

Friends of St. Paul's Church, Culham. Committee meeting, Thursday 13 September 2007 at 8.00pm at 6 The Green, with thanks to Philip for his hospitality.

Attended: Brian Bracher, Anne Ilsley, Rob Kennedy(Chair), Philip Owen, Kath Pearce, Carole Sutcliffe.

The meeting was arranged to discuss

1. the Concert to be held on Saturday 29 September, and to set a date for
2. the AGM.

1. The concert has been arranged by Andrew Churchill Stone with Charity Opera, a group of four singers, who will present a programme of operatic highlights and songs from the shows. Andrew had put a preliminary announcement in the September issue of the Culham Mouthpiece about the Concert. The cost of the singers (expenses only) and the accompanist will be in the region of £200.

Andrew will provide the piano and arrange for its delivery and removal. Flyers and posters had already been printed, with thanks to Anne and Hilary (secretary at Dorchester), and distributed in Culham. Price of tickets had been discussed at The PCC meeting held on Tuesday 4 September: £7 and £6 (concessions). It was agreed that the profit would be split between the PCC and The Friends 50/50. As at least 20 tickets had already been sold it was felt that the concert would not be in danger of making a loss.

Anne distributed five lots of 20 tickets- to Andrew Churchill Stone, Janet Beaumont, Anne Ilsley, and Carole Sutcliffe (before the meeting) and to Rob Kennedy (at the meeting).

Andrew to be responsible for media advertising: Brian has given him contact details (Oxford Times etc.)

Someone will need to be on the door. Carole to check that Andrew offered to do this.

Refreshments.

Some PCC members had met on Thursday 6 September at Ingrid Reichardt's to discuss initial catering provision.

Members of the PCC and Friends were invited to provide food for a finger buffet supper, with the offer of expenses paid for ingredients. Initially, catering would be planned for 80 people with food providers being told before the date if numbers may be more (up to 100) or less. Tea and coffee would also be served and people were invited to bring their own drink with wine and beer glasses provided. (Glasses booked for collection on the Friday before from Waitrose (no charge, £1 for a broken glass) to be collected by Carole.) The urn would be set up in the kitchen for tea and coffee. The PCC has over 40 cups and saucers. Hot drinks will most likely be served from the space between the kitchen and the organ. Tea and coffee makers to be arranged. Kath to check on paper plates and serviettes bought by The Friends.

Food to be set out on tables probably in the space in front of the side altar. Anne said the side altar could also be used for refreshments. Additional arrangements may need to be made depending on the number of tickets sold. Some tables may need to be collected from the Recreation Ground hut earlier on Saturday. Rob to check.

All used glasses and cups to be taken away in boxes to be washed in homes by dishwashers.

At 4.00pm on the Saturday, committee members and helpers are invited to help set up the church with tables and other necessities (tablecloths, glasses, urn, etc.) for the food and drink.

Food for the buffet should be brought to the Church at 6.30pm. Food which needs to be kept cool, eg. sandwiches, quiche, sausage rolls, etc. should be kept refrigerated until that time. Food in place by 7pm.

Offers of food:

Savoury fingers; egg, cress and mayo sandwiches

Janet Beaumont

Quiche (bacon and egg); meringues

Anne Ilsley

Sausage rolls

Janet Bracher

Quiche (vegetarian); meringues

Carole Sutcliffe

Apple slices; flapjacks

Ingrid Reichardt

Crisps

Jean Diggins

Crisps/nibbles

Anne Brownson

Kath away but offered daughter Jacqui's support – possibly food on sticks.

Rob to ask Nicole – possibly crudités.

Other offers to be confirmed. Thanks to all for offers of food. Any other offers gratefully received. Please let Carole know – also expenses incurred for ingredients.

The timing of the supper was queried. Andrew has confirmed that the food would be served in the interval. The concert will be in two parts, each part lasting approximately 45 minutes. Any other information to be circulated to PCC and Friends committee members and other helpers.

2.AGM. arranged for Friday 16 November. Brian to put date in the October Mouthpiece. Rob to follow up with invitation to attend and to give feedback on the concert in November Mouthpiece.

AOB.

The Treasurer, Philip, provided information about subscriptions. £975 has been received, which includes two substantial donations, plus £100 income tax rebate through gift aid. Also £150 back from VAT on the repairs and maintenance element of the church costs.

The Friends bottle/tombola stall at the Plant Sale raised £61, with thanks to Kath for her organisation of the stall.

The Churchwarden, Brian, gave information about the Quinquennial Inspection by Philip Waddy on 2 September. A 17-page report had been received with a copy given to The Friends. It would seem expenditure from the Inspection may involve £6000-£7000. It was agreed that £1200 minimum was needed to be raised each year to maintain the fabric of the church. Building contractors should be knowledgeable about older/Victorian buildings (lime and lead).

Next meeting: AGM on Friday 16 November in St Paul's Church, time to be confirmed.

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**Please note:** some members of the church will be preparing the church for the Sunday Harvest Service at 9am on Saturday. It will probably be better to get tables etc. into place at that time rather than later at 4.00pm. Also food brought to church needs to be covered, eg. foil/clingfilm, until it is served.