

THE DOVER SOCIETY.

Minutes of a meeting of the executive held at St Mary's parish centre on Thursday 9th November 2017.

Present: Derek Leach (chairman), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Glyn Hale, Beverley Hall, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Alan Lee, Jean Marsh, Mike McFarnell, Patrick Sherratt and Terry Sutton.

Apologies: Jenny Olpin, Alan Sencicle, Mike Weston (treasurer), and Deborah Gasking.

Minutes: Minutes of October 12th accepted as correct.

Matters Arising: Beverley, as requested, sent a letter to KCC regarding the closure of a passage from Priory Hill to Tower Hamlets. It was reported DDC was considering making the closure permanent. Beverley was requested to ask DDC (or anyone else) about the history (possibly ancient) of the passage.

ACTION-BEVERLEY

Chairman's report: Derek suggested the Unknown Warrior's plaque at Cruise Terminal One required cleaning. He gave update on the proposed Commonwealth memorial on the Western Heights and of a consultative exhibition to be held at Dover library. It was agreed the membership of the society should be alerted of this.

ACTION-JEREMY TO SEND e-mail.

Secretary's report: Beverley produced documents relating to data protection and corporate governance, which would be taken into account by the Marketing Group in due course.

Treasurer: Mike was not present but submitted this report:

Subs received during previous month totalled £46. A donation of £30 paid to Dover Film Festival, £20 paid to St Mary's PCC for hire of a parish centre room for October and November committee meetings. The publication fund received £8 from the sale of Town Hall booklets. The Town Hall fund was credited with £81.95 from tours and dividends. The October indoor meeting made a loss of £5.10 as a result of the cost of hall hire increasing by £5 to £65. Raffle took £119 (net £89). Speakers' meals £44.90. No movement in River Dour fund-£22,648. 49. No movement in Bluebird Trail fund-£777,44.

Membership: Sheila reported membership now at 472 (1,318 last membership number). New and rejoining members-Rev David Gilchrist, Kate Taylor, Gaileen Haq and A.B.Tomalak.

Marketing group: There was a long discussion on aspects of a proposed website, subscriptions, the need for a web manager and publicity about coming events. Beverley, leading the discussion, sought recommendations from the executive about what should happen next. It was proposed by the chairman that the marketing group's ideas be agreed in principle with an implemantal budget of up to £1,000. When the issue was put to the vote the result was: In favour -3, against-2 with 6 abstaining. Beverley responded she was not willing to undertake all the provisional work entailed on such a split vote.

A second proposal put forward was that each stage in the progress of the project should be subjected to acceptance and signed off by the executive.

This second resolution was accepted overwhelmingly with only one vote against (Terry), one abstention (Alan) and nine in favour.

Projects: Jeremy gave an update on the various projects being undertaken and reported it was necessary, for production purposes, to reduce the number of proposed digits on the Toland plaque. It was agreed Jeremy would e-mail to the executive his suggested digit cuts.

ACTION-JEREMY (e-mail).

Town Hall: Chairman Derek gave an update on the application for funds for the Town Hall refurbishment which would be resubmitted in December to HLF slightly amended. In seven months of 2017 season 260 people had been conducted on Dover Society tours of the Town Hall. As a result £600 towards Town Hall Fund had been taken.

Social Secretary: Patricia submitted incidental expenses for the successful Honfleur trip which were ratified by the executive.

Beverley reported that 75 had booked for the society's annual lunch at the Town Hall.

Planning: Patrick gave a report (attached) on the work of the society's planning committee and there was further discussion on the removal of historic walls. Beverley, reporting to Heritage England on the issue, sought details on the historic background of the endangered walls and pictures of the same. The lack of action by DDC in enforcing planning conditions in conservation areas was discussed and it was agreed to seek the support of Civic Voice in our efforts. It was agreed that if Civic Voice promised to support our demand for enforcement the society would join Civic Voice. Otherwise we would not!

It was also agreed that we should seek funding from DDC, DTC and the Society for funding to pay for a consultant to lead on conservation area appraisals for Priory and Castle wards

ACTION: PATRICK TO CONTACT CIVIC VOICE.

It was agreed the society should take a neutral stance on the planning application for toilets/community building in Maison Dieu Gardens.

Press report-Nothing substantial

Publications-Latest Newsletter available

AOB-Nothing substantial.

Date of next meeting : Thursday 7 December