

## Minutes for Meeting at Barbican Centre

Meeting on the 18/6/06 at Barbican Centre

Attended by: Mr & Mrs SK Li, KC Tang, MJ Tan, Bro Jian Tu and Sister Yiren, Winston Lau, Kelly Lam, Kit Chong, Katherine Lam, Yasmin Chua, Margaret Yap, Kok San Wong, JoJo Yap, John Winter, Rita Man, Anne Fung, Emma Lam.

### *1. Establishment of London Amitabha Buddhist Society (ABS) in UK:*

Majority has agreed that the coming activities of Master CK's visit in October should be a joint venture with the Buddhist Education Foundation (BEF) UK. The decision for the setting up of the ABS as a single entity or under the BEF umbrella will be withheld pending on further discussion with the directors of BEF in the near coming future. BEF's great work would also need passing to younger volunteers.

### *2. Programme for October:*

Awaiting for the confirmation of dates. It is estimated as a four day short visit to London by Master CK in Oct.

- Day 1: Evening welcome meal with Master CK
- Day 2: Morning engagement and evening public talk
- Day 3: Morning engagement and evening public talk
- Day 4: Farewell and no public engagement

The **venues** have not been booked or arranged although enquiries are being made. Based on the given dates on 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> the possible and available venues are Camden Centre and perhaps Logan hall at Institute of Education (tbc with Anita Hui). Need a hall big enough for 700 people and more. KC to continue working with the volunteers and contacts at SOAS and ULUBUDA.

*The morning engagement suggestions given are:*

- Meeting with royal members and politicians (tbc)
- Multi faith dialogue (tbc)
- Inter-tradition dialogue (tbc)

*The public talk topic suggested (actual wording of the topic to be confirmed): (more suggestions are welcome)*

1. The Pureland teaching and practice
2. How to change one's destiny
3. Practicability and realisation of the Pureland practice plus Q&A session

For multifaith dialogue we need to invite speakers and arrange the venue, may have to approach and discuss with other groups who have experience in organizing Multi faith dialogue such as Westminster multi faith group, ULUBUDA, Ken Livingston regarding this matter. (volunteers: KC, Yasmin, ULUBUDA, Katherine Lam).

Contact the arrangement committee to see if UNESCO chapter in London could host something.

Other ABS chapters around the world should be contacted to see if they could offer any advice or help.

3. *Committee member for ABS:*

This has been postponed to later date as we need to finalize and discuss with the directors of BEF. Currently we are glad to have support from Brother SK Li, one of the BEF directors in UK.

4. *Activities of the ABS and funding structure:*

Main objective is the distribution of dharma books and multimedia resources. Cost for running **could only be met via donation boxes** at the centre. It is clearly a charity organization that fully operates via **donation** and **no public fundraising is allowed**.

Clearly the same for the event for Oct, no public fundraising only donation will be accepted and receipts would be issued by the BEF (legality to be checked by directors of BEF). The public talk will be free and the donation boxes will be available within the venue allowing people to contribute as they wishes to support the event and help spreading of the dharma.

5. *AOB:*

A website <http://www.amtb.org.uk> has been acquired and donated to ABS by Vincent Lai. He will be happy to have some help from other volunteer to hare the website job (Winston volunteer).

A forum which containing updated meeting minutes, suggestions, discussion regarding the event in Oct is also suggested and Winston Lau has volunteered to do it. KC will put him in touch with Vincent Lai.

Need a form basic structure for the organizing committee on this event; we need people to fill up the following roles. Later, a project plan will be drafted by Katherine. Please fill in your name and contact detail if you would like to be involved in any of these roles:

- President
- Vice president
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Media and publicity group
- Venue preparation
- Logistics
- Books and media distribution

The job description of each role has not been finalized, others tasks are so being suggested:

- Security
- Accessibility for all people to attend the talk, allocated some tickets for some special groups such as disability charities, homeless etc. (Ticketing group)
- Need to write up for press release (publicity group)
- Contact the various media to publicize the event such as the TVBB, Chinatown newspaper, phoenix, temple, school, BBC, Chinese Radio station, Big issue, etc. ( media coordinator)

A big thank you to everyone for circulating the information to more people, as more volunteers are needed to make this a successful event. Suggestions are welcome. We also need to thank everyone for helping and the willingness to spread the Dharma. May the Dharma continue to liberate more beings in this world.

DRAFT