

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 12 October 2017
at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover

Present: Derek Leach (Chairman), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Deborah Gasking, Glynn Hale, Beverley Hall, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Mike McFarnell, Jean Marsh, Jenny Olpin, Pat Sherratt, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston.

1. Apologies: Alan Lee, Alan Sencicle

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2017 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

The job description for Hon. Treasurer has been circulated prior to the meeting. After a short discussion it was decided that it could not be broken down into two separate posts. It was decided to advertise the position to the members of The Society in the next Newsletter. It was too late for inclusion so a stuffer would be prepared by JC to be inserted in the Newsletter. The position will also be mentioned at the next members meeting.

HMO letter to Roger Walton and forwarded to Mike Davis, to date no acknowledgement from Mike Davis.

BH is still looking at the aims and objectives of The Society and will report back after the next Society Marketing group meeting.

The Elms Vale pilot has not yet taken place.

The Dover Society poster forwarded to Jill Serjeant..

BH is due to draft a letter to KCC regarding the path that is closed off on Priory Hill. Unable to find the correct path as there appears to be two paths, and needs to find the right path before proceeding.

A letter was sent to Roger Walton congratulating the improvement of litter clearance on the main trunk roads, but the roads in the town still require attention.

4. Chairman's Report

Tim Shepherd, Megga consultant, approached DL to obtain information about Dover and what was going on. It appears Megger CEO has three aims, one to improve and reorganise the internal premises, make the outside of the building more attractive, and to open a social centre for staff, with a view to making it available to outside organisations, societies etc.

5. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

6. Financial Report

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

The monies received in this period are:

£78.00 subscriptions for this financial year 2017/2018
£16.00 subscriptions for the next financial year, 2018/2019
£6.00 subscription for the financial year, 2019/2020
£1.00 for the sale of one Newsletter
£8.00 for the sale of two Town Hall booklets
£215.00 for Town Hall tours, credited to the Town Hall fund

The monies paid out in this period are:

£320.22 paid from the project fund to Leander Architectural for the John Cuthbert Ottawa plaque.

£5.15 for postage of Newsletter to out of area members

The bookings for the Christmas Lunch are continuing and £650.00 has been banked

£200 was paid out from the River Dour Partnership Fund, therefore the amount held by us is £22,648.49.

The Bluebird Trail Fund remains the same at £777.44.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

There are 7 new members and 2 returnees. They are:

- Mr Brian and Mrs Celia Walters, Salisbury Road, Dover, 2nd time returners
- Mr Stephen and Mrs Lynda Smith, Baresford Road, River
- Miss Jane Jones and Mr Christopher Hamblin, Charlton Green, and have requested no post, only emails for correspondence
- Mr William Parker-Gorman, Harold Street
- Mr Steve and Mrs Maureen Buhlman, Kearsney Court

Last allocated number is 1316, total number of members 468.

A short discussion followed about using BCC when contacting members by email and new legislation regarding the Data Protection Act. It was agreed to discuss this at the next Society Marketing group meeting.

8. Projects

Cowgate

- The maintenance is up to date.

Plaques

- The Ottaway plaque is waiting installation. The Dover Tales are very interested in being involved the launch of the plaque.
- The wording for the Toland plaque is now with the Clyde House owners.

River Dour

- KCC has confirmed they are responsible for the maintenance of Barton Path railings. DG and JC have made contact with KCC and want to move it on. According to MW the railings are in good order, they need sandblasting and re-coating, with some minor repairs. It is the brickwork the holds the railing that needs the attention.
- River Tales, still ongoing regarding insurance.

9. Refurbishment

JO has now taken over as Chair of the Refurbishment Sub-Committee and JC as Secretary.

1. Improvements in quality and appearance to the Town including run down premises and empty shop.

- a) MM reported on the latest Healthy High Street Meeting. A new manager had been appointed. However the meeting was something of a fiasco with no Chair and no agenda. MM will prepare next meetings agenda. The only topic discussed was McDonalds and the only reason for leaving is due to increased rent. The intention appears they will go for a drive in premises only. DDC representative said the move was nothing to do with them, it was a commercial matter.
- b) Healthy High Streets are driven by M&S Boots Santander etc with the aim of regenerating High Streets
- c) Parking in St James area – Cllr Collor informs us that site belongs to Legal and General. DDC await details from L&G. MW made our concerns on the need for low parking known at Castle Forum
- d) Concerns were expressed about DDC's attitude to Cineworld's hopes for a Christmas opening. DDC stopped the event because of safety concerns that appeared to be easily resolvable.
- e) Mike reported that he had taken DTC Cllr Callum Warriner to task at Castle Forum over the Cllr's voting against Goodwin sands dredging.
- f) Both the new and old Sports Centres will be taken over by new management, which has 100 other sites. Both Refurb and Planners want present site converted on closure to a green site.

- g) Discussion regarding the removal of events advertising after the event. JO to email DDC regarding their policy on this issue.

2. Conservation areas and listed buildings

- a) JO, the back of a property in Castle Street looks in bad condition. Russell Street pub in bad condition. Planners are holding off on sec 213 for 6 months and will review the progress due to the large amount of work currently underway.
- b) Athletic Ground – old County Cricket scoreboard fallen down **JO to contact DDC**
- c) Goal Lane. JO reports Guano cleared.

3. Cleanliness including litter control

- a) JP sent email re William Muge site. **Any progress to be monitored**
- b) MM tin cans working as usual with proceeds to Kelly Turner
- c) Drains. KCC the body to be complained. JO to ask for the programme of clearance details

4. Highways and pathways

- a) Seafront Parking Consultation, objection submitted
- b) Chalk Up 2 and Up on the Downs Totem Poles, The Dover Society were not invited. JO to contact DADS
- c) Bleriot / Castle pathway, follow up awaited from Heather Waller regarding the closure of ER38 access to Upper Road section. Once details received the signage can be taken forward. A check current situation to be made if time permits.

5. Anti- Social Behaviour

- a) Consultation with Police meeting on last Thursday. C.I. Weller opened by explaining the new Policing Model effective from 12th September 2017.

P.S.C.O.s now have enhanced roles:

Missing Persons – working mainly with children's homes

Adults – supporting vulnerable adults

Young People – drugs, crime, anti-social behaviour

Core Policing – 24/7 and the 1st responder

Vulnerability Team – Domestic Abuse, Child Protection, Investigating Crime

Partnership:

Community Unit – based at Dover District Council (Bryan Hill chairs) working with Health, Social Services

Community Safety

Community Development

Custody Centres are Folkestone and Canterbury

Intelligence – i.e. rogue traders, drug dealing, men with young girls, scams, fraud, cyber crime.

Ring Crimestoppers rather than 101 (oversubscribed), crimestoppers is anonymous if you wish online or 0800 555 111

Also Action Fraud either on line or 0300 123 2040

Special Branch are still at the Port

Meeting again in March.

- b) MM raised DOY roundabout signage for continental lorries to meet safety needs.
- c) MM update on Hourglass door weather responsible

6. Any other business
 - a) River Dour KCC contacts explained. MW says railings fine. JO A separate pot of money for restoration?
 - b) J Cotton Chilli Farm advert left post event, is a distraction to drivers. DDC says not their responsibility advert on private land. JO to enquire of DDC about planning permission and how do we get out of date adverts removed.
 - c) MM reports Film Festival on track.

10. Town Hall Refurbishment and Guided Tours

The refurbishment is not happening at the moment but will reapply for funding. The guided Town Hall tours stop at the end of October.

11. Social Secretary's Report

BH - to date 49 have booked for the Christmas Lunch and 75 is needed to break even. PHS - trying to organise a trip for next May but details too late for latest Newsletter, but can arrange for a stuffer to be put in. Still considering a day trip to Saville Gardens with a cream tea. Other suggestions made for future trips.

DL arranging a special talk for the centenary of Zeebrugge on 16 April, , the same day as the AGM. The speaker will be Lt. Col. G Gelder, of the Royal Marines Museum based at Portsmouth. The proposed expenses will be a t BB up to £100 and mileage costs of £65, plus dinner up to total of £200. The cost was agreed then a discussion followed as to the time of the talk. It was agreed the AGM should be first at 7.00 pm and the talk to commence at 8.00pm. Any non members attending the AGM will be reminded they are not entitled to vote at the AGM.

12. Planning

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 6 September were circulated to members before this meeting. PS went through each item.

13. Press Secretary's Report

Some items do get into the local paper.

14. Editor's Report

The Newsletter is on time.

15. Publications

Nothing to report.

16. AOB

TS - if anybody had any ideas or suggestions for project funding from the Coastal Communities to pass on to TS.

DG - would like to print an A5 leaflet to go with the Newsletter for the pilot in Elms Vale. The cost is £7 for 100 or £30 for a 1000. Agreed to obtain 1000.

Concerts in Dover: looking to organise concerts in Charlton Church, the frequency to be agreed. Trial agreed and DG to progress and report back via Social Marketing meeting.

MMcF - the DVD of the tram crash is available for anyone to view.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 9 November 2017**, at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Parish Centre.