

Minutes of a meeting of the executive of The Dover Society held on December 1st 2016.

Apologies: Glyn Hale and Alan Lee.

Minutes: Of the meeting of the executive held on 10th November 2016.
Accepted as correct.

Matters Arising: None.

Chairman's report: Chairman Derek gave details of a Dover Town Centre meeting. There had been a report from consultants on the Dover Transportation Model, a discussion about Dover Waterfront Masterplan and reference to **a grant bid by KCC re a Dover Discovery Centre link from York Street to the Market Square area. He and Patrick had also attended a workshop re the Waterfront Masterplan which will also take account of the pedestrian links to the town centre and the station.**

The chairman had received a request from the submariners' ex-Service organisation relating to Thomas Gould VC. That organisation was trying to trace Gould's relations, possibly in connection with erecting a plaque in Dover in his honour. Terry was asked to try to trace any relations, through the media.

Treasurer's report: Mike Weston, who had circulated the financial position, reported a donation of £50 had been received from a member; £400 had been taken from the project fund to pay for the Dr Koettlitz plaque; newsletter costs last month were £695 (Adams) and newsletter postage £73; stationery costs totalled £142 (two years supply of envelopes etc); the November meeting made a £14 profit; and money paid out during November from the Bluebird Trail fund totalled £1,445 resulting in the society now still holding £11,475 at the end of November.

Membership: Sheila reported one new member (Sandra Conlon of River). Membership now 461. Last allocated number 1,276.

Projects: Jeremy gave a run down on the various society projects. It was agreed unanimously that the society donate some old equipment to a volunteer group (Jeremy to decide which group). He reported it was believed the Lorne Road pond was about to be offered for auction. He further reported Dover Town Council was not to progress the idea of helping to finance the renovation of the Barton Path-Beaconsfield Road bridge railings (towards which the society had offered to help financially). It was now up to KCC (the owners of the railings) to decide their future. Jeremy reported he had submitted the society's views on the future of Dover Market Square to the Dover Town Team. It was agreed a group of four should meet with the newly appointed Dover Destination officer to make him aware of the society's views on tourism etc.

At this stage chairman Derek gave an update on the Bluebird Trail and reminded that the society was **intending** to hand over responsibility for **any maintenance of the** trail on April 1st 2017. He also reported that the result of the Round One **HLF** bid for the restoration of the Town Hall should be known in March.

Social Secretary: Beverly reported 76 were now booked for the Christmas feast. This included the three singing artistes. There were sufficient raffle prizes.

Pat reported 41 had booked for the Honfleur trip and she was looking at the possibility of a society visit to Hever Castle next year.

Planning and Local Government: Patrick raised concern about the KCC advertised auction of the "Buckland Hospital" land where the society had been campaigning to get the provision of hospital intermediate care bed facilities. One member reported it was possible the authorities were aware, and might be influenced, that a care home was due to be built not far from the hospital. It was hoped this was not so because a care home would not be suitable for all ages.

Patrick put forward a well argued case for the listing and inclusion in the waterfront conservation area of the range of former DHB workshops in Cambridge Road overlooking the Wellington Dock. It was submitted these former workshops (now including De Bradelie Wharf) were of historic value. Shipbuilder Cullin was one who occupied premises here while the rest were DHB engineers' workshops. Terry was asked to write about this issue. **The Planning Committee would pursue listing.**

AOB: Mike sought and was given the go-ahead to co-operate with the technical college who had offered to review and give a report on the Dover Society website.

The meeting ended just before 2100 hours.