

Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire.

Minutes of Almoners Committee Meeting.

Held within Suite 42, Geddes House on 20 February 2016 @ 10am.

Present

Jim Ellis(PGM), Tom Chymylowskyj(PGC)

Kenny McMaster(PGA), Keith Stirling(13), John Ward(17), Philip Harvey(272), John Hendry(374), Norman Colborne(548), J Kirkton-Vaughan(636) Gordon Dow(827), Robert McConnell(927), Jim Henderson(1145).

Apologies

Jim Robertson(1186), Rodger Muir(1305), Ernie Lamond(1658), James Barnes(1601)

Kenny McMaster(PGA) opened the meeting by intimating the funeral of the Wife of Bro Willie Johnson(409), PM of the Douglas Lodge 409 was taking place today and asked that we all spare a thought for him and his family.

Welcome

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) welcomed Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) and Bro Tom Chymylowskyj(PGC) and all the Almoners present to his first meeting as Provincial Grand Almoner. PGA thanked Bro Ellis(PGM), his Commissioned Officebearers, the Almoners and all the brethren of the province for their support prior to and since his installation as Provincial Grand Almoner. He asked the Almoners of the province to take back his thanks to the brethren of their respective lodges.

Communication

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) raised several items relating to communication :

- Did the Almoners want the minutes of our meetings to be read and approved at each meeting. Almoners are happy with the current practice.
- PGA expressed his wish to keep in contact with all the Almoners outwith the meetings planned for the rest of year. The Almoners are happy to stay in contact via phone and e-mail.
- PGA asked that all the Almoners have contact cards should they visit Widows and brethren. He also passed round sample Get Well and Sympathy cards for consideration. He also mentioned Bro Alan Borsbey would happily provide these at cost. Almoners will make their own arrangements.
- The Almoners requested a list of contact details. PGA will arrange.

## Benevolence

Bro Kenny McMaster (PGA) Almoner asked the Almoners to consider benevolence for a brother in the province and provided the Almoners with details. After discussion Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) requested that PGA send him the details and he will raise this with our Benevolence Committee.

Action : PGA to provide details to Bro Jim Ellis(PGM)

## Almoners Fare Update

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) intimated that he currently had seven stalls for the fare :

- Homebaking
- Tombola
- Mark Token bring and buy
- Arts & Crafts
- Books/DVDs/CDs
- Face Painting
- Garden Plants

PGA thanked Bro McConnell(927) for the donation of £40 from the english brethren who had attended his Lodge installation. He also thanked Lodge Hopetoun St John 1232 for their donation of £25 and Bro Tommy Doherty PM(1186) for the woodwork he has offered to help with our fundraising efforts.

Bro Henderson(1145) suggested Irish Bingo, Kids electronic puzzle and a photo booth. Bro Harvey has list of external stall holders who might be interested in taking stalls at our fare, he will send this to PGA. Bro Hendry(374) suggested guess the dolls birthday.

The Almoners also requested that their best wishes be passed to Bro John Terry who is currently unwell. They also hoped that he will be well enough to help out at future fares and wanted to thank him for his hard work at previous fares.

## Race Night

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) asked if the Almoners wished to hold a Race Night. The Almoners expressed a wish to have a race night. PGA to speak to Bro Jim Robertson(1186) and Bro George Neally(590) about this. A date will be agreed at our next meeting on 16 April 2016.

## Sir James McKay House

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) told the Almoners of his visit to Sir James McKay house with George Preston(PPGM). He intimated that Bro Preston had offered to arrange visits for the Almoners and to let him know at their next meeting on 16 April 2016. He also asked if the Almoners would be interested in selling Sir James McKay House Xmas Cards. The Almoners expressed concern that they had had trouble selling them previously and asked if they could see samples. PGA will arrange with Bro George Preston(PPGM)

### Address from Bro Jim Ellis(PGM)

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) asked if Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) wanted to address the Almoners. Bro Ellis(PGM) congratulated the Almoners on the enthusiasm shown at today's meeting and reiterated that this was essentially an Almoners committee but acknowledged their fund raising efforts. He mentioned that he and PGA enjoyed a high level of communication prior to and since the Provincial Installation.

He also mentioned that Bro Jim McGregor IPM(1145) was the Provinces champion for the Zip Wire challenge for Grand Lodge and suggested the Almoners might wish to contribute, adding that if every lodge in our province raised £50 then we would raise a good sum for this excellent cause

The sum of £50 was proposed by Bro Norman Colborne(548) and seconded by Bro John Hendry(374)

Bro Tom Chymylowskyj(PGC) echoing Bro Ellis's sentiments congratulated PGA on the manner in which he had conducted the meeting.

There being no other competent business Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) thanked everyone present for making his first meeting as PGA so productive. The meeting closed at approximately 11am.

### Next Meeting

Saturday, 16 April 2016 @ 10am within the premises of Suite 42, Geddes House.

Agenda - Almoners Fare  
- Race Night