

rThe Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 11 July 2019
at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover

Present: Derek Leach (Chairman), Deborah Gasking, Alan Lee, Graham Margery, Jean Marsh, William Parker-Gorman, Patrick Sherratt, Terry Sutton, Mike Weston

1. Apologies: Glyn Hale, Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Beverley Hall, Jenny Olpin, Alan Sencicle

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

Nothing to report

4. Chairman's Report

Nothing to report

5. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

6. Financial Report

The financial report for the last month was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. The monies received in this period are:

- £186.00 subscriptions for financial year 2019/2020
- £6.00 subscription for the next financial year 2020/2021
- £6.00 subscription for financial year 2021/22
- £12.00 in donations
- £40.50 for the sale of Town Hall booklets to the publication fund
- £62.00 for Town Hall tours to the Town Hall fund

The monies paid out in this period are:

- £30.00 to The White Cliffs Country Tourism Association for the society's membership
- £20.00 paid to St Mary's PCC for use of room for July and September executive members meetings
- £10.00 refunded to a member who had a double payment made for their membership

The Arundel outing is yet uncompleted because a member has paid and then cancelled within 6 days of the outing. It has not been decided as yet to make a refund and would like the committee thoughts on refunds. At the present time the outing has made a profit of £40.00. After a short discussion it was decided as there was no written policy about refunds on this occasion a refund would be made but to make it clear this does not set a precedent. Next year the policy will be we do not normally make a refund for a cancellation.

The River Dour Partnership no outgoings from the fund in the last month so the amount being held in their fund with us is £13,995.43.

The Bluebird Trail Fund remains the same at £777.44.

The Quarterly interest from the Caf account is £11.32.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

There are two new members this month.

Ms Louise Miles, Priory Hill

Mrs Jean Thompson, Salisbury Road

Last allocated number is 1367. Total number of members is 444 as last years leavers have been removed.

8. Webmaster

The **Newsletter** archive material is now on line but not yet publicly accessible.

The second page details are in full giving the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of past and present members of the Executive Committee, Presidents and Vice Presidents. After a short discussion there were no objections to have this page remaining on the website.

DL has sent a formal acknowledgement to Paul Skelton to thank him for the work he has done.

Action: WPG to find out the format the printers require.

9. Marketing Group Report

No meeting has taken place.

10. Back Office

Nothing to report

11. Projects

Cowgate - the abandoned tents have required a lot of clearing up and carrying out the rubbish to the collection point for the Council. It has also needed the removal of needles and sharp objects. As no one has been trained in the removal of these objects this is a cause for alarm.

Action: WPG to obtain information as to handle and dispose of sharps and needles.

The shed is proving worthwhile but needs to be better organised.

Plaques - Castle Hill House, the owners are happy for the Society to go ahead. The details are with Leander for a design to be made. There is a need to seek permission to put up the plaque (listed building).

Action point: TS to contact Jon Iveson regarding the proposed Submariners' Society plaque for William Gould VC. No response to TS's emails, TS will try again by contacting him by phone.

River Dour - there is a meeting next week. The railings are in the process of being refreshed with some work still to do.

DG suggested if a hard copy of photographs of the railings before and after the refurbishment could be made. It was suggested a folder type to keep in the Library or Museum. The cost should be minimal. Our members may have private photographs that can be used. It could be mentioned in the Newsletter

Action: WPG and DG to look at what is available on the website.

12. Refurbishment

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 June were circulated prior to the meeting. Nothing more to add.

13. Town Hall Refurbishment and Guided Tours

Guided tours, several large groups have booked tours and lunch.

Meeting of Steering Group - completed Intrusive survey, re the physical changes and the impact they may make.

The use of the Town Hall by "Your Leisure" can accept bookings until 21 September 2021. Some time after that date the Town Hall will be closed for a period.. Their lease goes to 2025.

Other surveys on the condition etc have been completed. The Asbestos survey completed.

The roof and gutters have been cleared of various matter. Testing the market to turn the old police cells into a cafe.

Mid-term review in September/October and by March 2021 need to submit to HLF all the work that has been done. Aim to have it ready by December 2020 to send off in January 2021.

Several organisations and individuals have been contacted regarding funding.

On the Heritage Open days it is proposed to obtain feedback from visitors regarding the Town Hall community activity plans (engagement in the project)..

Facebook Dover History page already seeking internal photos of Town Hall to include previous decoration

Action: DL to send WPG details for the society's Facebook page.

14. Social Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

15. Planning

The Planning Committee meeting held this month was circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. PS and GM went through each item and gave an update on any action taken. Conservation appraisal, PS volunteered to assist in the next appraisal.

16. Press Secretary's Report

Articles continue to be put in two local papers.

17. Editor's Report

Nothing to report.

16. Publications

Nothing to report

17. AOB

DL - MMcF is organising a town trail for children at the regatta. He has a £500 budget , and £300 will be spent giving a £1 prize to each child. **DTC** will contributing but have objected to a gambling advert in the programme. This has been withdrawn but MMcF is requesting The Dover Society use the advert space at a cost of £30. After a short discussion it was agreed.

MW - observed on other city guided tours the tour guides used a series of old photographs, maps etc. to show what it once looked like to compare with the present day. Could the Dover Greeters consider doing the same. There are publications available to then and now for Dover.

DG - Morrisons supermarket to plant trees and shrubs along Bridge Street. The Woodland Trust will be supplying packages free. Liz Hayes to organise volunteers to maintain the plants.

PS - thanked DL for sending out the information regarding the firework display at the Cruise Terminal last evening.

TS - Received email regarding exhibition at Dover Grammar School for Boys on Thursday 18 July and feels this is short notice.

Victory House is open in Snargate Street and anyone in need to be directed there.

18. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 12 September 2019, at 7.30 pm** at St Mary's Parish Centre.