

Minutes of the Executive Committee of The Dover Society held on Thursday, September 11th 2014.

Present: Derek Leach (chairman), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, John Cotton, Glyn Hale, Jean Marsh, Beverley Hall, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Pat Sherratt, Terry Sutton and Mike Weston.

Apologies: Alan Sencicle, Alan Lee, **Sylvie Parsons**, Mike McFarnell.

Minutes: The minutes of 10th July 2014 were agreed as correct.

Matters Arising: It was decided that future committee meetings would be held at St Mary's parish centre, at least to the end of December. It was reported that the Priory Station floral project (led by Sylvie Parsons) had been abandoned because of problems with the railway authorities. Decision to be made on external donations to the project.

Chairman: Derek reported on DHB port issues including progress on the "Blue Bird" heritage trail. It was agreed to ask Ray Newsam to write an article for Dover Life on the River Dour (Action by Jeremy Cope). It was reported Brigadier Maurice Atherton had indicated his wish to stand down as our President. **We would need to consider a replacement procedure and a possible successor.**

Treasurer: Mike Weston reported- Subscriptions in last two months amounted to £134 while newsletter advertising brought in £178.

Newsletter printers paid £695, annual membership to CPRE £40, annual cost to website £70.13, Open Day heritage leaflets £95.99 (from publication fund), £128 received from Town Hall tours, WCCTA had donated £500 to Priory Station floral project, July trip to Ypres showed £10 profit. Society paid out £4,189. 93 from Dover Big Local Fund, with £27,035. 81 remaining in that fund we hold for it. River Dour Partnership

Fund stands at £525 after £378 paid out. Gift Aid payment received from Revenue and Customs amounted to £854.

Membership: Sheila reported membership standing at 471. New members Sarah-Jayne and Ralph Hart, Sandy Beer, Derek and Joyce Kay. Last number 1205.

Projects: Jeremy reported on the River Dour Steering Group (including possibility of acquisition of Lorne Road lake and the need to increase variety of fish in the river). He also reported on negotiations with agents for owners for the placing of the "tram accident" plaque at Crabble.

Refurbishment: There was a discussion on the importance of tourism to Dover and complaints about traffic speed in Maison Dieu Road. Jeremy agreed to write letters, asking for speed checks, to authorities including KCC and DDC.

Town Hall Tours: Derek read from a DDC report on the appointment of consultants to draw up a sustainable business plan for the future of the Town Hall. **£1K would be contributed toward the cost from our Town Hall Fund.**

Social Secretaries: Patricia spoke about the possibility of future trip to Ypres and progress on a projected visit to Oxford next year. Beverley reported on ticket sales for the Christmas Feast. **Derek would invite the Mayor.**

Planning: Patrick submitted a detailed report on planning issues including an update on DTIZ, demolition of the Granada cinema in Castle Street and on the latest Section 215 action. There was considerable debate on Dover district councillors' decision to take no action on the CMW, Maison Dieu Road (Woolcomber Street) issue, contrary to officers' recommendation (and Dover Society views). It was agreed to take no further action at this stage. It was noted the Society's concern had been **sent to the Leader of DDC and published in both local newspapers by chairman Derek.. To progress the possibility of an interpretation panel for the Priory Station ARP post Derek would draft some text.**

Press: Nothing of significance to report.

Editor: Not present. No report

Publication: Nothing to report.

AOB: The subject of collecting information on World War One fortifications was discussed and it was agreed there was a need to avoid volunteers duplicating collection of information.