

**edExecutive Committee meeting held on Thursday 14 February 2019**  
**at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover, 7.30 pm.**

Attendance: Derek Leach (Chairman), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Deborah Gasking, Glyn Hale, Beverley Hall, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Alan Lee, Jean Marsh, Jenny Olpin, Alan Sencicle, Pat Sherratt, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston.

- 1) Apologies, Graham Margery, William Parker-Gorman
- 2) Minutes from the last meeting 10 January 2019. These were confirmed as an accurate record.
- 3) Matters arising not dealt with elsewhere. There were none.
- 4) Chairman's report
  - a) Zeebrugge Day Event. DL will attend representing the Society. Both TS and PS will be attending as freemen.
  - b) New CEO of DHB meeting with DL wanted to know how The Society works and to be involved in Town
  - c) Plaques
    - i) Gould Plaque. DL reported on the email exchange between Gould's niece with DTC setting out Sub Mariners Association's rejection of local help.
    - ii) DL asked the question whether we should close our plaque project but agreed that it should continue.
    - iii) DG asked for a greater representation of women. Accepted that subjects will be assessed on individual worth and importance in Dover's history
  - d) Port and Community Forum
    - i) Community matters will be the first subject dealt with at meetings.
    - ii) The heaps of beach near Sports Centre caused by the need give protective coatings to buried ironwork and will be returned in due course.
    - iii) Rumours of £8 charge for public to walk Admiralty. Admission policy is now with Sea Anglers not DHB. TS has confirmed with Sea Anglers that there is no admission for walkers. Only anglers are required to pay £8. PS to ensure information is made public via Dover Forum with credit to Society.
    - iv) Brexit. There is good DHB liaison with Border Force but not French equivalent. Lorries will first stack on approach roads and once capacity is fully used lorries will be directed to Manston. Only 80 lorries per hour can be released from Manston whereas DHB requirement is for 450.
    - v) Western Docks. SOS appealing the judgement in DHB favour delaying sand extraction further. Overall the project is running a month or two late. Cruise ships to use new berth C so that DHB can take three ships at a time
    - vi) People feel loss of POW pier hence importance of new pier.
    - vii) Marina curve will open in stages
    - viii) Community Fund has so far allocated £742k to 52 projects/bodies
- 5) Secretary's report. AGM papers in course of preparation.
- 6) Treasurer's report – See attached report.
- 7) Membership Secretary's report
  - a) 3 new members - Sue & Peter Whibley, Toby Oakes. Last allocated number 1350. Total membership 461.
  - b) Problems with online applications need resolution.
- 8) Marketing Group report - BH
  - a) No recent meeting hence nothing to report
  - b) BH to consider reorganizing into groups each dealing with separate aspects.
  - c) Concern was expressed about the closure of the old web site without transfer of information to new website. BH authorised to negotiate with Chris Tuthill on recovery of information.
- 9) Projects

- a) Cowgate.
  - i) JC to put in hand installation of shed to store Cowgate equipment on DTC concrete base.
  - ii) Work completed at Co-Innovation
  - iii) Continuing to look after Cemetery – but only 1 day a month this winter quarter.
- b) Conservation Area report submitted and DDC reaction awaited.
- 10) Refurbishment Sub-Committee
  - a) Not met since January.
  - b) To be dealt with - AS letter on lack of toilet provision and directions in town.
  - c) JO and John Cotton meeting with Police. The meeting with Inspector Stuart Norris, Community Safety who showed a strong commitment to community safety including a town centre constable and 2 PCSOs with proper consultation and liaison with the public.
- 11) Town Hall Refurbishment and Guided Tours
  - a) Although closed to passing visitors in winter a group will be guided next week
- 12) Social Secretary's report
  - a) York outing includes a £50 non-returnable deposit. 500 colour leaflets have been produced at cost £28.
  - b) Leaflets for York and Bluebell line will be distributed at Wine & Wisdom
  - c) BH - Wine & Wisdom should break even with 11 tables and 75 people
  - d) DL reported some speakers concerned at the size of the screen. Agreed to leave as is.
- 13) Planning and Local Government PS
  - a) PS reviewed the Planning minutes
  - b) Biggin street work to start soon
  - c) CGI renewed application re Farthingloe and Western Heights plans. PS looking to group who reviewed the previous plans plus JO to review this application.
- 14) Press Secretary. TS "still gets things in"
- 15) Editor's report. Current issue on time. Committee agrees that as a trial the July issue use the centre pages for advertising outings and Society events and meetings.
- 16) Publications. No comments
- 17) Date of next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 18) Any other business
  - a) Paul Wells Dover History Society meeting 27<sup>th</sup> April. Society stall with DL talk on Town Hall
  - b) Committee asked to advise Secretary of any changes to membership
  - c) Both Chair and Treasurer are looking to stand down and searching for suitable replacements.
  - d) There is an invitation to a DDC tourism strategy meeting with other organisations. The objective is for tourism to form part of the Local Plan.
  - e) DL will be inviting CEO of DHB and Chris Townend to be speakers at one of our meetings
  - f) DG The offer by Megger of a room for public meetings has been withdrawn.
  - g) Market Square development. Funding application decision still awaited.
  - h) Safe walkway from Castle to Langdon Cliffs will be discussed at next Refurb
  - i) AL Co-Innovation building to remain with DBL until 2021. DDC putting off redevelopment

### **Treasurer's Report**

Subscriptions received during the last month totalled £22.00p, for the next financial year 2019/2020.

Sale of two Society Newsletter binders brought in £10.50p. Advertisements in our Newsletter brought in £114.00p last month.

£30.00 was sent to St. Mary's PCC for the hire of this room for our January, February and March committee meetings.

Our January meeting ran at a £31.90p loss. The raffle brought in £80.00. The Speaker's meal cost was £20.91p

The River Dour Partnership -Outgoings from the fund last month was £200.00p, as you can see from the financial figures, £15,082.25p is being held in their fund with us.

The Bluebird Trail Fund - there was no movement, so the amount remaining in the fund which we are holding is still £777.44p.

And that concludes the financial statement for the month.

Last month we were asked by Dover District Council to receive grant funding from the environment Agency for projects on the River Dour, specifically a contribution to the "Our Finest Dour Project" £10,000 and de-culverting works at Kearsney Park £70,000. These grants could not be made direct to a council but only to a Charity. DDC approached MW and the Chairman Derek and in consultation also with Jeremy we agreed, especially as time was very short [a matter of days] before the grants would be withdrawn and the Council would have lost the funding. At our insistence that no costs would fall upon the Society and that we would not be liable for the delivery of the projects under the grant we have a letter signed by Mr Roger Walton confirming this and agreeing to pay for reasonable costs such as audit fees if our expenditure or income breaches the Charity Commission thresholds.