

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

**Present:** Derek Leach (Chair), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Susan Jones, Alan Lee, Mike McFarnell, Jean Marsh, Alan Sencicle, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston.

**1. Apologies**

Beverley Hall, Glyn Hale, Pat Sherratt, Patricia Hooper -Sherratt

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

Page 4, line 4, item should read Congregational instead of Unitarian. As the members of the Executive Committee receive copies of various reports before the meeting, it has been agreed the details of these reports will not be transcribed into the minutes. Only the decisions and action points will be recorded. .

**3. Matters Arising**

None

**4. Chairman's Report**

Charlie Elphick, MP for Dover and Deal, would like to attend a session with the Executive Committee but is not able to come to this meeting and will now be in the New Year before a date can be fixed.

Paul Watkins had announced the TV screen in the Market Square would be removed next month.

There is to be a press release on the DDC Open Spaces Strategy.

DL researched the Electoral Registers for Temple Ewell and River for an entry of William Crundall's father living at Stalisfield Lodge, Temple Ewell. There was no evidence that the family lived there therefore recommended that a plaque by The Dover Society cannot be considered. However the owner is free to do so as long as it is not associated with The Dover Society.

The reasons for The Dover Society not contributing towards the cost of netting the cinema building in Castle Street, owned by Wetherspoons, was explained to Adeline Reidy by the Chairman. The explanation was accepted but not agreed with.

The sponsor forms for Charlene Mineau have been completed. We are in advance discussions as to where she will be based and she has yet to secure accommodation.

A draft of the Dover Heritage Volunteers Business Plan 2013/14 had been circulated to members before the meeting. A discussion followed and the comment about insurance is the main concern. MW to check with The Dover Society insurers regarding public liability if the society undertakes guided tours of Dover.

At the DTC Remembrance Day parade TS will lay a wreath on behalf of the society.

**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.

During the past month the accounts for 2012/13 have been audited and signed off on 23 September 2013.

The publication fund received £56 from the sale of Town Hall booklets and the Town Hall Fund received £194.47 from Town Hall tours.

A donation of £160 was received from a member who asked that £80 plus a gift aid of £20, which this attracts, be given to The Friends of Connaught Park, and this has been done. The other £80 was returned to the donor after this committee decided not to contribute towards the cost of banners for the cinema in Castle Street.

We paid £15.56 for the continuation of the society's web name.

The society's outing to Brick Lane has joined the completed functions list with a surplus of £30.

We also received, for the last quarter, £7.08 in interest from our Caf account.  
During the last month the society was authorised by Dover Big Local to pay out £1440 from the money we are holding on their behalf.

### **7. Membership Secretary's Report**

We have two new members: Mr Michael and Mrs Elaine Barker. Last allocated number 1167, total members are 461.

### **8. Projects**

- Cowgate – continuing with maintenance with one new recruit
- Plaques – Tallis plaque now in production – Contacting builder to install
- Connaught Rd – Godwyne path. Last of fencing removed and vegetation cleared
- Path on Upper Road. Intention to get under with clearing the section alongside Upper Road between Bleriot Memorial and right of way leading to cliffs. KCC will be emailed notifying them of our intentions. Email received from National Trust of their continued interest. Member John Morgan has warned of dangers of this section of road to anyone carrying out clearance work and this problem is fully recognised

### **9. Refurbishment**

Sub-committee for refurbishment of Dover

- Committee will not meet until Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October.
- Big Local. Executive asked to agree proposing to Big Local that (at their expense) letters with reply paid envelopes are sent to members asking for their input into ideas for Big Local vision and plan.
- Police Liaison Group. To be dealt with at meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> October. Jenny Olpin makes following points:
  - a) Done within the strategy set out by Executive.
  - b) With increasing lack of LA funding the need for local input into police liaison is vital
  - c) Will keep Derek and Pat in info loop allowing for inputs

### **10. Town Hall Refurbishment/Guided Tours**

The courtroom is now out of action due to part of the ceiling collapsing. Again Roger Walton was approached, as this seems an opportune time to have a meeting about the future of the building. He agreed but no date has been set.

Guided Tours – we are open all day Wednesday until end of October, for November it will be the mornings only, then closed for December and January. We will start again in February and March, opening on Wednesday mornings, the full day from April. We also have two more volunteers.

### **11. Social Secretary's Report**

At the present time only 32 members have booked for the Christmas Feast.

### **12. Planning**

PS has circulated the Planning Committee minutes in advance. A discussion followed. PS has requested press support about the amount of land DDC want to sell off by Buckland Hospital, leaving no room for future expansion. It was agreed that TS would write a piece for the press.

Regarding the possible mural on 13 /13A Cannon Street, which is within the Dover Conservation Area. It was agreed to inform the chairman at the next Planning Committee meeting to write to owner of the property pointing out this so as to deal with informally. The next meeting is on Tuesday 5 November.

### **13. Press Secretary's Report**

The local papers still contact the society for their views.

### **14. Editor's Report**

The newsletter will be out on time.

Requesting donations for Christmas raffle.

Need helpers for research

From next March need more stories and articles.

#### **15. Publications**

Nothing to report.

#### **16. Any other business**

SJ informed the committee that the construction of all street lamps is being inspected. Any lamp found to have failed are being cut in half. This has happened in St Radigunds where 12 have been cut down and left the area in total darkness, and it will be about 3 weeks before they are replaced.

AS pointed out the different spelling for Radigunds in the Heritage Open Day leaflet. For the area it is Radigunds with an "i" and for the Ancient Monument Abbey it is Radegunds with an "e".

AS had no response from SE Railways or the Dept. of Trade about the accuracy of the information given by SE Railways. After viewing the TV about capping fares, sent email to named person, Anthony Smith. We have exchanged emails about the section on advance fares and agreed there are none on SE Railways. Will write again about the day returns and the different anomalies.

The "Atherton's at home" on 6 October went well and note of thanks to the Atherton's. JC informed that there is a new member for Cowgate.

#### **Date of next meeting**

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