



Bourne Freemasons Club (BFC)

Meeting at the Masonic Centre on Tuesday 18th July 2023.

Meeting Opened at 19.05 hrs.

PRESENT: Ian Bratley (Chair), Ian Greenfield (Vice Chair), Nigel Lindley (Secretary), Peter Flint (Safety Officer), Gareth Derbyshire (Treasurer), Steven Baker, John Cooper

APOLOGIES: Clifford Crump, Roger Thorpe, Graham Allen

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed attendees.

MINUTES: The Minutes of Previous Meeting were formally agreed and are ready to be signed and uploaded to BFC Website for viewing.

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence (email) has been received from W Bro T. Cox on behalf of the Aslackby Preceptory, regarding the progress on the building of their storage cabinet.

This was discussed and it was determined that John Gregory is person responsible for the construction of the storage facility. Although August was offered by members as an anticipated completion date, BFC Secretary will contact John Gregory directly for an update.

MATTERS ARISING: Vice Chair requested that committee members consider a donation from the BFC to a local good cause - this was also the intention with any profits from the Race Night (unfortunately cancelled). Occasionally hirers also make a separate donation, and it was the intention to also use this for the same purpose. Following an inconclusive discussion, it was agreed that this item would be carried forward for further discussion.

Glass Washer – it was confirmed that the glass washer has now been serviced and is working properly.

Reports

Safety Officer: Following an external safety audit earlier in the year, progress has been made to meet the outstanding safety requirements and to address the shortfalls identified in several areas, but there remains much to do.

The Audit has though provided an ideal template for annualised health and safety plan, and it was recommended that this be used for this purpose. However, two major concerns with the annual H&S plan were raised, these are:

- a) Record Keeping
- b) Certain safety tests being undertaken by individuals with the appropriate competences.

It was therefore agreed that where necessary this work is to be outsourced and funded unless a more suitable solution is found.



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It was also reported that the guttering at the front of the Masonic Centre requires repair or replacement. Ian Greenfield will speak with Sandalls Roofers and request an estimate for the completion of the work and report back.

Hall Booking: Ian Greenfield reported that the three main hirers continue to use the premises and additional bookings are in demand.

One of these, the Bourne Bridge Club have also requested a space in the main hall to locate their own notice and honours board. Chair will liaise with them re this request.

Treasurer: Gareth Derbyshire, the incoming treasurer for BFC was introduced by the Chair, who also delivered an interim financial report.

Club funds are buoyant and ongoing fees from each Lodge and the external hirers are coming in as anticipated. There are no foreseeable debts although there will be ongoing expenditure due to the need for maintenance and repair at the masonic centre.

Gareth was welcomed to the committee by all present and when discussing his immediate objectives as new Treasurer, Gareth confirmed that his first goal was to bring everything into order, despite the difficulties we have had in obtaining previous records and to introduce internet banking as soon as possible.

He also requested, through the Chair, that he approach Metro Bank to establish whether they would take over as the Bourne Freemasons Bank due to the mediocre service we have been receiving from HSBC. It was understood that to do so we must minute the following:

1. Our confirmation of the decision for BFC to open an account with Metro Bank,
2. The minutes should confirm the signatories for the proposed account and the authorisation process,
3. Signatories to be The Chair and The Treasurer, with 1 person to sign:
4. Both to have a debit card and Internet banking to be available.

This was put to the brethren and by a show of hands was agreed unanimously.

Chairman: Given the need for regular maintenance work at the centre and the requirements of an ongoing health and safety plan, the concept of a remunerated 'caretaker/maintenance person' was introduced by the Chairman.

The committee all agreed that this would certainly have benefits, particularly if the individual had the appropriate skills to meet the needs of the centre both on a maintenance and health and safety basis. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed to carry this forward for further dialogue at the next BFC committee meeting prior to a formal proposal being posted at the AGM.

Vice Chair: Other than reporting on the hall hiring, Vice Chair also agreed that he will investigate the costs of Bi-Fold doors, which form part of the proposed plan to upgrade the bar area.



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Any Other Business:

Date of next meeting. Tuesday 26th September. 19.00 hrs.



On the basis that there being no further business, the Chairman thanked all attendees, closing the meeting at 20.40 hrs.

These attached minutes are a true and accurate record of the discussions and resolutions passed at the meeting on the 18th July 2023 and that the attendees and their committee positions/roles are as stated.

Signed

Secretary

Date

Signed

Chair

Date

Signed

Vice Chair

Date