

Minutes of the 170th meeting of The Dover Society Executive July 12 2012.

PRESENT: Jeremy Cope (chairman), Sheila Cope, Di French, Glyn Hale, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Susan Jones, Alan Lee, Jean Marsh, Mike McFarnell, William Naylor, Alan Sencicle, Patrick Sherratt, Mike Weston (treasurer) and Terry Sutton.
APOLOGIES: Derek Leach.

MINUTES: Minutes of both June 14 and June 28 were accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

CHINA GATEWAY: It was agreed unanimously that the society's submission on China Gateway's planning application be sent to Dover District Council, the planning authority. (ACTION DEREK).

During discussion it was suggested that "guidance" be sought from English Heritage (EH) about its future plans for the Western Heights. What is EH going to do with the Heights if China Gateway's planning application is rejected? Guidance should also be sought from DDC on its view about housing in AONB, such as the Farthingloe Valley.

DHB's REVISED PRIVATISATION SCHEME: It was reported members had expressed several views on the draft Society submission to the Minister on this scheme. None was opposed to the draft.

It was agreed the Society's submission be sent to the minister (Proposed Mike Weston, seconded Di French). (ACTION DEREK LEACH).

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Jeremy reported he and Derek attended a Heritage meeting about which there was a 600-page report. It was agreed a sub-committee (Derek, Patrick Jeremy with Susan consulted) should study the report and to send its findings to the executive. Arrangements had been made to make a presentation to Jack Woolford.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None

TREASURER: No outgoing expenditure during the month, subs received £168, Town Hall tours raised £147 for Town Hall fund, publication fund received £278.48 from sale of 141 Hidden Fortress booklets. Claim for £590.63 made to Revenue for Gift Aid repayments.

MEMBERSHIP: No new members, two died. Total membership 466.

PROJECTS: Jeremy reported on progress at Cowgate and Dour where "dredging" was expected at Charlton Green. Interest had been lodged, without any financial liability, about an application for funds (estimated at £30,000) to improve the footpath between Northfall Meadow and Langdon Cliffs.

In a written report Derek informed that Town Hall tours were now being held, not only on Wednesdays, when cruise ships were in port.

SOCIAL SECRETARY: Patricia reported Goldsmiths Hall tour in October now full.

PLANNING: Patrick reported progress was being made on improving the look of Dover properties following Section 215 letters of warning to owners. DDC now looking at taking similar action in other areas of Dover. Concern was expressed about the number of alcohol licensing applications in convenience stores and the apparent lack of police views and comment on these applications. It was agreed Patrick should write to Kent Police about this lack of comment. ACTION; PATRICK.

PRESS SECRETARY: Jeremy commented favourably on a report in that day's Dover Express.

EDITOR: Alan said deadline for the next Newsletter was September 5.

PUBLICATIONS: Nothing.

AOB: Di French asked for support in persuading the health centre in Maison Dieu Road to clear up an area in front of the centre. It was agreed Di should compose a draft letter and send it to chairman Derek for him to send to the health centre.
ACTION: DI AND DEREK.