

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 8 March 2018
at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover

Present: Derek Leach (Chairman), Peter Cairns, Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Deborah Gasking, Beverley Hall, Alan Lee, Jean Marsh, Alan Sencicle, Terry Sutton.

1. Apologies: Glyn Hale, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Jenny Olpin, Pat Sherratt, Mike McFarnell, Mike Weston.

1A. A presentation was given by William Parker-Gorman on building a bespoke website for The Dover Society. After a short discussion regarding costs etc. TS proposed we commission WPG to build website, it was agreed unanimously by the committee.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2018 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

It was agreed at the last meeting the committee would look at the Civic Voice website and consider whether or not the Society should rejoin. A discussion followed and the majority agreed that no action be taken this time, but can be reviewed again at a later date.

4. Chairman's Report

Sustainability - DDC plan, agreed to leave alone until it can be understood.

Ward boundaries - proposed changes to the number of councillors from **56 to 32** to make the number of constituents each councillor represents to be approximately 2700 **was rejected by councillors. We await revised proposals before commenting..**

Heritage Open Days to be nationally publicised over two **weekends** in September. **Need to decide whether** we stay at one weekend in Dover or do we have two weekends? Diederick Smet would like us to make more of these days and link it with the Bluebird Trail as some of the buildings on the Trail will be open. **Diederik suggested** doubling the size of the Heritage Open Day leaflets to incorporate the Blue Bird Trail. There is a need to contact the owners of the buildings involved, the volunteers and obtain the extra cost of the leaflets. **Diederik also suggested activities at one or two locations but costs involved.** Action: DL to obtain information.

The 3 ladies who serve refreshments at our meetings are standing down. Agreed that 3 pot plants should be presented as a thank you from Society funds.

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:

£34.00 subscriptions for the next financial year, 2018/2019

The monies paid out in this period are:

£72.06 for postage

The \$100 received from the two American visitors was exchanged for £70.81 and credited to the Society's bank account.

The Wine and Wisdom event made a profit of £98.22. The custom, as in previous years, is to make a donation to Clive Taylor's preferred charity, The Crabble Corn Mill Trust. **Treasurer** proposing to make a donation of £70.00 and asking the committee to approve. The committee agreed to this.

No money was paid out from the River Dour Partnership Fund last month. The amount being held in their fund with us is £21,750.99.

The Bluebird Trail Fund remains the same at £777.44.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

There are two new members this month. They are Mr C and Mrs J Newman of Canterbury. Last allocated number is 1321, total number of members 474.

Adeline Reidy has invited members to The Dover Ladies Luncheon Club at the Dover Town Hall on Wednesday 30 May to celebrate the Prince Harry's wedding. An email has been sent to all members with the details and how to book.

Jeremy Fox can no longer distribute the Newsletter in the Temple Ewell area. DG volunteered to take this on.

8. Marketing Group Report

The next meeting to be held next Monday.

9. Projects

Cowgate

- The maintenance is up to date.

Plaques

- The Toland Plaque, no date has been set for an unveiling.
- The Ottaway Plaque, a date for unveiling has been arranged on 16 March at 11.00 am. No one is available to attend from Dover Athletic Club. The Dover Tales will be there to give a performance. It will be publicised in the Dover Express and email sent to members who wish to attend.

10. Refurbishment

The meeting was held on Monday 26 February 2018 and the minutes of the meeting were circulated to committee members prior to this meeting.

11. Town Hall Refurbishment and Guided Tours

A resubmission for phase 1 funding from the HLF for under £5 million **will be made this month**. Guided Tours to recommence next month.

12. Social Secretary's Report

BH - the Wine and Wisdom was a success and in profit. Next year the cost of the glasses and engraving for the 1st prize will be £50 and this will need to be taken into account.

The entertainers for the Christmas Lunch have been booked. They are "3's a Company"

The April speaker on the Centenary of Zeebrugge, to be given by retired Royal Marine historian Lt. Col. George Gelder will **be free of charge instead of** £200 for travel and expenses. It will be advertised more widely by using Facebook.

A stuffer has been put in the Newsletter for summer trips.

The talk to be given by Paul Skelton at the Dover History event will be different from the talk he is due to give to the Society members meeting.

13. Planning

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 21 February 2018 were circulated to members before this meeting. The Conservation team cannot start until we have the volunteers.

14. Press Secretary's Report

Some items do get into the local paper.

15. Editor's Report

It was pointed out on the back inside cover of the Newsletter indicates that members only can attend the AGM. This is not correct, Non members can attend but they are not allowed to vote.

Actions: AL to amend.

It was commented that the article Around and About in Temple Ewell is not appropriate for the Society's newsletter unless of significance to Dover and the Society. AL agreed and will leave out unless it is of significant interest.

16. Publications

Nothing to report.

17. AOB

JC - passed on compliments from Roy Evans to DL for his annual Chairman's Report.

TS - There is a Sunday parking fees consultation in District, details on DDC website. An objection to be put in to DDC.

HMS Somerset is coming into Dover Harbour on 23 April, invited guests only can go aboard.

SC - the marketing group is not just about increasing members but to become a modern society.

BH - The research in to the historic path from Tower Hamlets and Priory Hill is not getting very far and no further action to be taken.

The new DDA regulations are coming into force and they are being studied. We may have to email all members to seek their permission to see if they are happy for us to hold the information we have for them.

AS - At the Friends of Dover Museum Lorraine Sencicle is to give a talk on Dover Seaplanes.

Railway update, it was not SE Railways intention not to give advance fares over Christmas but they are doing it again over Easter. Have written to various people about this.

DG - Funding being received for the Riverside Hub Visitor site. Planning has been applied for but not yet granted.

Barton path railings, KCC has the some funding but we have to wait until May to see what amount is available.

Agreed to object to Sunday parking charges particularly in Stembrook. Action: DL.

18. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 12 April 2018**, at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Parish Centre.