

Minutes of the Alwarestoch general purposes committee meeting held on 25th April 2024.

In attendance were W. Bro's;

Cyril Davey, Bryan Aitkenhead, Chris Vaughan, Paul Speak, Maurice Freeman, Jason Davey, And Bro's Ed Dade, Terry Coatsworth, Roland Joseph.

1. The Worshipful Master, W. Bro Stuart Aitkenhead not being present, Bro Terry Coatsworth sat in the Chair and acted as the Master for the Meeting. He declared the GP meeting open at 1900hrs.
2. The minutes of the previous GP meeting held on 26th March 2024, having been circulated to the brethren electronically, and no corrections of or comments having been received, were put to the GP committee for confirmation. They were passed and accepted by a show of hands.
3. There was no correspondence forthcoming. Apologies were heard from: W. Bro's Mike

Izzard, Sydney Aynsworth, Gerry Mansell, Mikey Abban, Start Aitkenhead, Tom Aitkenhead, and Bro Steve Spillet.

4. As there was no ceremony planned for the next regular meeting held on 8th May 2024, the subject of presenting a lecture was discussed. It was decided to invite the former Provincial Orator to attend and give a talk about the connection between St. George and Freemasonry.
5. Under the heading of Forward planning, Bro Ed Dade informed the committee that he had a candidate for interview, and possible initiation, and also the possibility of another two in the future. It was hoped to get the candidate in for interview as soon as possible, in order that he may be balloted for and initiated at the next regular meeting on 9th October. It is the intention to invite them to any Lodge events in order that could get to know the Members.
6. A discussion took place about the disappearance of the Lodge tools and regalia. Several items of Lodge were found in the

robing room, and left out in the Lodge. An inventory had been carried out previously, and missing items replaced, but once again, items have been lost, or borrowed and not returned. To this end, W, Bro Bryan Aitkenhead has put a second lock and hasp on the Lodge Locker. There are only two keys, one he will hold, and the spare will be kept by the Treasurer. There will be no spare key left in the Masonic Hall.

7. Under the heading of Any Other Business, the Director of Ceremonies, W. Bro Cyril Davey, informed the members present that there would be a Lodge of Instruction held on the 30th April. All Brethren would receive an email informing them, and were encouraged to attend.

The Charity Steward, W. Bro Bryan Aitkenhead, informed the committee that there is money to be distributed in the charity account, and that ideas for recipients should be put forward. He asked for ideas to be put forward for informal gatherings, or social events during the summer recess. He also

informed the Brethren present, that the masonic hall has been booked on Friday 6th September, to hold the Lodge Ladies night. The Treasurer, W. Bro Paul Speak, gave an overview of the Lodge accounts, and said that they were healthy and up to date. A summary has been sent to the Brethren electronically. He asked for his thanks to W. Bro Chris Vaughan for his efforts as Treasurer, and for the help he had given during the transition to himself. He also informed the committee that he was pleased that some Brethren had chosen to take up the monthly direct debit option, as a way of paying the yearly Lodge subscription.

W. Bro Maurice Freeman as Lodge Webmaster, gave a brief overview of the Lodge website, and the continuing improvements, and said that footfall on the site had improved overall, but it would be nice to see more Lodge members using the site. W. Bro Chris Vaughan said that he had been in touch with Susia Philpot, and he found her in good health and spirits, despite the trying

times she is experiencing. He also informed the committee, that he has personally donated a sum of money to the Masonic Hall to replace the failing lighting in the Bob Hodges room with new LED strip lights. All members present agreed that the lighting was a great improvement.

8. The Almoner, Bro Terry Coatsworth, had attended the funeral of Grace Merit, one of the Lodge widows. He had sent a card of condolence, and also some flowers on behalf of the Lodge, and the family sent their thanks in return.

9. There being no other business to conduct, the acting Worshipful Master, Bro Terry Coatsworth, closed the GP meeting in Peace, Love and Harmony, at 19.55hrs.

Worshipful Master

Secretary