**Minutes of the 139th Annual Meeting of the**

**Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire held at**

**The Kings Heath Freemasons’ Hall, B14 6DT, on Saturday, the Tenth day of June 2023,**

**under the Banners of Mosaic Lodge MMM No 1136 and Teme Valley Lodge MMM No 1260**

Active Provincial Grand Officers were in attendance as follows :-

W.Bro. P A Yarnell Deputy Provincial Grand Master

W.Bro. R J Green Assistant Provincial Grand Master

W.Bro. P L Wong Provincial Grand Senior Warden

W.Bro. D J Collett Provincial Grand Junior Warden

*W.Bro. P J Rowlands Provincial Grand Master Overseer (Apology)*

W.Bro. C V Young Provincial Grand Senior Overseer

*W.Bro. R K Abbots Provincial Grand Junior Overseer (Apology)*

W.Bro. Rev J T Parker Provincial Grand Chaplain

W.Bro. S E Humberstone Provincial Grand Treasurer

W.Bro. R Stanton Provincial Grand Registrar

W.Bro. A C Hutt Provincial Grand Secretary

W.Bro. S J Cameron Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

W.Bro. J F P Mulligan Provincial Grand Almoner

W.Bro. M J Winfield Provincial Grand Charity Steward

W.Bro. G M Watkins Provincial Grand Inspector of Work

W.Bro. M H Phillips Provincial Grand Sword Bearer

W.Bro. J A Davies Provincial Deputy Grand Chaplain

W.Bro. D J Hughes Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary

W.Bro. D W Owen Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies

W.Bro. B R Chadd Provincial Grand Senior Deacon

W.Bro. W E Roberts Provincial Grand Senior Deacon

W.Bro. P A Hill Provincial Grand Junior Deacon

W.Bro. M A King Provincial Grand Junior Deacon

W.Bro. K H Green Provincial Assistant Grand Chaplain

W.Bro. G Vale Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary

W.Bro. J. Taitt Provincial Assistant Grand D.C.

W.Bro. A Sinton Provincial Grand Organist

W.Bro. E A Corfield Provincial Grand Standard Bearer

*W.Bro. G J Thomas Provincial Assistant Grand Standard Bearer (Apology)*

W.Bro. B Benge Provincial Grand Inner Guard

W.Bro. P A Ratcliffe Provincial Grand Steward

W.Bro. C M Hampson Provincial Grand Steward

W.Bro. B S Rothero Provincial Grand Steward

*W.Bro. P H Palmer Provincial Grand Steward*  *(Apology)*

W.Bro. S P Warner Provincial Grand Tyler

W.Bro. M A King Provincial Information Officer

W.Bro. N J E Crabbe Provincial IT Officer and Webmaster

W.Bro. S Walker Provincial Membership Officer

W.Bro. B P Scoffield Provincial Grand Officer Liaison Officer

W.Bro. M J Winfield Provincial Demonstration and Support

The visiting Distinguished Guests entered the Lodge Room in Processional order at 10:45hrs

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Eric John Rymer, accompanied by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Paul Alan Yarnell and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Richard John Green, entered the Lodge escorted by the Active Provincial Officers present.

A Deputation of Royal Ark Mariners was received at 10:55hrs.

The Opening Hymn was sung and Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form at 11:00hrs.

Under the direction of W.Bro S J Cameron, *Prov.G.D.C.,* the following were saluted :

* The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Eric John Rymer, with 7 and he suitably responded.
* The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Paul Alan Yarnell, ***P.G.J.D.***, with 5 and he suitably responded.
* The Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Richard John Green, ***P.G.S.D.***, with 5 and he suitably responded.
* The Right Worshipful Brethren present, with 7, on behalf of whom R.W.Bro. Terence Sheern suitably responded.

The Provincial Grand Master called on the Provincial Grand Chaplain to read the names of those 6 Brethren who had been called to the Grand Lodge above since our last Annual Meeting. The Brethren stood in silent tribute to departed merit. *(A list of names is attached)*

The Provincial Grand Master introduced each Distinguished Guest by name (including 13 visiting R.W.Brthren) and welcomed them warmly; the Brethren of Worcestershire greeted the visitors with acclaim. *(A list of Distinguished Guests is attached).*

The Minutes of the 138th Annual Business Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge held on Saturday 11th June 2022 were put to the Meeting duly proposed by the Provincial Grand Senior Warden, seconded by the Provincial Grand Junior Warden and approved by the brethren. The Provincial Grand Master declared that he would sign them later.

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported on attendance of Provincial Officers with appropriate apologies from those unavoidably absent.

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported that all Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges were well represented *(attendance list appended).*

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported that a number of other apologies had been received and these would be recorded.

The Provincial Grand Secretary advised that there was nothing to add to his report which had been circulated.

The Provincial Grand Registrar advised that there was nothing to add to his report which had been circulated.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer presented his accounts, which were adopted by the Meeting having been proposed by the Provincial Grand Senior Warden and seconded by the Provincial Grand Junior Warden.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer confirmed no increase in the Provincial Annual dues for either Mark or Royal Ark Mariner members.

The Provincial Grand Master advised the Meeting that he had received only one nomination for the position of Provincial Grand Treasurer, he therefore declared W.Bro. S E Humberstone**, *P.A.G.D.C.*** duly re-­elected.

The Provincial Grand Senior Warden proposed that W.Bro. M J Broadhurst and W.Bro. W. Timmins be elected auditors for the ensuing year. The Provincial Grand Junior Warden seconded the proposal which was approved by the brethren.

The Provincial Grand Charity Steward reported that he had nothing to add to his previously circulated report other than to thank the Brethren for their continued support and generosity.

The Provincial Grand Senior Warden proposed that the Report of the Provincial Grand Charity Sreward be accepted. The Provincial Grand Junior Warden seconded the proposal which was approved by the brethren.

Since the previous Annual Meeting held on 10th June 2022, 20 brethren had been Advanced into the Mark Province of Worcestershire. Of these 9 were in attendance and each was presented with a specially commissioned token by the Provincial Grand Master. *(A list of names is attached)*

The Provincial Grand Master re-appointed as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Paul Alan Yarnell, ***P.G.J.D***.

The Provincial Grand Master re-appointed as Assistant Provincial Grand Master W.Bro. Richard John Green, ***P.G.S.D.***

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed his Officers for the ensuing year as follows and invested those present:

W.Bro. P A Yarnell Deputy Provincial Grand Master

W.Bro. R J Green Assistant Provincial Grand Master

W.Bro. M C Cummings Provincial Grand Senior Warden

W.Bro. M Wainwright Provincial Grand Junior Warden

W.Bro. M S Lodge Provincial Grand Master Overseer

W.Bro. J A Davies Provincial Grand Senior Overseer

W.Bro. R C Field Provincial Grand Junior Overseer

W.Bro. Rev J T Parker Provincial Grand Chaplain

W.Bro. S E Humberstone Provincial Grand Treasurer

W.Bro. R Stanton Provincial Grand Registrar

W.Bro. D J Hughes Provincial Grand Secretary

W.Bro. S J Cameron Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

W.Bro. J F P Mulligan Provincial Grand Almoner

W.Bro. M J Winfield Provincial Grand Charity Steward

W.Bro. A W Moody Provincial Grand Inspector of Work

W.Bro. P A Hill Provincial Grand Sword Bearer

W.Bro. K H Green Provincial Deputy Grand Chaplain

W.Bro. G Vale Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary

W.Bro. M P Wilcox Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies

W.Bro. B R Chadd Provincial Grand Senior Deacon

W.Bro. A Milton Provincial Grand Senior Deacon

W.Bro. E A Corfield Provincial Grand Junior Deacon

W.Bro. P A Ratcliffe Provincial Grand Junior Deacon

W.Bro. K H Green Provincial Assistant Grand Chaplain

W.Bro. G Vale Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary

W.Bro. B Benge Provincial Assistant Grand D.C.

W.Bro. A Sinton Provincial Grand Organist

W.Bro. J W Evans Provincial Grand Standard Bearer

*W.Bro. G J Thomas Provincial Assistant Grand Standard Bearer (Apology)*

W.Bro. M A Charsley Provincial Grand Inner Guard

W.Bro. B S Rothero Provincial Grand Steward

*W.Bro. P H Palmer Provincial Grand Steward*  *(Apology)*

W.Bro. B R Harper Provincial Grand Steward

W.Bro. E Salsby Provincial Grand Steward

W.Bro. S P Warner Provincial Grand Tyler

Bro. T C Rumble Provincial Information Officer

W.Bro. N J E Crabbe Provincial IT Officer and Webmaster

Bro. C F Howe Provincial Membership Officer

W.Bro. A C Hutt Provincial Grand Officer Liaison Officer

W.Bro. M J Winfield Provincial Demonstration and Support Team

V.W.Bro. J W Whiteley Provincial Demonstration and Support Team

W.Bro. J H V Moore Provincial Demonstration and Support Team

**Past Ranks:**

Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden (Rule 78) V.W.Bro R W Kindon, ***P.G.J.O.***

Past Provincial Grand Senior Deacon W.Bro. S R Day, *PProvGJO(Bristol) (Apology)*

Past Provincial Grand Senior Deacon W.Bro. W E Davies, ***G.Stwd*.**

**Promotions:**

Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden W Bro A R Payne

Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden W Bro D W Owen

Past Provincial Grand Master Overseer W Bro C R Hopes

Past Provincial Grand Senior Overseer W Bro M H Rochelle

Past Provincial Grand Junior Overseer W Bro B R Chadd

Past Provincial Grand Junior Overseer W Bro M J Creighan

*Past Provincial Grand Inspector of Works W Bro S Walker (Apology)*

Past Provincial Grand Inspector of Works W Bro M A King

In addition the Provincial Grand Master appointed a number of ‘non-collar’ Appointments to assist in him in the work of the Province as follows :-

Information Officer Bro. Thomas Charles Rumble

IT and Webmaster W.Bro. Neil John Ernest Crabbe. *P.Prov.G.S.D.*

Membership Officer Bro. Clive Frederick Howe

Grand Officer Liaison W.Bro. Adrian Carl Hutt, ***P.G.S.D.,*** *CM*

Demonstration and Support Team W.Bro. Mark John Winfield, ***P.G.Stwd.***

*V.W.Bro. Jeffrey William Whiteley,* ***P.G.J.O.,*** *CM (Apology)*

W.Bro. John Herbert Vincent Moore, ***P.G.S.D.***

*Due to the impact of the Covid pandemic here were no appointments to* ***Provincial Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank*** *at the Annual Provincial RAM Grand Assembly held at Worcester on the 16th day of May 2023*

W.Bro. Derek Wyn Owen, *P.Prov.G.J.W.,* the retiring Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, called on the Brethren of Worcestershire to rise and salute the newly appointed Provincial Grand Officers, after which the newly appointed Provincial Grand Senior Warden, W.Bro. Mervyn John Cummings, *P.G.St.B.,* rose, called the newly appointed Officers to order and suitably responded on his and their behalf.

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Eric John Rymer, addressed the Meeting *(copy attached)*

A collection for charitable purposes was taken amounting to £900

On behalf of the Masters, Principal Officers and Brethren of the Teme Valley Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 1260 and the Bromsgrove Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 1334 an invitation was given for the Provincial Grand Master to hold the next Annual Meeting under their banners. The Provincial Grand Master thanked them for their kind invitation and appointed the time and place of the next annual Meeting as Saturday 8th June 2024 at the Kings Heath Freemasons’ Hall, Birmingham.

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported that he had no further business to bring before Provincial Grand Lodge.

Provincial Grand Lodge was closed at 12:23hrs. in due form by the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Eric John Rymer, the closing hymn was sung, followed by the first verse of the National Anthem and under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Stuart James Cameron, *P.Prov.G.J.W.,* a column was formed to escort the Provincial Grand Master and Distinguished Guests from the Lodge Room.

Signed: Provincial Grand Master…………………………………………………………….

Signed: Provincial Grand Secretary…………….…………………………. Date……………….