

The Dover Society.

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on January 12th 2012 at St Paul's Parish room, Dover.

1 Apologies:-Alan Sencicle, Mike McFarlane, Jean Marsh, Jack Woolford and Barbara Stapleton.

2 Minutes: These were signed with one minor change.

3 Matters Arising: Harriet Quimby. The suggested speaker (Gia) will not now speak at the AGM. The speaker will be Mr Bob Hollingsbee.

4 Chairman's Report: A number of suggested recommendations were made for the chairman to put forward when he attends the next meeting of the Port Community Trust working group. These included the trust's committee should have 13 members (including a representative of The Dover Society) with the chairman having the casting vote. The main beneficiary of any finance should be Dover town either directly or indirectly.

The chairman produced a 40th anniversary brochure about the work of The Harwich Society and pointed out it was The Dover Society's 25th anniversary of its foundation next year. It was agreed that The Dover Society produce and publish a special edition of the newsletter detailing the society's history and achievements over those years. It was agreed the chairman (Derek) should produce the first draft.

5 Secretary's Report: Arrangements were in hand for the AGM. Georgette Rapley announced she would not be standing for re-election to the committee. She was thanked for her work by the chairman who pointed out that a replacement Speakers' Secretary would be required. A number of possible candidates to stand for election to the committee were suggested.

6 Treasurer's Report: The treasurer detailed the following-subscriptions received during the last month amounted to £6 for the current year and £6 for the next financial year; £695 paid to Adams for the December newsletter; £35 paid for an advertisement relating to the 2012 Dover Film Festival; income from the raffle at the Christmas Feast amounted to £188 but the invoice for the venue etc not yet received; interest for the quarter on the Caf account amounted to £13.17.

7 Membership Secretary: Now, following deaths, there were 451 members (last number 1107) including new members-Messrs D. Rhys and G. Wiltshire. Agreed that Chairman should make a point of welcoming new members at meetings and urge them to see the Membership Secretary.

8 Projects: Jeremy Cope reported those organisations willing to help finance maintenance of the Dour during the 12 months from April. After some debate it was agreed The Dover Society should contribute £250. Voting-two abstentions but no one voted against.

DDC have not renewed the Cowgate parking permits and the outcome is awaited on our appeal.

9 Refurbishment subcommittee:

a) Sec 215 improvement to neglected properties. The Society is involved in the discussions between DTC and DDC.

b) An alternative to walkway no 1 is being investigated

c) Alan Lee to be asked to join in with correspondence with KCC on street trees

d) A report was given on the Heritage Strategy Consultative meeting

e) Agreed to approach Pam Brivio to enquire if she is willing to join sub-committee as secretary.

10 Town Hall: It was agreed unanimously that The Dover Society finance the cost (up to £2,000 for 1,000 copies) of the possible publication of a guide to Dover Town Hall for sale to the public with money from the society's publication fund. It was also agreed to spend £120 on half-day training courses for Town Hall volunteer guides. The money was to be taken from contributions from visitors to the society's tours of the Town Hall.

11 Social Secretary: Patricia reported a steep increase in the hire, next Christmas, of the Refectory at Dover College. There followed a debate if the "feast" should be held elsewhere (St Mary's parish centre if available) and the season during which it should be held. It was agreed the chairman (Derek) draft a questionnaire for the next newsletter to get members' views. The planned outing in October would clash with the Society's October meeting. Patricia would try to move the Society's meeting to 22 October.

The March speaker on Walmer Castle had asked for a postponement and Damien Hill would speak on Kent and Dover accents instead.

12 Planning and Local Government: Pat, chairman of this sub committee, submitted a written report and went on to explain the sub committee's views on the planning applications for a hotel and 11 metre high LED advertising screen at the corner of Townwall Street and Woolcomber Street. It was agreed this should be opposed. Pat also detailed criticism of aspects of the overall St James' scheme (as outlined in his draft letter to DDC). It was agreed this draft letter should be e-mailed to all executive committee members for their views before finalising.

13 Press Secretary: Nothing significant.

14 Editor's report: material for next Newsletter in hand

15 Publications: Nothing to report.

16 AOB:

Film Festival 5/6 March

K College's new community facility in The Paddock may be suitable for Society meetings

Mike McFarnell was pleased with initial response to Tattoo ticket sales.