

Salisbury Cathedral Close Preservation Society

" Rus In Urbe "

Chairman: Sir Robin Ibbs, KBE
Vice-Chairman: John Wort, Esq
Acting Secretary: Penelope Ibbs

BULLETIN NUMBER 29 August 2007

Letter from the Chairman

Dear Member

Once again, the mid-year bulletin consists of the draft minutes of the AGM, held on Monday, 14 May 2007, together with this letter from me reporting briefly on developments since then.

Conservation Plan for the Cathedral and Close

We had expected that, during July, the long-awaited Master Plan would be published. This has not happened, but I did attend, in May, a very interesting presentation organised by the Dean, which set out the financial results and notable events for the Cathedral over the last year, and gave an indication of the forward thinking based on Faith in the Future – Our Vision. I have since had a very helpful conversation with the Chapter Clerk.

The outcome is that I understand that it is now expected that the Master Plan and the Strategic Plan will be revealed together in presentations at the end of the year. The Strategic Plan will be the over-arching document, linking the development of ideas indicated in Faith in the Future – Our Vision with the specific propositions in the Master Plan and relevant plans by the District Council and the County Council, notably, for example, on traffic management.

This means that we still await the specific propositions in the Master Plan. Thus we are unable to assess the likely impact of these on The Close. However, the presentation and my conversation with the Chapter Clerk have made it clear that a key consideration in developing specific projects from the aspirations in the Master Plan will be the extent to which funds are available.

Among those attending the presentation was Jane Kaufmann of Jane Kaufmann Associates who, we were told, have a successful record in directing and assisting fund-raising. They have been retained in this role by the Dean and Chapter.

Other Developments

Since the AGM, further action has been taken by the Society in regard to wheelie bins and the lights on the east side of the Broad Walk. On wheelie bins, I have written to the Salisbury District Council expressing concern about instances where it would not be possible to store a bin at the rear of a property and, as a result, it would have to stand in the front garden. This would seriously detract from the appearance and character of The Close.

The vandalised lights on the Broad Walk have not yet been replaced. As evenings become longer, the darkness along the Broad Walk will cause pedestrians increasing and understandable concern about security, particularly for the elderly. I have emphasised again to the Chapter Clerk the Society's willingness to contribute financially towards more robust replacement lights.

The Annual Lecture

As already stated in the draft minutes, I should like to remind you that the Society's Annual Lecture will be held in the Lecture Theatre in the Salisbury & South Wilts. Museum, 65 The Close, at 6.30 pm on Monday, 8 October. The speaker will be Julian Richards (the well-known archaeologist, writer and broadcaster) and his subject will be Mapping the Town - Salisbury and Beyond. Tickets cost £5 and an order form is attached. There may be some tickets available at the door, but the lectures have proved popular and, to be certain of admission, it is advisable to book in advance as the capacity of the Lecture Theatre is limited. I repeat that I hope many members will be there and bring their friends.

Finally I express, not for the first time, the hope that, within months, we shall know the shape of the Master Plan. If we do, I hope to be able to follow up this bulletin with a further one to ensure members are kept up to date.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Robin Ibbs
Chairman, SCCPS

The Treasurer and Membership Secretary has asked me to add the following message:

- If we show an incorrect or incomplete address for you, please advise him.
- If you have not yet paid your subscription for 2007, please send him a cheque for £5 (in favour of SCCPS).
- If you would like to pay by Standing Order in future, please contact him.
- If you are a tax payer and have not completed a Gift Aid declaration, it will help the Society if you do – so please contact him, as follows:

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