treasurer Capt. Weston gave out the monthly financial statement and drew attention to the following points:-
  - (a) Subs received this month f 18
  - (b)£250 anonymous donation for projects.
  - (c)£851.87 received from 'Gift Aid' claim.
  - (d)Town Hall fund received f 10 dividend from shares.
  - (e)Outing to Down House made a surplus of £151
  - (f)CaF Cash account interest for three months a miserly £12.78
- 8) Membership Sec. Mrs Cope said that there were no new members this month the total members is 422.
- 9) Projects: Mr Cope said that the mower used at Cowgate has been repaired and is working satisfactorily. River Dour the minutes of the last meeting of the Steering group will be distributed. The next 'clean up' of the river is scheduled for 27th
- 10) Mrs Hooper Said that there have been 20 bookings for the Christmas Feast and asked for some publicity at the next public meeting. She went on to say that the food for the wine & Wisdom had risen in price and it was agreed that the admission charge should rise to £5.

- 11) Planning and Local Govt Mr Woolford distributed some copies of the minutes of the last meeting of the S/C and pointed out that he had sent the E/C a copy by E-mail. In the discussion which followed it was decided to form a sub-committee with the object of keeping up pressure on the Council for Town Improvement It was proposed by Mr Cope and seconded by Mr Sutton that a letter be drafted to inform the DDC of our action It was agreed that the S/C should consist of Messrs;- Cope; McFarnell; Sencicle; Sherratt-, and Weston.
- 12) Registration of right of way.

Following a report by Jeremy Cope and Mike Weston the committee agreed unanimously that it should seek, by legal means, the restoration of the public right of way adjacent to the property "Castle Rise" located on Connaught Road and its registration on the Definitive Rights of Way Map at KCC. The land in question has been used by the public as of right as far as anyone can remember. The land over which the right of way exists has now been fenced in, precluding public access.

The committee members believe seeking the restoration of this right of way and its registration to be within the The Society's constitution, in particular because the land is within the area of benefit covered by The Society's constitution and specifically such action falls within the first and third of the purposes set out in The Society's constitution.

Accordingly the committee members are satisfied that The Society will not be acting ultra vires its constitution in seeking the restoration of the rights of way and its protection by registration.

Before taking any formal steps pursuant to this minute it was agreed that a "letter of courtesy" would be sent to the person believed to be responsible for enclosing the land in question requesting removal of the fencing on the land.

The committee also agreed unanimously to seek confirmation of its decision by placing a motion before the Annual General Meeting.

The committee also required that the minutes record its gratitude to Peter Sherred, a member and solicitor for his generous help and advice, particularly as this is given on a "pro bono" basis.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.20