



The East Lancashire Masonic Charity

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the East Lancashire Masonic Charity held on Wednesday **27th September 2017 at 6.30pm** at Audenshaw Masonic Hall.

Present

RWBro Sir David Trippier, President
VWBro DN Thornhill, Vice President
WBro CA Northcott, Chairman & Chairman Grant Committee
WBro JS Brownson, Honorary Treasurer
WBro PJ Price, Honorary Secretary
WBro Dr. MG Boden
WBro D Lightbown
WBro JK Davies, MBE
WBro W Waite, Non-Executive Director
Julie Ward, Non-Executive Director and Director of Operations

The total attendance of 63 members represented 39 Lodges and 24 Chapters.

In attendance also was Tim Elston, a Partner in the firm of the Auditors, Percy Westhead & Co.

The President, RWBro Sir David Trippier, opened the Annual General Meeting of the East Lancashire Masonic Charity at 6.30 pm and offered a warm welcome to all the Brethren and visitors in attendance.

The Hon. Secretary at the request of **The President** explained the 'signing-in' arrangements to representative Members and confirmed the availability within the room of copies of the previously circulated Annual Report. **The President** said that in advance of the formal business of the AGM there was to be a presentation from one of the organisations that the Charity had supported with a financial grant.

The President then invited WBro Jim Strudwick, Treasurer and Trustee of the East Manchester Community Boat Project, to give a presentation. The East Manchester Community Boat Project was one of the many non-Masonic Charities that had received financial support from the Grant Making Committee. WBro Strudwick explained the work of the East Manchester Community Boat Project in providing experiences that those with disabilities would not otherwise be able to have.

The President thanked WBro Strudwick for his presentation and for the good work of the East Manchester Community Boat Project.

The President introduced the AGM.

The President then handed over to the **Chairman, WBro Chad Northcott**, to undertake the formal business of the evening.

Agenda

1. To receive apologies

The notice convening the meeting, which had been distributed to all members in advance, together with a copy of the Annual Report and Financial Statements, was taken as read.

Apologies for absence were reported by the Hon. Secretary and have been recorded separately.

2. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd September 2016.

The Chairman drew attention to the circulated Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and enquired whether they were an accurate record of what took place on that occasion.

It was proposed by **WBro Bill Waite** and seconded by **WBro David Lightbown** that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd September 2016, which had been distributed in advance, be agreed as a true and correct record. This proposition was approved unanimously. There were no matters arising.

3. To receive the Annual Report and Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2016.

The Honorary Treasurer, WBro Jonathan Brownson, referred the meeting to the Annual Report detailing the annual accounts, and the notes and comments on those accounts. There were no questions upon the accounts.

The Chairman thanked the Hon. Treasurer for his presentation.

4. To receive the Auditor's Report.

The Chairman welcomed **Mr Tim Elston** a Partner at Percy Westhead and Co, to the meeting and invited him to make his Report. Mr Elston indicated that he did not propose to go through the whole of the accounts but would be happy to answer questions. Mr Elston then read out the Auditor's opinion contained within the Annual Report and Financial Statements. There were no questions from the floor. **The Chairman** thanked Mr Elston and his colleagues for their attention as the Auditors of the Charity's accounts.

5. Resolution to adopt the Annual Report and Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2016.

The Chairman explained that the Annual Reports, as contained in the printed booklet, previously distributed and available in hard copy that evening had been considered in detail and approved by the ELMC Board at a meeting that had taken place on Wednesday 26 July 2017; he proposed that they be formally adopted. **The President** seconded the proposal and Members present voted unanimously in favour of the proposition. The Accounts were adopted with thanks to Jonathan Brownson for his management of the accounts during the year.

6. To elect Directors.

The Board structure comprises between 12 and 15 Trustees, up to 11 of whom are elected at each Annual General Meeting.

The four 'ex officio' Directors are the Provincial Grand Master, as President, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, as Deputy President, the Provincial Grand Almoner and the Provincial Grand Charity Steward.

Ken Davies MBE, the outgoing Provincial Charity Steward, was to retire as Director (but was to remain on the Fund-Raising Committee). Grateful thanks were extended to Ken Davies MBE for his very much valued service during his time in Office.

Kirk Mulhearn, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward Designate, subject to election was to be appointed a Director.

The nominations for the Directors were:

Chad A Northcott	Chairman of the Board & Chairman of the Grant Making Committee
Philip Price	Honorary Secretary
Jonathan S Brownson	Honorary Treasurer
Mark Davis	Provincial Grand Almoner
Kirk Mulhearn	Provincial Grand Charity Steward (Designate)
David Lightbown	Chairman - Committee of Benevolence
Michael Boden	Chairman - Hewlett Court Advisory Committee
Robert S C Mitchell	Non- executive director (Museum Committee)
Julie Ward	Non-executive director
William R Waite	Non-executive director

The President, RWBro Sir David Trippier proposed that the nominated Brethren be elected to the Board of the East Lancashire Masonic Charity for the ensuing year. **The Deputy President VWBro Derek N Thornhill**, seconded the proposition.

All present voted in favour. **The Chairman** thanked the Brethren.

7. To appoint the Auditors for the ensuing year.

The current Auditors, Percy Westhead & Co., have signified their willingness to continue in office for a further year if elected. **The Chairman** gave his thanks for the work they had undertaken on behalf of the Charity and the service they had provided. **The Chairman** invited a proposition that they be re-elected for the ensuing year. This was duly made by **WBro Bill Waite** seconded by **WBro David Lightbown** and carried by the Members.

The Chairman confirmed the reappointment of **Percy Westhead & Co** as Auditors of the East Lancashire Masonic Charity for the ensuing financial year.

8. To appoint Members of the Committee of Benevolence.

The Chairman introduced the next agenda item; to appoint the Members of the Committee of Benevolence. The Hon. Secretary read the names of the Brethren to be appointed as members of the Committee for the forthcoming year: -

David Lightbown	Chairman
Jeff Ward	Deputy Chairman – Burnley & Pendle
Peter Whitnall	Bury
Alan Potts	Salford
Brian Reynolds	Ashton and Mossley
Malcolm Hearsey	Bolton
David Platt	Oldham
Nigel Johnson	Audenshaw
Alston Hall	Rochdale
Elliot Moss	Manchester Districts
Frank Salt	East Ribble
Julie Ward	ELMC Director of Operations also attends.

In addition to those Brethren (and Lady) it was reported that the Provincial Grand Almoner, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, Hon Secretary and Chairman of the Comforts Fund are ‘ex-officio’ members of the Committee.

9. To Appoint Members of the Grant Making Committee.

The Chairman asked the Hon. Secretary to read the names of the Brethren appointed as Members of this Committee for the forthcoming year, those being: -

Chad Northcott	Chairman
Mark W Davis	Deputy Chairman
Gerry Russell	Communications Officer
Karen Hall	Secretary
Brian J Carter	
David Lightbown	
Peter Faulkner	

David Dunn	
David Halford	
Kirk Mulhearn	Chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee
Sir David Trippier	President
Derek N Thornhill	Deputy President

10. To note the appointment of members to the following Committees.

The Chairman observed that within the Membership there was a range of talents, skills and abilities and the Charity was always keen to determine if there were Brethren able and willing to work on one of the Committees. The Charity was always pleased to receive nomination for the consideration of the President. Nominations should be made via the Hon. Secretary.

The Chairman asked the Hon. Secretary to read the names of those Brethren who have been appointed to serve on the other ELMC Committees for the forthcoming year:

Fund Raising Committee

Kirk Mulhearn	Chairman, The Provincial Grand Charity Steward Designate
Philip Price	Deputy Chairman
Julie Ward	ELMC Director of Operations
Paul Sellars	
Gerry Russell	
Chris Wildman	
Steven Graham	
Nigel Johnson	
John Thornhill	
Dennis Schiff	
Michael H. Clare	
John Lees	
Sir David Trippier	President
Derek N Thornhill	Deputy President
Chad Northcott	ELMC Chairman

Hewlett Court Advisory Committee

Dr Michael Boden	Chairman
Chris Wildman	
David Garnett	
Ian Whitehead	
John Hudson	
Julie Ward	ELMC Director of Operations

Comforts Fund sub-Committee

Charles B Ward Chairman

Mahtarr Samba

Dennis Gilmore

David Platt

The Chairman of the Committee of Benevolence is an 'ex-officio' member of this Committee.

Young Peoples Sub-Committee

Roger Tinker Chairman

Edward Smethurst

Paul T Doran

Gary O'Neil

Chris Creelman

Ray Evans

Richard Riley

Karen Hall

Julie Ward ELMC Director of Operations

Investment Committee

John Scott Chairman

Ian Connor Secretary

Derek Calrow

David Rothburn

Jonathan S Brownson Hon Treasurer

Robert Race of WH Ireland Ltd attends to offer advice on investments.

The Chairman, gave his grateful thanks to all those who had agreed to serve on the Committees for the coming year.

The Chairman recorded his personal thanks to Julie Ward and Karen Hall for their valuable work without which the Charity could not continue.

11. Any Other Business

The Chairman invited items from the floor under Any Other Business but of which there were none.

The Chairman handed the meeting back to **The President**.

The President on behalf of the Board of Directors gave thanks to all who worked on the Committees and helped with social functions and events. In concluding the formal business of the Annual General Meeting. **The President** extended an invitation to attendees to join him in the provided refreshments.