

APRIL AGM MEETING

The Dover Society AGM 2021

Reported by Terry Sutton

Our latest annual general meeting (AGM) was, of course, held under zoom conditions. Even so there were a good few members who "zoomed in". Chairman Derek Leach, who was re-elected, chaired the meeting. A new vice-chair was elected. Fulfilling this important role is Mrs Jenny Olpin of Temple Ewell who is a lecturer on social work at Christ Church University, Canterbury. She is also the chairman of governors of Temple Ewell primary school.

Jenny succeeds Mrs Beverley Hall as vice chair. Beverley retired from the post for health reasons. Thanks were expressed to Beverley for her service and her local government experience.

Martyn Webster, a long serving active member of the Society, was elected to the Society's executive. A third generation Dovorian and an old boy of Dover Grammar School, he has recently returned to his hometown (to live at Whitfield) after years away.

During the meeting, which lasted nearly two hours, the chairman gave an update on various

issues including the expected opening of the Marina Curve at the port.

One interesting issue related to the proposed statue of Dame Vera Lynn and the idea it should be placed on the White Cliffs of Dover. It was said at the meeting that The National Trust, owners of much of the clifftops, was not keen to have the statue on its land. Doubts too have been expressed about having it in the scoop of clifftop land, above Snargate Street, where the Commonwealth war monument could be situated. One member suggested a good place would be at Capel on the site of the Battle of Britain monument.

Dover District Council in conjunction with The National Trust have since renamed a Meadow 'Dame Vera Lynn Down' to mark anniversary of her death. DDC has also renamed a footpath leading to the clifftops 'Dame Vera Lynn Way'.

Editor

There were questions asked about planning decisions made by Dover District Council. There were criticisms, with one member describing some decisions as "perverse."

AGM 2021 Chairman's Report Update

Derek Leach

No doubt you have read every word in my written report which had to be written early in February to meet newsletter printing deadlines! Since then, much has happened.

But first may we have a moment's silence to

remember all those members we have lost through death in the last 2 years, named in the Membership news sections of March 2020 and 2021 newsletters. (SILENCE)

Now for my update. Can I have any