

June

The Dover Society

Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 13 ~~May~~ 2010
at St Paul's Parish Room, Dover

Attending:

Derek Leach – Chair, Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Glyn Hale, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Alan Lee, Jean Marsh, Mike McFarnell, Maureen Morris, William Naylor, Georgette Rapley, Alan Sencicle, Pat Sherratt, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston,

Apologies: Jack Woolford

TS gave an update on JW, who is in hospital following a fall. The Executive Committee all sent their best wishes via PHS card..

Minutes from the last meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held 10 May were reviewed and approved.

Matters arising:

- **Castle Rise** – JC reported that two people have come forward as witnesses and JC asked if anyone else would do so. They need to have been walking the area for at least 20 years. WN offered.
- **Granville St Plaque** – DL has heard from the Parish Church, who sent a cheque for £100, which is added to the cheque from the school. Cleverley & Spencer have quoted £350 for a new plaque. The Executive approved the additional cost of £150. Blackman's owns the building and JC will approach them about taking ownership of the plaque, and maybe make a donation.
- **Russell St Car Park** – DL has suggested to Dover District Council (DDC) that the old bus station site should be used as an interim overflow coach and car park for parties visiting the castle.
- **Downing St petition for the demo of Burlington House** – JC reported on some of the comments he has received.
- **Historic Plaque Trail Leaflets** – DL has now placed these at the Cruise Terminal. SC has looked at finding a suitable container for displaying these in buses and asked if anyone had anything that could be used. JC asked, if the leaflet is to be reprinted, that the stone plaques, which the Dover Society has paid for refurbishing, should be included. Dover District Council (DDC) has offered to pay for printing if the format is changed to A4. There was a discussion about this leaflet, after which it was agreed that only the 12 Dover Society plaques will be included. JC and SC will work up a revised draft, based around a walk through Dover, for further discussion.
- **Heritage Open Day leaflets** – DL reported that these will be available on time.
- **Harriet Quimby** – DL has received a letter from the clerk at Whitfield, indicating that they would consider naming a street after her in future development.
- **Cycle Path** – JC has not received any response to his email.
- **Website** – MM gave details of his research for discussion. The current site has 262 pages, and he estimates that a new site will have over 500 pages. He outlined the various options and anticipated that setting up a revised data driven site would require a budget of £300, with £150 pa running costs. MW expressed concern that the costs were effectively open-ended, and it was agreed that a limit of £300 be set aside for the website, and MM felt that he would be able to deliver a working website within this figure. (Proposed by AL, seconded by JC).
- **London Road Forum meeting** – JC gave an update on the meeting between the London Road properties and the Dover Municipal Charities. DTC had granted London Road Forum £1500 to paint the premises in question.
- **Lottery**– DL has looked at the wording for the small lottery fund leaflet and has made some suggestions. He gave details and welcomed other suggestions. Following discussion, amendments were approved and MM was asked to revise the leaflet. JC suggested a donations box might be placed within the Maison Dieu to assist with fundraising. This would need to be cleared with DDC and Vista Leisure, who run the Maison Dieu. MM will raise this with both organisations and report back at next meeting.

- **Members wanting lifts** – PHS suggested that a note be placed in the next newsletter asking for volunteers to offer lifts to society events.

Chairman's Report

DL has attended all the events outlined at the last meeting. He felt the Charles Rolls Celebrations were very good.

The Dover War Memorial group is considering a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund, based on the 90th anniversary of the Unknown Warrior and the importance of remembrance, and aimed at school children.

Secretary's Report

WN had nothing to report for this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

MW gave the Treasurer's report (copy circulated at meeting).

Membership Secretary

SC reported that there has been one new member – Mrs V Jarvis of River. The most recent membership number is 1052, and the Society has 435 current members.

Newsletters have been issued to various surgeries around the town.

Projects

Cowgate – JC reported that the cemetery is up to date and a new volunteer had turned up to help.

Dour clearances – He indicated that he was the only member of the Dover Society who took part in this and would welcome others.

Sub-committee for the refurbishment of Dover

JC reported that the next meeting would be held on Monday and he will report back then. He gave an update on Section 115 properties and DDC's response. He gave details of the proposed Elms Vale Cemetery, feeling that if there had to be a new cemetery, this was as good a place as any, particularly as any design would have to be within AONB constraints. JC will respond on behalf of the Executive accordingly.

DL indicated that there were areas where the refurbishment and planning committees appeared to overlap. He asked if both committees would produce terms of reference. There was a discussion about this and JC and PS agreed to draft something for a future Executive meeting.

Social Secretary

GP gave a report on the Inns of Court visit, which had been very successful. Christmas arrangements have been confirmed.

Planning & Local Government

In the absence of JW, PS reported on planning issues (report circulated at meeting).

PS gave details of the planning application for 70 Maison Dieu Road, for mixed private and social housing. Height of the proposed development is a concern. Draft response was approved.

DL reported on an application for 45 London Road, River, which had been raised at River Parish Council, for non-residential education use.

Press Secretary's Report

TS had nothing to report for this meeting.

Editor's Report

AL had nothing to report for this meeting.

An article from Dover College has been promised by the Headmaster there, and it was suggested that he might do a talk at a future meeting.

SC asked AL to make a change to the distributors list.

Publications

MW had nothing to report for this meeting.

AOB

TS reported on the DHB consultative meeting. The Clock Tower has been listed, so moving it may be more difficult. He also reported that discussions are going on about the Churchill Hotel, which could be open in the summer.

MM asked if the Executive should make further representation about the Dover Seafront. Concern was expressed about the likely completion date of the work.

GH asked that his business email address be used for Society correspondence:
sghale2@hotmail.com.

AS reported that the Stembrook car park would be closed on 12 July as a result of the football coverage and that this would include Castle Street.

PS reported on conversations he has had with David Hannett. There was confusion about the costs of the big screen in the Market Square. Mr Hannett is looking for volunteers to water the Castle Street flower baskets on a rota basis.

DL showed the new plaque for Thomas Pattenden. TS suggested that John Yarrow and the Vicar of St Mary's be invited to the unveiling, which should be done by Kath Hollingsbee.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Thursday 8 July, 7.30pm in St Paul's Church meeting room.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.10 hours.