

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 10 January 2013
at St Paul's Parish room, Dover

Present: Derek Leach (Chair), Jeremy Cope, Di French, Glyn Hale, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Alan Lee, Mike McFarnell, Jean Marsh, Bill Naylor, Alan Sencicle, Pat Sherratt, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston.

1. Apologies

Apologies from Sheila Cope and Susan Jones.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2012 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

- **London Fancy Box** – To make clear the amount received is half of the amount of the cost to produce the special 25th Anniversary Newsletter edition.
- **Banners** – They are on display for the committee to see. The cost has increased because VAT was not taken into account **plus £15 for delivery making** the total cost now £142.80.
- **Posters** – Copy of poster seen. Some changes to be made. AL to correct.
- **Gun Turret, Admiralty Pier** – a response has been received from DHB. The Turret **is included in a structural review of all DHB historic assets. This was welcomed.**
- **25th Anniversary Newsletter** – it is required by end of February to go out with the March Newsletter.
- **Website** – assistance is still required by Mike McFarnell. **AL is checking content.** Sue Jones has put The Dover Society on Facebook.

4. Chairman's Report

DDC Consultations – There are two, Land Allocations Pre-Submission Local Plan, deadline 21 February and Community Infrastructure Levy, deadline 7 March. **JC, PS and DAL to consider and produce draft responses.**

Western Heights – A draft letter **prepared by JC, PS and DL**, regarding the revised **outline** planning application by CGI, was discussed by committee members. Concerns were raised about the phrase "but presumably commercially impossible". The chair to rephrase this to ensure the S106 is not renegotiated downwards **and to submit in time to meet response deadline.**

It was agreed to ask Joan **Liggett** to take on the role of booking speakers.

Received an email from Paul Wells about updating the Dover's Hidden Fortress publication. As there are about a 1000 copies **of the present book still left and the outcome of Drop Redoubt proposals not known**, it was agreed to leave this for the time being.

5. Secretary's Report

The Secretary had nothing to report.

6. Treasurer's Report

The figures have been circulated by email to committee members prior to the meeting. A donation of £375 was received from London Fancy Box Company. This will cover half the costs of producing the 25th Anniversary Newsletter. A donation of £10 for the projects fund was received. This will go towards the cost of fuel used in the machinery at Cowgate. Two Society badges purchased for £9. The Town Hall fund received £50.20 from Town Hall Tours. The Christmas Lunch brought in a surplus of £128.12, after paying hotel staff a gratuity of £60, raffle prizes costing £13.32 and £150 for the entertainment by Stephen Yarrow. He will

be donating his fee to a charity of his choice. The raffle receipts made £221. A thank you to all those who participated in running the raffle.

The bookings so far for the Wine and Wisdom evening and the Red House and Greenwich are satisfactory.

The quarterly interest credited to our Caf account was £13.34.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

We have three new members: Dr John Allingham from Lympne, who is a qualified medical practitioner, involved in local medical politics and would possibly write for the Newsletter. Ms Beverley Hall, Castle Avenue, has a transport and planning background and used to work for Transport for London. Mrs Elizabeth Parker-Gorman. Last allocated number 1138, total members 447.

Received £20 donation from June Nott for newsletter postage..

8. Projects

- **Cowgate** – still making progress
- **River Dour** – waiting for response from DTC and Temple Ewell Parish Council.
- **No. 1 Walk** – Hope to get Pay back team to help.
- **Plaques** – Charlton House Plaque, still waiting to hear from owner.
- **Local Trust Lottery Funding** – a paper was circulated to the committee members with suggested aims for any grant, ideas, caveats and Di French's wish list for Dover. This was discussed and agreed to wait until the meeting being held by Carl Adams is attended to obtain more information.

9. Refurbishment

Old Post Office – agreed a letter of thanks be sent to Sandilands Dental Surgery for renovating the building.

Johnny Diesel's house – in Castle Street is now looking very good with work being carried out at the front and rear of the building

Zero Tolerance – to start next month.

Listed Buildings – Maureen is researching Western Heights and Joan Folkestone Road.

New Plaques – a list of possible candidates was discussed and agreed a short list of three. The River Tram accident of 1917, Thomas Tallis, 1505 to 1585, appointed organist of Dover Priory in 1532, and Lorna Bomford, leader in Dover's Suffragist movement and first woman Dover Corporation councillor.

10. Town Hall Refurbishment/Guided Tours

Still no Executive strategy meeting arranged by DDC. Nigel Collor has been asked to help, The post cards of the stained windows have been received and met with approval. They cost 7p each but will sell for 25p to 30p. They will also be in packs of 6. The guided tours will recommence from Wednesday 16 January.

11. Social Secretary's Report

The Christmas feast was a success and the Marina Hotel was a good venue, but there was a waiting list and not every one could go.

A provisional booking has been made for this year's Christmas feast on 7 December 2013 at the Town Hall. This venue can take more than the Marina Hotel, and it was agreed to hold it there for the same price.

12. Planning

- **DTIZ** – Sample/test boring on hotel site. Due to the financial situation of Travelodge, this has resulted in another hotel group taking on the project. Changeover negotiations well in advance.
- **Buckland Hospital** – Planning application not yet submitted. The Dover Society has already made comments at "Scoping Document" stage in particular the need to protect adjacent land for any future hospital expansion as the proposed hospital falls short of the facilities secured in 2008. Good press coverage but no readers' letters indicates the apathy that exists in Dover.

- **Castle Rise Fence** – KCC listing Jul 29. The new way marker signs are in position **on the illegal route**, unlikely a **change** will be secured.
- **DHB**– Minister made decision on 20th December declining DHB **privatisation** application.
- **DCC** – Land Sites Consultation Paper on DDC website. DL/JC/PS to meet to evaluate The Dover Society's response
- **Dover District Green Infrastructure Plan** – No further information.
- **ABC Cinema, Castle Street** – As agreed at last meeting, PS has written to Chief Executive of Wetherspoons this week.
- **Consultation re Open Space Policy and Standards** – No information
- **River Dour Cycle Route** – Work around Stembrook/Pencester Gardens seem to be about to commence as ground markings.
- **Section 215 Stage One (Town Centre/Castle Street etc)** – No further updates to report. It is unlikely that renovation work will be under taken during the winter months. It has been suggested to DDC/DTC that suitable "thank you" letters be sent to properties that have completed. The first Section 215 Notice has been served on 1 Athol Terrace.
- **Section 215 Stage Two (Folkestone Road)** – No further inspection until April.
- **Kent Invicta Statue** – No news. To be taken off Agenda list.
- **Update on Police (following request at Executive)** – No further items. Reminder to report incidents and let PS have details and "Incident" reference. DTC did have a meeting with Police but not asked to attend.
- **English Heritage at Risk** - No further item.
- **ARWP Dover Priory Station** – KCC acknowledged and awaiting a date. Possible upgrade with "£1 million Dover Grant".

DTC Planning Committee

Latest Committee Meeting on 7 January, minutes on DTC website. The Dover Society is particularly interested in the finance of the S215 project, which has been set at £20k this year. Subject to final precept agreement £10k has been allocated for 2013/2014. Also agreed that any unspent from 2012/2013 will be in identified "Reserve Fund".

DDC Signage and Shop Fronts in Conservation Areas Guidelines Document. The recent "Retro" application for 38 Castle Street was decided outside DTC planning Committee and made no reference to complying with this document. This is of particular importance following the Holland and Barratt application. Agreed that any further signage request within Conservation Area that DTC will remind DDC Planning that the application must deliver within guidelines of the Signage and Shop Fronts in Conservation Areas guidelines.

Correspondence

Since 1 November The Dover Society made comments to DDC Planning in respect of two planning applications. Correspondence has been made with KCC re ARWP, the Police District Commander, and to Wetherspoons about the former ABC Cinema in Castle Street.

Other Items

The list of Planning Committee Members is still not correct in the Newsletter.
Bushy Ruff House – Advised DDC contact as Mike Dawson and Cllr. Geoff Lymer.

13. Press Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

14. Editor's Report

The deadline for the next newsletter is 16 January. The AGM date is **now 15** April 2013.

15. Publications

Nothing to report.

16. Any other business

MW has Treasurer's records in his loft dating many years. It was agreed he should keep all the annual accounts and cashbooks but other documents more than 7 years old could be wasted.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 14 February 2013, at 7.30 pm at St Paul's Parish Rooms, Dover.