Friends of St Paul's Culham Meeting Thursday 23rd February 2006 Minutes

1 Present

Brian Bracher, Rob Kennedy (chairman), Philip Owen (treasurer), Kath Pearce, Charles Reichardt, John Storrs (secretary), Carole Sutcliffe.

2 Apologies for Absence

John Ward.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Accepted.

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Treasurer

We welcomed our new Treasurer, Philip Owen, who takes over the role from James Wilson-Macdonald who has resigned from the Committee. James will be asked to pass all information in his care to Philip as soon as possible. John Storrs will make arrangements with National Westminster Bank to get Philip's name added to the list of bank signatories, and James' name removed. As requested at a previous meeting, the Treasurer will be asked to present a summary of our financial position at each Committee meeting. As previously agreed, our fixed investments are to be liquidated so we have cash in hand to deal promptly with water connection bills.

4.2 Water Connection

The Faculty permitting the water connection work has now been received from the Diocesan office, so work can proceed. Thames Water have requested an up-front payment of £1588.60 including VAT. We will write out a cheque for this amount to the PCC. They should be able to recover the VAT, which can then be treated as a prepayment in respect of future support by us. Charles Reichard reported that Thames Water require the work on church property to be completed before they will make the water connection. This was questioned by John Storrs, but confirmed by Thames Water when he later phoned them. The PCC will thus make arrangements with the builder (Peter Clarke) to carry out the agreed work on church property, to be followed by the water connection work by Thames Water.

4.3 Fund Raising

As discussed at the last meeting, Rob Kennedy and John Storrs will prepare a letter for existing and potential subscribers asking for further support, to be distributed soon. We want to achieve a substantial increase in support. The letter will summarise past help given to the PCC, current progress on the water connection project, and future possibilities. It should also draw attention to the Friends' section in the new village website (see below).

5 Any Other Business

5.1 Village Web Site

John Storrs has set up a website for Culham village at www.culhamvillage.co.uk. This includes a section for the Friends, which contains copies of minutes, a list of Committee members, etc. Hopefully the website will provide a useful means for us to notify village residents and other supporters of the our work.

5.2 Plant Sale

The plant sale will be held on Saturday 20th May. We will assist as on previous occasions.

6 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 18th May 2006 at 8.30pm at the Lion, Culham. The AGM will be held on Friday 23rd June 2006 at 8.00pm.

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