

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 13 June 2013
at St Paul's Parish room, Dover

Present: Derek Leach (Chair), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Glyn Hale, Beverley Hall, Susan Jones, Alan Lee, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston. The Chairman welcomed Beverley to her first meeting.

1. Apologies

Alan Sencicle, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Pat Sherratt, Jean Marsh and Mike McFarnell

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2013 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

Covered by the agenda.

4. Chairman's Report

DHB wished to discuss applying to a new Heritage Lottery Fund to help regenerate the gun turret.

Pat Francis who owns Stansfield Lodge in Temple Ewell has been researching the building's history. Sir William Crundall, 13 times Mayor of Dover, he says once lived in the house and the owner has requested a Blue Plaque to note this and is willing to pay for it. This was agreed in principle subject to further discussions with him.

Paul Wells asked if The Dover Society would have a stall in the Drop Redoubt Guard Room on Saturday but no one was available.

5. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

6. Treasurer's Report

The figures had been circulated by email to committee members prior to the meeting.

Subscriptions received last month for this financial year totalled £404.00, for the next financial year £10.00. We received donations of £8.00.

The newsletter advertising brought in £6.00 this month.

The publication fund received £16.00 from the sale of 4 booklets, "Dover's Hidden Fortress". Postage paid out was £12.00.

We paid Celsur Plastics Ltd £259.20 for a further 50 newsletter binders which are in the same format and colour as those we have had previously. If anyone wants further binders they are with Alan Lee at a cost of £5.25 each.

Tours of the Town Hall brought in £67.00 to the Town Hall Fund.

Under miscellaneous £30.00 was paid out fro a wreath, which was laid at the Zeebrugge memorial service.

Both accounts for the AGM and the outing to The Red House have been completed and are both in profit, the AGM by £29.89 and the outing by £130.00.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

We have four new members: Mrs Mary Nicholls from The Gateway, Mr Christopher Burke and Ms Jacqueline Edwards from Shepherdswell who ticked all the boxes on the membership form plus translation/interpretation, and Mr Lockyer from Hove who is writing a book on Dover. Last allocated number 1158, total members are 458.

8. Projects

- **Cowgate** – waiting response from Ann Barns whilst she obtains more information from the Police.
- **River Dour** – Will be holding a meeting in July to try and forge ahead with the group. In the meantime we are getting reactions to attempt to have a green Dour Park as part of Parks Strategy.

- **Plaques** – Nothing further to report on the Keottlitz plaque, as we have not received any response to our reminders.
It was agreed that The Society could make a contribution to Dover College of up to £100 toward cost of architect's drawings.
- **Paths** – we are still struggling to get Payback Team working on the No. 1 walk. Connaught Road/Godwyne Path – Holding letter from KCC hopefully with result soon.
- **Dover Big Local Trust** – The Big Conversation Day on 25 May at the Town Hall was seen as a success. We are looking to employ community development worker to analyse information from the public. A training scheme is needed for seeking matched funding. A web site has been set up as "Doverbiglocal".
Alan Lee was asked to update the committee on the meeting held on 5 June.

9. Refurbishment

Meeting of PS, DAL and JC with DDC.

Zero Tolerance – there will be 3 environmental enforcement officers in place by the end of the summer. They will work from 6.00 am to 9.00 pm, 7 days a week. DDC will target hot spot areas. The aim is to get all DDC officers to multi task so that problems incidentally arising will be cross-referred.

Anti Social Behaviour – particularly drinking. DDC explained policy including licensees' restriction on sales. Problems of driving out drinkers from the town centre to eg Connaught Park was discussed and the need for "Wet Rooms".

Cowgate – will keep Council and MP in the loop

Connaught Park pond – will be repaired soon. Support for volunteers welcomed..

Litter Collection – discussed problems of properties where occupants did not care or understand requirements. Need for notices in tenanted properties in appropriate languages. In desperate cases of litter on private land Environmental Health officers are available. Made point of coordination between street sweepers and rubbish collectors.

Deposit Scheme – on bottles and cans explained to DDC and Pat Sherratt to investigate further.

Litter on A roads – JC to write to MP and Paul Carter. "A" roads are the responsibility of local councils but not motorways but Dover has an unfair share, costing £60K per year.

River Dour and role of WCCP – DDC to confirm but I expect we will need to chase this.

Street Trees – pressed the case of street trees to DDC to be more proactive.

DDC – explained the enormous present funding cuts and those to come.

10. Town Hall Refurbishment/Guided Tours

No progress to report on the refurbishment.

Guided tours – meeting of guides.

Guide books on Maison Dieu on sale in the Town Hall for £4 and £5 in shops.

Project to get the schools involved and to consider applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund for educational packs for school parties.

11. Social Secretary's Report

The July trip to Quebec House and Chartwell House has taken about £448. St Catherine's

Dock and Silvertown Music Hall has taken £270 and we need more people for this one.

Flyers will be going out in the next newsletter about the St Catherine's Dock outing and the Christmas Feast.

12. Planning

- **DTIZ** – still no revised plan for "Multiplex Cinema" or "adjustment to hotel". Hope to ascertain latest situation at meeting with Nadeem Aziz.
- **Buckland Hospital** – Permission granted at DDC Planning Committee on 30 May 2013. No interest by DDC Planning Committee about future facilities.
See separate attachments:
 1. Email text sent to all Councillors on the Planning Committee
 2. Text of verbal presentation to DDC Planning Committee by Chair of The Dover Society Planning Committee.

- 3. Resume of the meeting. Planning Committee unanimously agreed that the Society should continue to campaign for the beds at Buckland and hope the Executive indorse this recommendation.
- **Castle Rise Fence** – Now on the Refurbishment Committee.
- **DHB and Seafront** – Bob Goldfield has “retired”. Noted with disgust the manipulation of salaries to endure higher pension and severance package.
- **DCC – Land Sites**. Awaiting final report from DDC following the consultation period. The Dover Society made comments.
- **Dover District Green Infrastructure Plan** – No further information. Possible Plan update at some future date.
- **ABC Cinema, Castle Street** – No further information than reported at the 7 May meeting.
- **Consultation re Open Space Policy and Standards** – Comments to DDC by 25 July 2013. Working Group of DL, JC, PS, AND r NEWSOM (River Dour Group) to be arranged. Various items discussed at Planning Committee to be encompassed in draft response to DDC.
- **Western Heights** – Was initially on DDC Planning Committee as second item on 30 May. However, removed to be discussed at a future date.
- **River Dour Cycle Route** – Nothing further than that reported on at the 7 May meeting.
- **Section 215 Stage One (Town Centre/Castle Street etc)** – Update walkabout made on 14 May. Still the same situation as pre-winter. Updated summary list sent to DDC Enforcement Officer.
- **Section 215 Stage Two (Folkestone Road)** – Update walk-about to be arranged.
- **Section 215** - Help to members. No new requests.
- **Update on police (following request at Executive)** – Continue dialogue with Ann Barnes and Dover Divisional Commander but no positive action. Concern at lack of policing in “fringe” areas after new “Zero Tolerance” area introduced, in particular Harold Passage and evidence of some former Pencester Garden occupants now in Connaught Park. Reported three anti-social behaviour incidents all-occurring within 1½ hours including one urinating in the street. Incident concerning eight damaged shop windows in Town Centre, arrest and charge made..
- **English Heritage at Risk** - As per comments made at 7 May meeting.
- **ARWP Dover Priory Station** – Still waiting for KCC to attend. Have repeated request through DDC Enforcement Officer.

DTC Planning Committee

To be held on 10 June. Minutes will be on DTC website.

Correspondence

Most correspondence has been with regard to the hospital. However a wall at 37 Castle Avenue was demolished to enable a front garden to be used as “off street” parking. An urgent email was sent to DDC who inspected this, but as it is not in a Conservation Area or Listed it is permitted. This is of great concern is if this sets a precedent for other walls in Park Avenue/Castle Avenue to be removed for parking. With no “dropped kerb” the legality of driving across the pavement is raised.

AOB

None.

Next meeting on Tuesday 2 July at 7.30 pm at Castle Lea.

DL attended DDC Planning Committee meeting prior to attending this meeting and gave an account of the unfinished discussions regarding the Western Heights/Farthingloe application. Details of the meeting are on the DDC website [Agenda for Planning Committee on Thursday, 13th June, 2013, 6.00 pm](#)

13. Press Secretary’s Report

Nothing to report.

14. Editor's Report

The next newsletter, to be issued in July.

15. Publications

Nothing to report.

16. Any other business

The outing to St Catherine's Dock is on the 12 September, the same day as the Executive meeting. Agreed to delay meeting to the following Thursday, 19 September.

Vice President Lillian Kay died last Thursday. The funeral was Tuesday 18 June.

The Deputy Constable of Dover Castle, Brigadier Simon Wolsey, has moved out and is to be replaced by Chris Claydon. It is understood that the new Brigadier will remain in the Castle for only a year. If this happens, it will be the first time since Roman times that no military presence will be living in the Castle.

Sue Jones mentioned the A256 and the periodic litter collecting on this road without lanes being closed. She will look into why the A2 is different.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 11 July, at 7.30 pm at St Paul's Parish Rooms, Dover.