

Minutes of the regular meeting of Alwarestoch Lodge,

Held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

1. The Worshipful Master, W. Bro Terry Coatsworth, Opened the Lodge at 18.50hrs.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024, having been circulated electronically to the Brethren, were put to a vote for confirmation by the assembled Brethren. They were duly passed with a show of hands, with none to the contrary.
3. There were no Grand officers present. The salute to Provincial officers was given by Bro Peter Turnbull.
4. There were no matters arising, and no correspondence under this item. Apologies were heard from W. Bro's; Bill Mansfield, Tom Aitkenhead, and Bro Steve Spillett.
5. A ballot was taken for Mr Tim Webber, a potential candidate to Freemasonry. Having been recommended in open Lodge, and having been interviewed by the Committee, the Worshipful Master asked the Brethren assembled to signify their approval. The ballot proved clear and it was announced that Mr Webber would be initiated into Alwarestoch Lodge at the next available opportunity.
6. A ballot was held for two potential joining members. W. Bro Ken Brough, and W. Bro Robert Harman, who, having been proposed in open Lodge at the previous meeting, and being present as guests on this occasion, were asked to retire from the Lodge for a short time. The Worshipful

Master asked the Brethren assembled to cast their vote in the normal manner. The ballot proved clear, and W. Bro's Ken and Robert were invited back into the Lodge and presented to the Worshipful Master as newly appointed members of the Lodge. They will officially join in the new Masonic year.

#### 7. Reports:

The Treasurer, W. Bro Paul Speak, having sent out his report by email to the Brethren, gave a brief overview to those members present. He reminded the assembled Brethren that the increased subscription for 2025, will become payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>, and he urged members to pay early in the year, and to consider taking the opportunity to set up a standing order for monthly payments. He also informed the Brethren of upcoming changes to the Lodge bank accounts that will see charges introduced by the bank in keeping with other business banking. He is looking into alternatives, and will keep the Lodge updated at the next GP meeting.

The Lodge Almoner, W. Bro Terry Coatsworth, informed the Brethren that all of the Lodge widows had been sent a Christmas card, but none of them would be attending the Christmas festive board.

The Charity Steward, W. Bro Bryan Aitkenhead, told the Lodge that the donation of £500 from the Lodge to the Butterflies bereavement service, had been matched by Grand Lodge, so taking the total donation to £1000.

The Lodge of Instruction Preceptor, W. Bro Cyril Davey, thanked the Brethren and advancing officers in the

Lodge for their continuing support and attendance at LOI and rehearsals. He said that great progress had been made.

8. The Worshipful Master stood and asked if any Brother had ought to propose for the good of Freemasonry in general, or the Alwarestoch Lodge in particular.

There were no matters arising on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> risings. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> rising, the Master thanked W. Bro Ray Metelko for his excellent organ music, he thanked W. Bro Ken Tout for standing in at the Last minute as Tyler.

9. As the labours of the evening had ended, the Worshipful Master closed the Lodge in Peace Love & Harmony at 19.30hrs.