

BOURNE FREEMASONS CLUB

Constitution

The club will be called Bourne Freemasons Club. The constituent lodges are The Hereward Lodge no.1232, The Lodge of Aveland no.9060, The Hereward Chapter and any other regularly constituted lodge that the Trustees of the Hereward Lodge permit to use the Hereward lodge building [known as the Bourne Masonic Centre, Roman Bank, Bourne, Lincolnshire] following due process and consultation with all involved including the Province.

This constitution reflects the articles of trusteeship that govern the Hereward Lodge Trustees and recognises that the Club acts as a mechanism to promote equality between the constituent lodges and their members.

The Club will act as collective tenant for the constituent lodges.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the club will be to:

- Organize and promote social functions associated with the constituent lodges.
- Control and manage bar facilities and provision on behalf of the constituent lodges.
- Manage catering provision on behalf of the constituent lodges; although meal bookings and associated detail will be the responsibility of each lodge and its respective officers.
- Manage the use of the buildings by other community groups.
- Ensure a duty of care to all members, visitors and guests.
- Provide suitable and sufficient insurance for their activities and liabilities.

In striving to achieve its aims the club will adhere to policies put in place by the Trustees and will formulate additional policies and procedures as from time to time it sees fit to enable compliance with the discharge of its duties and applicable regulations.

Membership

None other than Freemasons who are subscribing members of the constituent lodges are eligible for membership. Being a paid up member of any of those lodges constitutes membership of the club. New or adjoining members of any of the constituent lodges will not enjoy the privileges of membership of the club until 7 days after joining the respective lodge.

Membership and guest provisions will be such that the club is compliant with its licensing obligations.

All members will be subject to the regulations of this constitution and deemed to accept these regulations and any codes of practice or policy that the club adopts.

Fees

The committee of the club will set membership fees as it sees fit. All monies will be employed to further the aims and objectives of the club.

Officers

The offices of the club will be:

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Safety Advisor

Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting or the first General meeting thereafter.

All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment.

Officers may hold more than one office, but not more than two.

Committee

The club will be managed through the committee consisting of five members from Hereward Lodge and five members from the Lodge of Aveland; representation from the Hereward Chapter and other lodges should be included in this. It is the responsibility of the respective lodges to fill any vacancies that occur on the committee. Members can serve on the committee for as many years as their respective constituent lodge wishes; however this must be for a minimum of one year.

The committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees as necessary and to appoint advisors as appropriate to fulfil its business.

The committee will be responsible for directing any non-compliance by members to the relevant lodge for appropriate action to be taken.

Finance

All club monies will be banked in an account or accounts held in the club name.

The club treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club. An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the treasurer at the Annual General Meeting and at other times as appropriate to keep the committee and members informed of the financial affairs.

Annual General Meeting

Notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be given by the club secretary to all members at least 14 days prior to the AGM.

The AGM will receive a report from club officers and a statement of audited accounts.

Names of representatives on the committee will be sent by the constituent lodges to the club secretary prior to the AGM.

During election of officers the outgoing chairman will preside until the incoming chairman is elected.

Meetings

Any meeting of the committee will be considered to have a quorum if the chairman or vice-chairman and three other committee members are present.

All members have the right to attend any meeting of the club committee; items for inclusion on the agenda should be forwarded to the club secretary prior to the meeting. Any other business will only be included at the discretion of the chairman.

The committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside of the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for AGMs.

Suitable records of all meetings shall be kept by the secretary.

Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.

In the event of dissolution, any assets of the club that remain will be entrusted to the Hereward Lodge Trustees until suitable application of those assets can be agreed by the standing committees of the constituent lodges.

Amendments to the constitution

This constitution will only be changed through agreement by a majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

Declaration

Bourne Freemasons Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of its members.

Signed

Date

Name

Club Chairman