

Minutes of the Regular meeting of Alwarestoch Lodge

Held on 12th February 2025.

1. The Worshipful Master, W. Bro Terry Coatsworth, opened the Lodge at 18.50hrs.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th December 2024, having been circulated electronically to the Brethren, were put to a vote of acceptance by the Worshipful Master, and were duly passed with a show of hands.
3. The salute to Grand Lodge was given by W. Bro Cyril Davey, and the salute to Provincial Grand Lodge was given by Bro Roland Joseph.
4. There were no matters arising, and no correspondence other than that which had already been circulated. Apologies for absence were heard from: W. Bro's Bill Mansfield, and Tom Aitkenhead, and Bro's Steve Spillett and Ken Brough.
5. A ballot was held for Mr Joe Irving, a self employed general building contractor as a candidate for initiation. He had been regularly proposed in open Lodge at the December 2024 meeting by Bro Ed Dade, and seconded by W. Bro Jason Davey. The ballot proved favourable, and he will be initiated at the April Meeting.
6. The Worshipful Master appointed and invested the Officers not present at the installation meeting. Bro Roland Joseph was installed in the Senior Wardens chair.

7. At this point, the Worshipful Master invited W. Bro Gerry Mansell to take the chair of King Solomon, in order to carry out the ceremony of initiation. After having heard that the Candidate, Mr Tim Webber, had paid his fees and signed the declaration book, he asked the deacons to bring him into the Temple. An excellent ceremony of initiation was carried out by W. Bro Gerry. Bro Ed Dade as the Junior Deacon did a good job of guiding the candidate throughout the Ceremony. The northwest corner was given by W. Bro Cyril Davey, and the working tools of the degree were given by W. Bro Jason Davey. While the candidate had retired to restore his personal comforts, W. Bro Gerry invited the Worshipful Master to retake the Chair of King Solomon.

When the candidate returned to the Lodge, he was given a rendition of the charge after initiation by W. Bro's Bryan Aitkenhead, and Maurice Freeman.

The Worshipful Master congratulated Bro Tim on having completed his initiation, and presented him with a Masonic Bible.

The Visiting Officer, W. Bro Ian Moore, presented Bro Tim with a welcome to Freemasonry booklet, and gave a brief description of the information contained therein.

8. W. Bro Clive Dobson, the Solent area Chairman, presented a 50 years in Freemasonry certificate and lapel badge, to W. Bro Cyril Davey. He gave an overview of W. Bro Cyril's masonic career to date, and wished him any more years in the craft.

9. Reports: The treasurer, W. Bro Paul Speak, having sent his report to the Brethren by email, informed the Lodge that the accounts for 2023 had finally been accepted by Province, and that he was now trying to get on top of the more recent accounts.

W. Bro Cyril Davey, as one of the accounts examiners, asked the Lodge to thank W. Bro Paul for his continuing work on getting everything up to date.

The Almoner, W. Bro Terry Coatsworth, informed the Lodge that he had received a letter from Pennie Goddard, one of the Lodge widows, thanking him for the Christmas card and for making sure she was ok after the passing of W. Bro Derek Goddard. He also informed the Lodge that a Past Master of the Lodge, W. Bro Brian Noden, has been diagnosed with a terminal illness. He will keep the Lodge informed as more information becomes available.

The Charity Steward, W. Bro Bryan Aitkenhead, informed the Lodge that the Brethren of Rowner Lodge were holding a white table event, and all masons were invited to attend. He also reminded the Brethren that Prince of Wales Lodge are to hold their annual Lodge of Instruction Festival, and that all masons were encouraged to attend.

The Lodge of Instruction Preceptor, W. Bro Cyril Davey, thanked the Brethren and officers for their continued support and attendance at the rehearsals and LOI meetings. He hoped that the recent success in sharing

out parts of the ritual and ceremony in the Temple between several members, would continue.

10. There was no further communication from Grand Lodge on the 1st rising. There was likewise no further communication from Province on the 2nd rising.

The Worshipful Master thanked all of the Officers and Brethren who took part in the ceremony, and thanked W. Bro Ray Metelko for his organ music.

The Visiting Officer congratulated the Lodge on its continuing growth, and noted that as there were a possible 3 new candidates, the Lodge would have plenty of work for the next couple of years.

On the 3rd rising, a vote was put by the Worshipful Master to elect the previous Visiting Officer, W. Bro Mike Izzard, as an honorary member. W. Bro Mike was asked to retire from the Lodge for a short time, the vote was duly passed by a show of hands, and he was invited back into the Lodge and presented to the Worshipful Master who congratulated him.

11. After having seen that there was no other business to conduct, the Worshipful Master closed the Lodge in Peace Love & Harmony at 2045hrs.

Worshipful Master

Secretary