

Provincial Grand Lodge of Linlithgowshire.

Minutes of Almoners Committee Meeting.

Held within Suite 42, Geddes House on 16 April 2016 @ 10am.

Present

Jim Ellis(PGM), Robert Scott(IPPGM), Ian J Russell(PPGA)

Kenny McMaster(PGA), Keith Stirling(13), Philip Harvey(272), John Hendry(374), Norman Colborne(548), James Kirkton-Vaughan(636), Gordon Dow(827), Robert McConnell(927), Jim Henderson(1145), Jim Robertson(1186), Rodger Muir(1305), John Glendinning(1587), James Barnes(1601), Ernie Lamond(1658)

Apologies

John Ward(17)

Kenny McMaster(PGA) opened the meeting by intimating that Bro John Terry(13) who had given great service to the Almoners committee was very poorly in the Western General. He also mentioned Bro Tom Chymylowskyj(PGC), our link to the Commissioned Office bearers, had had a family bereavement and asked that we spare a thought for both these brethren at this time.

Welcome

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) welcomed Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) and Bro Robert Scott(IPPGM) and all the Almoners present to the meeting. PGA thanked all the Almoners for attending asked Bro Ellis and Bro Scott if they wished to address the meeting. Brother's Ellis and Scott kindly declined the invitation.

Matters Arising

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) intimated there was two matters arising from the last meeting :

- Almoners contact list – Action (PGA)
- Benevolence – PGA had passed the details to Bro Ellis(PGM) as per the last minutes

Almoners Fare Update

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) intimated that he currently had seven stalls for the fare and that he asked Bro Tom Stott(PM) to come along and provide hot filled roles. PGA then asked Bro Phil Harvey to update the brethren present on the stallholders he had asked to attend which are shown on the list below :

- Homebaking
- Tombola
- Mark Token bring and buy
- Nellies Hobbies (Arts & Crafts)

- Books/DVDs/CDs
- Face Painting
- Garden Plants
- Braw, Bricht Jewellery & Crafts
- Mmmm Sweets
- Clarke Baxter (Homemade tablet & fudge)

Bro Phil Harvey(272) then suggested we might want to consider having a further stall with good quality second hand items. Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) intimated that Bro Gordon Dow(827) had made a similar suggestion as he had some good quality clothing and asked if it would be possible to borrow Lodge Torphichen Kilwinning's clothes rack. Bro Keith Stirling(13) intimated that their rack was collapsible and could be made available.

Bro Jim Henderson(1145) also mentioned his previous suggestion about having Irish bingo. Bro Ian Russell(PPGA) reminded the brethren of the gallon whisky. Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) thanked Bro Russell and intimated that he would arrange raffle tickets and the winner would be drawn on the night of the Almoners concert.

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) then showed the brethren present a specially designed case donated by Bro Kevin Taggart(WJW), Lodge Buchan St John 636 and was currently being auctioned and bidding would close on the day of the Almoners fair. The current bid stands at £100. He also mentioned that Bro Taggart had donated a Onesie.

PGA then mentioned that Bro Tommy Doherty, PM 1186 had recently sold a hand made gavel and donated the proceeds of £40.00 to the fair, Bro Doherty had also donated some hand goods including mini gavels. He had also received a donation of £20 from Bro Jim Little(RWM), Lodge St Andrew, Livingston Station who would be unable to attend the fair due to holidays.

A full discussion on how we advertise the fair took place. PGA intimated that he had been promoting the fair on the PGL facebook page, the website and Bro Ellis(PGM) had been promoting within the lodges at their respective provincial visits. PGA intimated that it was very much word of mouth but Bro Harvey(272) will add to Gumtree and Bro McConnell(927) will investigate getting the fair in the local paper.

Almoners Race Night

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) mentioned that at the last meeting the Almoners had expressed a desire to hold a race night and that he had asked Bro Jim Robertson(1186) to organise and asked Bro Robertson(1186) to address the meeting on the progress he had made.

Bro Robertson(1186) gave the Almoners a handout and then gave the brethren an overview of the proposed format for the evening after which there was much discussion. He also mentioned that Bro Alan Borsbey(PGWebmaster) and Bro George Neill, PM 1186 had offered to make the programmes and do the betting respectively for the race night.

Bro Robert Scott(PPGM) suggested that the Almoners may want to have social evening as well. PGA agreed with Bro Scott's suggestion and intimated that he would ask Bro Borsbey if he would be able to assist.

With the assistance of Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) the date for the Almoners race night was agreed. The Almoners race night will be held on 12 November 2016 with a venue to be agreed and will be discussed at the next meeting.

PGA asked the Almoners of several lodges to check the availability of their respective lodges with a view to holding the race night. PGA intimated that he would asked Bro Walker(PG Secy) to write to all the lodges in the province advising the date of the race night and ask for their co-operation in not holding events on that evening.

Almoners Dinner

Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) mentioned that while Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) had given him the honour of wearing the Provincial Almoners regalia the hard work was done by brethren present. PGA suggested having an Almoners dinner later in the year which he offered to subsidise. He also suggested an invitation be extended to Bro Jim Ellis(PGM) and Bro Ian J Russell(PPGA).

Post meeting note : I would also extend an invitation to all Past Provincial Grand Almoners.

There being no other competent business Bro Kenny McMaster(PGA) thanked everyone present for their attendance and contribution to a positive meeting. The meeting closed at approximately 11.15am.

Next Meeting

Saturday, 17 September 2016 @ 10am within the premises of Suite 42, Geddes House.

Agenda – Race Night

Almoners dinner.