

The Dover Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee, held on Thursday 11 May 2017
at St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover

Present: Derek Leach (Chairman), Jeremy Cope, Sheila Cope, Glynn Hale, Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Alan Lee, Mike McFarnell, Jean Marsh, Jenny Olpin, Pat Sherratt, Mike Weston.

1. **Apologies:** Deborah Gasking, Beverley Hall, Alan Sencicle, Terry Sutton.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2017 were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Chairman's Report

The letter supporting the dredging of the Goodwin Sands has been sent.

The group response to the Dover Waterfront Masterplan has been circulated to executive members.

It was agreed at the AGM to keep the seating sideways on instead of the normal format of facing the stage.

The society is requested to consider the DAD grant application of £500 from WCCTA, as the society representative will not support it and no reason has been given. After a short discussion it was agreed to support it as any request that promotes tourism is considered beneficial to the area. The speakers for next **autumn** have been arranged. The next AGM is on 16 April 2018, one week before the 100th anniversary of Zeebrugge. Suggest an extra special meeting on the 23 April and invite a special speaker to commemorate this event. A short discussion followed and agreed in principle. It was decided that the Town Hall would be the most appropriate venue. Action: MMcF to make enquires with the Town Hall.

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:

£480.00 subscriptions for the next financial year 2017/2018

£100.00 donation, via a Charity Cheque, was made to the Society for the Town Hall fund.

£17.18 other donations

£239.00 for Newsletter advertising

The monies paid out in this period are:

£40.00 yearly subscription to the White Cliffs County Tourism Alliance

£30.00 to St Mary's Parish Hall for the hire of room for the April, May and June committee meetings.

£35.00 for the wreath laid at Zeebrugge Memorial Service

The AGM meeting was in profit by £1.50. The raffle netted £72.00. The cost of the speaker's meal cost £20.20.

The River Dour Partnership Fund received a grant from the Environmental Agency of £5,000, therefore £22,848.49 is being held in their fund with us.

The Bluebird Trail Fund remains the same at £777.44.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

We have five new members:

Mrs Jean Simmons, Waterloo Crescent, Dover
Mrs Judy and Mr Norman Gould, Whitfield
Mrs Barbara Hall,
Miss Corine Dendiro, joint with Paul Sullivan.

Last allocated number 1291, total number of members 466

8. Projects

- An anonymous donation of £250 has been received and a letter of thanks will be sent.

Cowgate

- The maintenance is up to date.
- An interesting enquiry from a non-member about a cemetery resident was received and Martyn Webster was contacted who gave a raft of information, but could not give the location of the grave.
- **Plaques**
- **A plaque in memory of Thomas Gould will be provided and** paid for by the Submariners Association. We are still waiting to hear from the Spain brothers on use of their St James Street property.
- The owners of 7 Camden Place have generously agreed to pay for a blue plaque in memory of **John** Cuthbert Ottaway.
- Another plaque can now be considered. After a short discussion it was agreed the next one should be for Dr Gertrude Toland and use the donation of £300 given last month towards the cost.
- AL is still reviewing the plaque leaflet but is taking longer than anticipated.

River Dour

- The funding has now been received from the Environmental Agency for the Lorne Road Mill pond but we still require the appropriate experts.
- The insurance requirements for the Dover Tales is to be discussed with MW and our insurers.

9. Refurbishment

The Refurbishment committee meeting has been deferred to June. The meetings will be held mid month so **they do** not clash with the planning meeting.

10. Town Hall Refurbishment and Guided Tours

The HFL round1 application has been considered but the result cannot be announced until after the General Election on 8 June.

11. Social Secretary's Report

The Honfleur trip is on 18 May and everything has been arranged. As PS and PHS are unable to go, DL has agreed to assist driver if needed.

The Windsor trip has 19 people booked and 16 have paid but the full amount is due to be paid by 20 May. At least another 14 are required for the trip to break even. JC to send out a reminder to all members and to respond by 18 May. If not enough people book, then it may have to be cancelled.

12. Planning

PS would like to thank MW, BH, DL and JC for taking over the planning meetings during his absence.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 3 May were circulated to members before this meeting. PS went through each item followed by a discussion on the various topics. It was agreed to raise the major issue of HMOs with Roger Walton.

13. Press Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

14. Editor's Report

The deadline for reports and topics for the next Newsletter is 24 May. A request was made for someone on the Honfleur trip to write a report.

15. Publications

Nothing to report.

16. AOB

GL - suggested an invite to Paul Skelton to speak on the pubs of Dover.

MMcF - as per his email requesting that the committee members help to review pages on the website. There are 500 pages and if each member reviews one before each meeting this would be very helpful. A database would be kept of each page reviewed.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 8 June 2017**, at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Parish Centre.