

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 10 November 2016
at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover.

Present: Derek Leach (Chairman), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Glyn Hale, Beverley Hall, Alan Lee, Pat Sherratt, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston

1. Apologies: Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Mike McFarnell, Jean Marsh, Alan Sencicle,

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2016 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

TS raised the ideas for Moat's Bulwark with Coastal Communities. This has been circulated to all members to be discussed at next meeting.

BH has received the FOI request from DDC but has not had time to read through it.

S215: PS has seen a confidential list of the S215 action to be taken in Dover. DDC had adopted a policy of referring to its legal department before taking action and this seems to be where the hold up has been but a faster system is now in place.

Conservation Area appraisals: Alison Cummings contacted Deal Society man who has forwarded to Derek their draft report of Nelson Street area using the Oxford Tool Kit. To meet later.

Re dover Express: DL wrote to the Trinity Mirror Group but to date no reply has been received.

4. Chairman's Report.

Nothing to report.

5. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

6. Financial Report.

The financial report for the last month was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting.

The monies received in this period are:

£22.00 subscriptions for this financial year 2016/2017

£30.00 subscriptions for the next financial year 2017/2018

£4.00 into the Publications fund from the sale of one Town Hall book.

£86.00 to Town Hall fund from Town Hall tours.

£43.65 from Reckitt Benckiser shares paid into the Town Hall fund.

£25.00 advertising revenue from the Newsletter

£10.50 for the sale of newsletter binders.

The October meeting was £39.07 in deficit but the raffle made £57.00.

No payment made from the River Dour Partnership so the amount held in the account remains at £1,861.03.

Money paid out from the Bluebird Trail Fund totalled £1,454.99. The amount we are now holding is £12,921.02.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

We have two new members:

Mr Christopher Lumgair of Victoria Park, Dover.

Mr Kenneth Palmer of River, Dover.

Last allocated number 1275, total number of members 461.

8. Projects

Cowgate

- Making good progress. Not yet heard from Kirk Alexander on how to deal with the wasp situation.

River Dour

- Received funding of £12K from DBL and EA to investigate the potential purchase of the Mill Pond in Lorne Road, Need to know what risks are involved, what are insurable and what isn't and how best to develop it. It is proving difficult to obtain the right expert for the investigation process.
- Funding of £10K from HLF for the Dour Group and Dover Tails to publicise the Dour and to get young people involved.
- Funding of £1K is available from Up on the Downs but we are trying to ensure we are justified in our application.
- DTC has a quote of £13.5K to repair the Beacon Road railings and the foundations and wall at Barton Walk/Beaconsfield Road. Can the Society donate a modest amount of £500. A short discussion followed and it was proposed by DL to donate £500 and seconded by TS. A vote taken with a majority in favour with the condition that a like for like replacement be made and KCC to donate what they would have spent on the project.

Plaques

- The Keottlitz plaque has been delivered and in the hands of the builder to put it up. There is a need to agree on the unveiling details. **Action:** AL to contact Bursar. JC to circulate date to members when known.

9. Refurbishment

Dover Town Project

- JC read out a draft response to the Dover Town Team proposals for the Market Square project. A discussion followed and it was agreed to amend certain parts. **Action:** JC to send out revised draft to executive committee members.

Litter

- Contact still be made with Roger Walton regarding litter and to get a member of DDC staff to talk to our members about "rubbish". There is also a problem with litter on The Blue Bird Trail. The suggested contact is Mandy Pile.
- Request to be made to Tourist Officer to come and talk to members of the Society.
- SP enquired about the state of the Old St James church regarding how safe it is. RW to be contacted and to confirm it is Grade II listed.
- JO to look at East Kent Health and Social Care but trying to get volunteers is difficult.
- SP spoke of a Chapel concert in aid of Kelly Turner, requested we send round leaflet to society members.

DBL

- The job club is very busy
- It was a successful Halloween event.
- The Health and Safely course is 10 weeks starting on 7 November.
- The Food Safety course took place on 2 November.
- Health and Social Care course on 7 November.
- The Emergency First Aid course starts on 30 November.
- The awards this year are £137,916, with match funding of £124,855, running at 90%. Total funding of £262,771.
- Total funds over 10 years £1,044,250, drawn down £371,406.69 with remaining funds of £672,843.31.
- The lasted award is £500 to "Bugs for All", an edible Bug Project.

10. Town Hall Refurbishment/ Guided Tours

Town Hall

The consultants are finalising the HFL application this week.

The Blue Bird Trail

The Blue Bird Trail evaluator is preparing her report to accompany our final report to HFL by the end of the month, although some activities will take place in 2017..

11. Social Secretary's Report

BH - so far 53 people have booked for Christmas lunch with another 6 to confirm making a total of 59. With entertainers fee and meal this would make a possible loss of about £100. The profit from the raffle will make up the shortfall. There is still time for the numbers to increase. **Action:** JC to email all members to remind them of the Christmas lunch.

So far 6 members have booked for the Wine and Wisdom evening. A reminder to be given at next Society meeting

PHS - 43 have booked for the Honfleur trip, of which 6 wanting a single room. To contact hotel to see if this can be accommodated.

12. Planning

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 1st November were circulated to members before this meeting. PS went through each item followed by a discussion on the various topics.

Leisure Centre at Whitfield, newspaper article showing a group of children called the Vista Twisters being denied anywhere to train. With Dover having a population of 30,000 there should be some sort of facility in Dover. This may not be the only group who will suffer when the Leisure Centre is moved to Whitfield, such as local schools who walk to it and use the Dover Leisure Centre. TS to write an article on the problem.

MW read out response he received from MP and DDC about the brownfield sites in Dover.

13. Press Secretary's Report

Dover Coastal Communities team to award £5000 to Dover Team for the Market Square and immediate area project and if successful, to secure £1.8 million funding from the Crown Estates. There is £3,800 available for the Roman House as soon as a meeting can be arranged with the Manager.

14. Editor's Report

Nothing to report.

15. Publications

Nothing to report

16. AOB

MW - the Cooperative shop to close on 10 February 2017.

PS - De Bradelei Wharf has reopened after being taken over by newcomer.

GH - requesting help to get to pick up point for the Honfleur trip.

AL - lost one advertiser for the Newsletter but managed to get another.

Date of next meeting

PLEASE NOTE The next meeting will be on **Thursday 1 December 2016**, at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Parish Centre.