

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 4 December 2014
at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover

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

1. Apologies Alan Sencicle, Sylvie Parsons,

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2014 to be amended. Page 2, paragraph 9, line 26, MMcF should read MW.

3. Matters Arising

New President. A draft copy of the proposed method of selecting a new President has been circulated to the members of the Executive Committee. The wording has been agreed and will be in the March 2015 issue of the Newsletter for The Dover Society membership to put forward names. There will be a deadline of 30 April 2015 and the replies to be sent to the Secretary. The Executive Committee will then decide **who to invite to be the** new President from the suggestions made.

4. Chairman's Report

Community Fund Committee. The Bishop of Dover was contacted and confirmed his **invitation** of a Dover Society representative on the Board of Trustees. The committee **agreed** **three possible names**. There is a meeting next week and DL will find out what is involved before anyone is approached.

Received an invite to attend the 25th anniversary of the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership on 5 December.

Plaque Leaflet. As no reply has been received from Jon Iveson Adams the printers were contacted. They suggested a six-folded leaflet in colour and an example was shown to the committee. It can be updated as and when and suggested it be renamed to Historic Plaque **Trail** of Dover and drop the word Millennium. The cost of designing is £35 **an hour** but awaiting for the cost of printing 1000 copies (**confirmed as £248 for 1000 and £304 for 2000**). Heritage Trail Meeting. We are submitting our **application** to the Lottery Heritage Fund **shortly** but there is the possibility that some aspects may be criticised. Plan B is for the App and Up and Over Downs **hopefully** to donate money towards the cost of £15K. There is a need for The Dover Society and Big Local to match funding of £2000. In principle it was agreed for the **Society** to give **up to** £1000 from the General Fund. There is the question as to who is going to keep it up to date.

5. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

6. Treasurer's Report

The financial report for this month was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

The monies received in November are:

- £34.00 for subscriptions for this financial year
- £33.16 from the sale of various publications to the publication fund
- £114.00 received from advertising in the Newsletter.

We paid out

- £695.00 to Adams Printers for the publication of the November Newsletter.
- £71.66 for postage of the "out of area" newsletters
- £22.86 for stationery and incidental postage costs.
- £90.86 for spare parts and overhaul of the Cowgate strimmers from the projects fund.

Our November meeting made a loss of £25.72. The numbers attending were similar to October's meeting but the raffle only netted £55.00 compared with £97.00 in the previous month, a difference of £42.00.

At the end of November 92 people have paid for the Christmas Lunch.

During last month the Society was authorised to pay out £1,808.29 by Dover Big Local, from the money we are holding on their behalf. We are now holding £22,634.43 of Dover Big Local funds.

Nothing was paid out from the money we hold on behalf of the River Dour Partnership so therefore the amount held remains at £405.81.

Membership Secretary's Report

We have 3 new members this month.

They are:

Mrs Aileen Friend of The Gateway

Rev. Ken Child of Wingham who would write for the Newsletter.

Mr Michael Jeffrey of Albany House.

Last allocated number 1215, total members are 479.

8. Projects

- Cowgate – a good November Saturday but on Thursday 4 December, only myself attended with strimmer but good work done. Some members are not attending and we do need one or two younger members. Also spoken to Roger Walton about the needles in the cemetery.
- River Plaque – the plaque has been made and was shown to the committee. Now needs to be installed and to decide who will unveil it and when. Will contact Malcolm Mitchell and ask if freeholder wants to be present and confirm transfer of ownership. I will also contact John Hill to install. DL suggested inviting River Parish Council to attend. The date to be confirmed.
- Es Flogen Plaque – to contact Jon Iveson again about our wording and to suggest alternative if appropriate.
- River Dour – there was a meeting last week and progress is still to be put in place. The proposal of fish passes at Morrisons supermarket is a good place but at Halfords it is too steep. EA should be improving the environment where fish passes cannot be put in. The Mill Pond in Lawn Road/London Road is up for sale for £30K. DTC funding involvement and need to assess if reasonable or not. The access is not good and all issues need to be addressed.

9. Refurbishment

- Big Local
 - Our plan has been accepted and MW should soon receive an extra £75K to hold for DBL.
 - We hope to appoint another LTO to take on the extra admin burden, treasurer in part, and management of grants with particular task of ensuring no conflicts of interest. This should leave the committee and focus groups much freer to drive policy and projects forward. Three candidates to be interviewed in December.
 - We hope to hold a meeting on the evening of 27 January 2015 at 6.00pm when the Kingston University students will present ideas on planning and development of Dover allowing input from DBL and The Dover Society.
- Need to co-ordinate Dover walks and still pushing forward with DBL and Bluebird Trail.
- Litter – spoke to Roger Walton about getting someone to speak to us about litter policy and enforcement.
- MW and I have yet to have a go at Upper Road. A reminder was sent to Denise Roffey.
- MMcF has 2 photographs for AL (DBL) showing places where DBL projects could be of benefit. The places are at the back of McDonalds opposite New Street.
- A traffic draft letter has been sent to members of the committee for comment. A discussion followed and it was agreed for BH to also draft a letter for comparison at the next meeting.
- Street trees liaising with AL, which also part of Dover's traffic problems. AL has asset register of every street tree in Dover.

10. Town Hall Refurbishment/Guided Tours

Nothing to report.

11. Social Secretary's Report

BH – confirmed she has 96 paid bookings for the Christmas Feast with 4 guests, the three entertainers and the Mayor. There may be another 6 bookings taking the total to 106. The Town Hall to be paid on Monday and a table plan to be made and displayed.

Two tables have been booked for the Wine and Wisdom night in February.

12. Planning

PS did not circulate any minutes of the planning committee, as there was no meeting this month.

DTIZ – Still waiting for CPO Minister's decision.

Castle Forum – 1st part on 5 January 2015.

Western Heights Masterplan. DL, J Cope and PS welcome plan. **From an initial look at the document the Grand Shaft Barracks site appears to be excluded.** This is an important part and should be in the Masterplan. The land is owned by DDC. **DL, J Cope and PS will examine in detail and respond.**

Citadel – DDC forms to complete to put on **Community Asset Register**.

Connaught Barracks – The Officers Mess site looks good. There is a need to keep the view of the harbour and town with open green space. Preplanning goes to planning in January 2015.

S215 – JG Movements is a success. **DDC** to consider another area to look at. So far 70% success rate.

13. Press Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

14. Editor's Report

The deadline for next newsletter is 14 January 2015.

15. Publications

Nothing to report.

16. Any other business

Nothing to report.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 8 January 2015**, at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Parish Centre.