

Brethren,

I am pleased to give you an update from BFC and just to let you know whilst we have not had any individual meeting since the beginning of the year we do keep in contact with committee members regularly by means of email and general discussion, however as you can see by this report it covers many of the issues discussed and proposed from previous agendas:

The BFC accounts were audited by the masters of Hereward and Aveland Lodges and their confirmation is on the BFC website.

The bifold doors to the bar have been fitted and are in use, we do now have to consider these doors to have an annual service for which the installing company have quoted £440 per annum for a three year contract.

The bar area and surrounds have been considered and with the help of W Bro Elton, and others, are now more cosmetically appealing. We also have started to redecorate individual rooms and doors of the building and will be continuing as time allows.

Bro Phillip Knapp is now taking over the role of Bar Manager and we thank W Bro Haynes for his many years sterling work in looking after the bar.

The external surfaces of the building have been attended to with the fascias being repainted, along with the door grills and railings. We have a replacement fire door on order which will soon be fitted and we are in the process of having the robing room altered as per our previous minutes

We have also ordered new vertical blinds to replace the existing old curtains currently in place.

We have had the front triangle trimmed and the fencing around re-painted along with the hedging along the north border of the premises cut back and tidied and are having the regular grass cutting as last year.

As you can see brethren we continue to manage the premises, I hope to everyone's expectation, I am also pleased to confirm that our finances are in good shape and we are able to fund the changes mentioned in this report. Whilst we have now lost the previous year's business rate subsidy from SKDC, our treasurer continues to monitor the finances closely and apart from the rising costs we all face currently, we are happy that all appears in order for the following 12 months.

We will be sending out the annual capitation fees shortly and as you recall it was decided to charge a fair and equal amount per meeting to all Masonic lodge meetings using the facilities as instead of the previous capitation arrangement, which has been well received.

We will also be reviewing the charges to the regular hirers of the premises but have to keep abreast of the ever increasing running costs we face.

Whilst we did previously discuss the appointment of a 'caretaker' for the premises some months ago, as a temporary measure, W Bro Elton will take on this role for the next few months to help us out. It is also necessary that he be voted onto the committee to which I have proposed and W Bro Greenfield has seconded and would like everyone on the committee to confirm they are in favour so this and other issues within this update can be minuted.

Finally a vote of thanks for each member's continued input in the daily running of the premises and I hope the changes and work already carried out are plain to see.

S and F

Ian Bratley.
Chair Person BFC.
29/04/2025