

Minutes of the 44th Convocation of the Provincial Grand Conclave of Cheshire and North Wales of the Order of the Secret Monitor held at Freemasons' Hall, Cheshire View, Plough Lane, Christleton, Chester, on Wednesday 19th June 2019

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, R.Wy.Bro. David Littlewood, accompanied by Wy.Bro. William Anthony Stringer Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, and Provincial Officers entered in procession, to the acclaim of the Brethren.

1. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler called on Provincial Grand Conclave at 11.00am.
2. The Provincial Grand Recorder confirmed that copies of the minutes of the 43rd Annual Convocation Meeting held on Wednesday 20th June 2018 had been on display in the foyer since 09:00hrs and were available for all Brethren to read. On a proposition by Wy. Bro A. McKenzie seconded by Wy.Bro. R Jordan the Minutes were approved.
3. The Provincial Grand Recorder reported that all Provincial Grand Officers were present, other than those who had submitted apologies for unavoidable absence.
4. The Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler delivered a eulogy in respect of the following Brethren who had passed to the Grand Conclave above since the last meeting of Provincial Grand Conclave: -

Stephen Hindley called to Higher Service on 20th June 2018

Joseph Dolan McInnes called to Higher Service on 14th July 2018

Brian Wignall called to Higher Service on 20th October 2018

Canon Walter Stanley Walker called to Higher Service on 11th October 2018

Thomas Sampson Shreeve called to Higher Service on 2nd January 2019

Frank Thomas Manfield Lowe called to Higher Service on 3rd January 2019

Eric Middleton Thomason called to Higher Service on 30th April 2019

Heartfelt condolences were, and had been, offered to the bereaved, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Wy. Bro .M E Orr. offered a prayer for these worthy brothers, and to those who mourned their passing.

5. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler then introduced R.Wy. Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers and Brethren from other Provinces. The Brethren were acclaimed by the members present.
6. Wy. Bro. Glyn Hewitt Provincial Grand Treasurer, presented the Audited Accounts for the year ending March 2018, copies of which were available for members prior to the meeting. A copy of the signed Accounts and the Treasurers address form part of these Minutes, and are stored in the Provincial Files

Wy.Bro. Keith Butterworth and Wy.Bro. Raymond Whittcombe, Auditors, attested that they had found the Accounts in good order and recommended them to Provincial Grand Conclave. There being no queries raised, Wy.Bro. A McKenzie proposed the Accounts be approved with gratitude to the Treasurer and to the Auditors. This was seconded by Wy.Bro. R Jordan and approved on a show of hands.

7. The Provincial Grand Recorder stated that the only Nomination for Treasurer was Wy Bro Glyn Hewitt that being, so the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler declared Wy Bro Hewitt duly elected.
8. The Provincial Grand Recorder stated that the only Nomination for Auditors were Wy Bros Keith Butterworth and Ray Whitticombe that being, so the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler declared Wy Bro Butterworth and Whitticombe duly elected.
9. The Provincial Grand Guide, Wy.Bro. R Jordan, addressed the meeting and presented the Annual Report of the Provincial Grand Guide, a copy of which is recorded in the Provincial files and forms part of these Minutes.
10. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler then appointed/re-appointed and invested Provincial Officers for the ensuing year, including appointment to and promotion in Past Provincial Grand Rank, as per the notice convening the meeting of Provincial Grand Conclave which forms part of these Minutes.
11. The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies called the Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers' Arch of Steel to order, and presented the Commander of the Arch of Steel, Wy.Bro. T. Mobbs to the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Bro. Mobbs then individually presented each member of the Arch of Steel to the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and his Deputy. New members were invested with the distinctive Collarette and Jewel of the Arch of Steel by the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.
12. Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, R.Wy.Bro. David Littlewood then addressed Provincial Grand Conclave. He said that he was delighted to see so many Brethren present and thanked everyone for their attendance. He mentioned the Fund Raising Hike by Wy Bro Peter Schick in aid of the Centenary Event being celebrated by his Conclave Verney Clayton later in the year. He referred to the need to recruit into the Order and the close link between the Order and the Order of the Scarlet Cord. He stressed that it was important that members should enjoy their membership of the Order.

A full copy of his address forming part of these Minutes is recorded in the Provincial Files.

13. The Provincial Grand Recorder reported no other business to be transacted.
14. Alms were collected in the sum of £415.38
15. Provincial Grand Conclave was closed by the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler at 12.40 p.m. after which the Welsh National Anthem, and the First verse of the National Anthem were sung.

The Recession of the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, accompanied by the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Provincial Officers, Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers from other Provinces, R.Wy. Brethren and Distinguished Guests was acclaimed by the Brethren.

Chris Welton
 Provincial Grand Recorder
 20th June 2019

Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler

Provincial Grand Recorder