

## Minutes of informal meeting with Ven Wu Shin

Date: 6 June 2006

Time: 8pm

Venue: Bro Jian Tu's family home in Orpington, Kent

Attendees: Ven Wu Shin from Amitabha Buddhist Society, Jian Tu, Yiren Li, Margaret Yap, Mianjoo Tan and Kok-Cheong (KC) Tang

### **1. Establishment of London Amitabha Buddhist Society, UK.**

It doesn't matter whether the Buddhist Education Foundation (active account on the registry of Company House and Charity Commission) is reactivated or a new separate Amitabha Buddhist Society (abbr. ABS) is formed. Margaret has four names of trustees and a telephone number but need to contact Mr Wong urgently to seek his approval and put us in contact with current trustees.

**Action:**

**Margaret Yap, Yiren. KC may ask Mr Wong's daughter, Meeling (in USA) to help if required. To be completed before next meeting.**

### **2. Programmes during Ven Master Chin Kung's visit to London 10-13 Oct 2006**

Suggested 3 evening public discourses at SOAS, Oxford, Salvation Army Hall (Oxford Circus). Inter-faith dialogue (morning) at Imperial College/V & A Museum. Audience with Queen/Prince Charles/politicians to discuss resolving current world issues (mornings). All venues needs to be confirmed urgently and topics decided before publicity can take place.

**Actions:**

- 1. – Finalise the topics (Ven Wu Shin gave very good suggestions)**
- 2. – Finalise the venues for the talks**
- 3. - KC to gather background and recent work, including Queen's honorary award, of Master in English to send to hosts and press. Ven Wu Shin and Sharon Chu to help.**
- 4. – All to find out contacts for press, XinDao, Phoenix TV, Queen's and Prince Charles' press secretary (Everyone to help?)**

### **3. Committee members**

ABS needs to have a minimum of President, Secretary and Treasurer to function. Before the actual, next committee is elected KC accepted to coordinate activities related to the establishment of ABS and Master's visit in the interim.

**Action:**

**EVERYONE – spread the words and get more volunteers to help!**

### **4. Activities of society and funding structure**

There is no HQ to control local ABS. In fact ABS is not an organisation but a group of people sharing common interest to learn and practise the teachings. So there is no pressure from anyone on activities. No activity apart from Pureland practices, sutra study and media/book distribution is held at ABS. Depending on level of commitment activities may range from a home-operating media/books distribution centre, then rent a place, add a small shrine hall for common cultivation, and perhaps an annual Dharma function by invited ABS venerables in stages.

No fundraising is allowed apart from voluntary donations in two forms – centre operation and printing/distribution of free Buddhist media/books. Again receipts must be issued and account declared.

**Action:**

**The form of centre to be decided upon the level of interest and support from local volunteers**

## **5. Any Other Business**

A public meeting to be called very soon, to announce Master Chin Kung's visit, establishment of London ABS and invite volunteers to participate.

Ven Wu Shin will visit again in 06 July to ensure progress.

**Action:**

**Everyone – please forward email and pass the words on to invite friends to the next meeting.**