



The East Lancashire Masonic Charity

THE EAST LANCASHIRE MASONIC CHARITY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TAKING PLACE BY ZOOM AT 12:00 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2020

Attendees:

There were 28 Members appearing by Zoom representing various Lodges and Chapters across the Province. Of the 26 proxy votes received 25 were valid.

Introduction by the President:

The President welcomed all to the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the East Lancashire Masonic Charity. The President explained that due to Covid-19 the Meeting was being held via Zoom with reduced invitees. The arrangements for the Meeting had been fully explained beforehand to the Members and Friends of the Charity within the Province.

The President before the formal commencement of the Meeting asked the Hon. Secretary to take a register and afterwards to explain the procedure as to voting by an Appointed Representative. The President went on to say that those not appearing had been invited to vote by Proxy.

The Hon. Secretary took a register and explained the voting arrangements by reference to the Articles and the circulated proxy arrangements.

The President stated that Chad Northcott, the Chairman of ELMC, was to Chair the meeting for the formal business agenda.

Chad Northcott took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting taking the business items in the Order of the published Agenda.

1 Notice of AGM and ancillary documents – Apologies for Absence

The Chairman stated that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held Thursday 26th September 2019 and the Annual Report & Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019 had all been published on the Charity's website as had the formal Notice of this AGM.

The Chairman added that Notice of this AGM setting out the agenda items and signposting access to ancillary documents had been distributed individually to those Members who used e-mail and by post to those Members who do not.

The Chairman stated that he was to take the Notice convening the Annual General Meeting as read unless there were any objections. There were no objections.

The Chairman asked the Hon Secretary to read out apologies for absence and Hon. Secretary, Philip Price, read the names of 12 Members recorded as giving apologies.

2 To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 26th September 2019

The Chairman stated that the next business was to approve the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 26 September 2019 which had been circulated to Members with the Notice of this meeting. There were no here any corrections, or suggested amendments to the Minutes. The Chairman called upon VWBro Derek Thornhill to make a proposition that the minutes be approved. VWBro John Farrington seconded the proposal. The vote was in favour and the Chairman declared the Minutes were approved. The Chairman asked if there were any matters arising. There were none.

3 To receive the Annual Report and Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 December 2019

The Chairman stated that the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and the notes on the accounts had been circulated and had been published on the website. The Chairman invited the Hon. Treasurer, WBro David Cowen to present those statements to us. The Hon. Treasurer did so and questions were invited. There were no questions. The Chairman thanked the Hon. Treasurer for his presentation

4 To receive the Auditors Report.

The Chairman stated that Item 4 on the agenda is to receive the Auditor's Report. The Chairman said that he was pleased to advise that the Auditors were present that afternoon and he invited Andrew Warren, who is a Partner of Percy Westhead and Co to read the audit opinion. Andrew Warren read the audit opinion.

The Chairman invited questions on the accounts and on the reports of the Charity's activities, advising that the Committee Chairmen were present. There were no questions.

The Chairman thanked the Auditors - Tim Elston and Andrew Warren.

5 Resolution to Adopt the Annual Report and Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2019.

The Chairman proposed that the Annual Report and the Statement of Financial Activities, which had been approved by the Board at a meeting that took place on 30 September 2020 and ratified by the Chairman and Treasurer on 23rd October 2020 be adopted. The President seconded the proposal. The proposal was put to the vote. The vote was unanimously in favour and the Chairman declared that the Annual Report and Statement of Financial Affairs were been adopted. The Chairman once again gave thanks to the Hon. Treasurer, David Cowen.

6 To Elect Directors.

The next item on the agenda was the election of Directors to the Board of ELMC. The Chairman gave an account of the Board structure saying the Board comprises of between 12 and 15 Trustees, up to 11 of whom are elected at each Annual General Meeting.

There were four 'ex officio' Directors being the Provincial Grand Master as President of the Charity, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master as Deputy President of the Charity, the Provincial Grand Almoner and the Provincial Grand Charity Steward.

The nominations received for the elected Directors had been:

Sir David Trippier	President
John Farrington	Deputy President
Chad A Northcott	Chairman of the Board & Chairman of The Grant Making Committee
Philip Price	Honorary Secretary
David Cowen	Honorary Treasurer
David Lightbown	Chairman - Committee of Benevolence & Chairman Hewlett Court Advisory Committee
Stephen Thomson	Chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee
Robert SC Mitchell	Chairman - Museum Committee
Mrs Julie Ward	Director of Operations
Derek Thornhill	
William R Waite	

David Hudson
Steve Clark

Provincial Grand Almoner
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

The Chairman invited the President to propose that the nominees be elected as Directors of the Board and I invited VWBro Farrington to second the proposition. The proposal was put to the vote and proved unanimously in favour of all those nominated to serve as Directors. The Chairman declared the proposition carried and thanked those elected for their past service and for agreeing to continue to serve the Charity by acting as Directors.

7 To appoint the Auditors for the ensuing year.

The Chairman stated that the next item on the agenda was the appointment of auditors until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting.

The present auditors, Percy Westhead & Co had signified their willingness to continue in office if elected. Before a proposal was put to the Meeting the chairman said that he would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Auditors for the service they had provided in the past. The Chairman invited WBro David Lightbown to make the proposal. WBro David Hudson was pleased to second. The proposal was put to the Meeting and the vote was unanimously in favour. The Chairman declared that he was pleased to confirm the reappointment of Percy Westhead & Co as auditors of the East Lancashire Masonic Charity for the 2020 financial year.

8 To Note Members Appointed to the Committee of Benevolence

The Chairman stated that the next item was to appoint the Members of the Committee of Benevolence. The Chairman reminded the Meeting that that since 2019 a Representative was put forward is from each Area within the Province. A number of those eligible for nomination were also Provincial Welfare Officers.

The Chairman called upon I will now ask the Hon. Secretary to read the names of the Brethren who were to be appointed to the Committee of Benevolence for the forthcoming year.

The Hon. Secretary read out the following names

Area Representatives

Northern Area	Alan Fielder
Eastern Area	Alston Hall
Southern Area	Brian Reynolds
Western Area	Mike Bluer
Salford Area	Alan Potts
Manchester Area	Elliot Moss

The Chairman stated that in addition to the Brethren just named the Provincial Grand Almoner, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, the Honorary Secretary of the ELMC and the Chairman of the Comforts Fund Committee are “ex officio” members of the Committee. A Guest Almoner is also invited from the Mark Degree.

9 To Note members appointed to the Grant Making Committee.

The Chairman asked the Hon. Secretary to read the names of the Brethren who were to be appointed as members of this Committee for the forthcoming year.

The Hon. Secretary read out the following names:

Chad Northcott	Chairman
John R Farrington	Deputy President
Steve Clark	Provincial Grand Charity Steward (ex officio)
David Hudson	Provincial Grand Almoner (ex officio)
Gerry Russell	Communications Officer
Karen Hall	Secretary
Peter Faulkner	
David Halford	
David Dunn	
Julie Ward	Director of Operations (ex officio)

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank Brian Carter and David Lightbown who were retire from that Committee today.

10 To Note the members appointed to the Fund-Raising Committee

The next business on the Agenda was to note the names of the members appointed to the Fund-Raising Committee. The Chairman asked the Hon. Secretary to read the names of the Brethren who were to be appointed as members of this Committee for the forthcoming year.

The Hon. Secretary read out the following names:

Stephen Thomson	Chairman
Julie Ward	Director of Operations of ELMC
Philip Price	Deputy Chairman/Secretary of ELMC
Paul Sellers	Secretary
Chris Wildman	
Rachel Cookson	
Steve Clark	
Dennis Schiff	
Steve Graham	
John Thornhill	
Nigel Johnson	
Mike Claire	
Tony Stephenson	

Ex Officio Members

Sir David Trippier	President
John Farrington	Deputy President
Chad A Northcott	ELMC Chairman

11 To note the appointment of Members to serve on the other Committees' and Sub-Committees' during the ensuing year

The next business was to note the appointment of Members to serve on the other Committees' and Sub-Committees' during the ensuing year. The Chairman stated that within our Membership we had a range of talent, skills and abilities. The Charity was always keen to determine if there were Brethren who are able and who would be willing to work on one of the Committees. The Charity would be pleased to receive nominations for the consideration of the President.

The Chairman stated that Nominations can be made through the Hon. Secretary.

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

The Hon. Secretary read out the following names:

Hewlett Court Advisory Committee

David Lightbown	Chairman
Ian Whitehead	Deputy Chairman
Julie Ward	Director of Operations
Dennis Heskett	Secretary
Chris Wildman	Treasurer
David Garnett	
Peter Jones	

Comforts Fund Sub-Committee

Charles B Ward	Chairman
Mahtarr Samba	
Dennis Gilmore	
David Platt	
Alston Hall	

The Chairman of the Committee of Benevolence is an “ex Officio” member of this sub -Committee.

Young Peoples Sub-Committee

Roger Tinker	Chairman
Paul Doran	
Gary O’Neill	
Raymond P Evans	
Christopher Creelman	
Malcolm Roe	
Edward Smethurst	
Karen Hall	
Julie Ward	

Investment Committee

John Scott	Chairman
David Rothburn	
David Cowan	Treasurer
Ian Connor	Secretary
Derek Calrow	

The Chairman said that Robert Race of WH Ireland Ltd advise the Board on investments.

The Chairman thanked all those who have agreed to serve on the Committees for the coming year. The Chairman also thanked the retiring members of the ELMC Committees for their valuable work and without which he said the Charity could not continue.

The Chairman said the formal business of the Meeting having been concluded he was to hand back to the President.

12 Any Other Business.

Before he was to close the Meeting the President asked if there was any other business. There was none.

13 To Close the Meeting

President formally closed the Meeting.

President's closing remarks

After closing the Meeting, the President went on to say that on behalf of the Board of Directors, he wished to thank all of those who work on Committees and helped with fund raising activities, social functions and events. These the President said were of great benefit and a very important part of the Charity's function.