

Association of Friends of Ecclesholme Benevolent Fund

Registered Charity No: 510151

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Sunday 20th January 2019

Attendees

Chairman (retiring).....	Stan Bibby	East Lancashire
Chairman (new).....	Peter Hegarty	East Lancashire (Trustee)
Secretary (retiring).....	Peter Hegarty	East Lancashire (Trustee)
Secretary (new).....	Mark P Howard	West Lancashire
Treasurer (retiring).....	Jonathan M Heaton	West Lancashire (Trustee)
Treasurer (new).....	James Carmichael-Prince	West Lancashire
President.....	Mark Stephen Gregory	West Lancashire (Trustee)
Vice President.....	Malcolm Warren	West Lancashire (Trustee)
Home Manager.....	Mrs Beverley Niland	

Committee members

Chorley Group Representative.....	Richard Frazer-Bastable	West Lancashire
Eccles Group Representative.....	John Hindle	West Lancashire
Warrington Group Representative.....	Leslie Savage	West Lancashire
Wigan Group Representative.....	Eric Bailey	West Lancashire
Cheshire Provincial Representative.....	Walter Grundy (Area 4)	Cheshire
East Lancashire Provincial Representative.....	Donald Roberts (retiring)	East Lancashire

In attendance

Wigan Group Chairman.....	Geoffrey M Porter	West Lancashire
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Apologies

Vice President.....	Ernest Daniels	West Lancashire
Salford District Representative.....	John Hesketh	East Lancashire
Leigh Group Representative.....	Jim Simms	West Lancashire
Leyland Group Representative.....	Jeff Lucas	West Lancashire
Bolton & Bury District Representative.....	Derek Calrow	East Lancashire
South Eastern Group Representative.....	Rev Robert Murphy	West Lancashire

Welcome

The meeting was opened by the retiring Chairman Stan Bibby at 2:06pm. A warm welcome was extended to those present and the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and continued support.

The retiring Chairman congratulated those taking office and wished them well for their new tenure:
Peter Hegarty, Chairman

Mark Howard, Secretary
James Carmichael-Prince, Treasurer

Stan Bibby explained that the committee can expect renewed focus from East Lancashire Masonic Charity under the guidance of Chad Northcot. ELMC Chief Executive have said they will match the donations made by other Provinces, a pledge which they have kickstarted with their recent and very generous donation of £4,000.

At this point in the proceedings the retiring Chairman Stan Bibby handed over the meeting to the incoming Chairman Peter Hegarty. A vote of thanks was proposed for all the hard work, support and dedication of the retiring Chairman Stan Bibby during his tenure. All present showed their appreciation with acclamation.

The Chairman Peter Hegarty then welcomed the new Officers to the committee, Secretary, Mark Howard and the newly appointed Treasurer James Carmichael-Prince

Previous Treasurer Jonathan Heaton was thanked for his hard work and diligence during his tenure as Treasurer and the Chairman thanked him for his continued support as a newly appointed Vice President.

Donald Roberts stepped down as the Representative for Southern District (East Lancashire). The Chairman thanked Donald for his efforts and hard work throughout his ten years, especially with the Ecclesholme Roadshow in East Lancashire. All present expressed their appreciation of all of his efforts.

The new Representative for Southern District (East Lancashire) is to be Roy Tindle.

Malcolm Warren proposed, and Mark Stephen Gregory seconded that Donald Roberts be appointed a Vice President of the Association. The committee voted unanimously in favour.

A discussion took place regarding Ambassadors for Ecclesholme and the availability of a presentation that had been used in East Lancashire. Stan Bibby and Mark Stephen Gregory will continue to work on it. ACTION: Stan Bibby / Mark Stephen Gregory

Minutes

To confirm and adopt the previously circulated minutes of the last regular meeting of the Committee held on 18th Nov 2018. Proposed James Carmichael-Prince, Seconded Malcolm Warren. PASSED by all present.

Matter arising

There were no matters arising

Summer Fair

Date, Venue and Principle Guest for the 2019 Summer Fair were confirmed as Sunday, 2nd June 2019 at Eccles Masonic Hall with R.W.Bro. Stephen M Blank Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Cheshire. A formal invitation confirming the details of the event should be sent to R.W.Bro Blank via the Cheshire Provincial Office. ACTION: Mark P Howard

The Chairman requested that John Hindle make arrangements with Eccles Masonic Hall that the First Sunday in June and the Last Sunday in November are booked for the "Ecclesholme Summer Fair" and "Ecclesholme Christmas Fair" respectively in perpetuity. ACTION: John Hindle

Eric Bailey is to enquire if the Greenall brass band will support the two events. ACTION: Eric Bailey

Supporters Initiative

A discussion took place regarding the Supporters Initiative which has been brought to light after the successful presentation at Horwich MH. The presentation needs some updates – including financial information. It can then be sent to the Representatives for distribution.

The mandate form needs updating with the new Treasurers details. ACTION: James Carmichael-Prince

Walter Grundy suggested we look at using the Relief Chest Scheme and its facilities to handle some of the administrative overhead including Gift Aid donations.

Meetings

A productive and pragmatic discussion concerning the number of meetings of the Committee and encouraging Representative engagement ensued. Donald Roberts proposed, and Mark Stephen Gregory seconded the meeting schedule as follows:

Committee Meeting

Sunday, 26th May 2019 at 2:00pm (*that being the week prior to the Summer Fair*)

Committee Meeting

Sunday, 24th November 2019 at 10:00am (*that being the week prior to the Christmas Fair*)

Annual General Meeting & Committee Meeting (to follow)

Sunday, 19th January 2020 at 2:00pm (*as per existing arrangements*)

The proposition was carried unanimously by all present.

Hall Manager's Report (Beverley Niland)

The recent refurbishments are a great success for both the home and its residents. However, it now accentuates the need to address the bedrooms. As a first step we need to replace the curtains and fittings of all 50 rooms.

The Residents Amenity Fund also requires a top-up of circa £2,000

On an ongoing basis we should look to modernise all the rooms.

Mark Stephen Gregory proposed, and Donald Roberts seconded that we give £22,000 - comprising of £15,000 for curtains and fixtures for 50 bedrooms in the home, £5,000 for ongoing services from "Nordoff Robbins" (music therapy) and £2,000 to top-up the Residents Amenity Fund. The proposition was carried unanimously by all present.

Treasurers Report (Johnathan M Heaton)

Income for 2018 is in a positive position being slightly up on that of 2017. The loss of income due to the lack of a Gala Dinner event has been exceeded by the very generous donations received from the Cheshire, East Lancashire and West Lancashire Provinces. Donations from Lodges in all provinces has shown an increase which is equally appreciated and encouraging.

The Past Treasurer commented that due to timings there will always be some ebb and flow with the accounts from year to year as pledges and expenses are not always realized in the accounting period

in which they have occurred. Nonetheless the accounts remain healthy, steady and in a positive position.

Year to Date figures (inclusive of the £22,00 pledged) are

Income	£ 23,000
Expenditure	£ 44,360
Balance	£ 42,000

Secretary's Report (Peter Hegarty)

Ladies and brethren, 2018 was a very successful year for the Friends of Ecclesholme, we were delighted to be supported by all three provinces in our area who each gave £4000 from their charities to the association.

The summer fair held at Hemsley House was well supported and our thanks go to the hall for hosting the event. The Christmas fair was back at Elmbank as the hall directors were now running the hall on a more commercial basis and through their hard work had secured the future of Elmbank certainly for the time being. Both fairs were successful, and revenue was up to expectation.

The gala dinner was hosted this year by the Salford District and was well attended by all the groups and districts which support the association. We were treated to a first-class meal by the caterers at Salford and their staff who were courteous and extremely efficient.

During the year we have again provided the Nordoff Robbins music therapy which is giving our residents a lot of happiness and they look forward to the Friday sessions.

The new garden furniture is paid for and we expect delivery in January to take advantage of unseasonal discounts.

The committee has also funded another bath for residents with mobility issues and also a "Jolly Trolley" which is a mobile entertainment centre with full audio-visual facilities for every occasion.

Of course, the regular Saturday entertainment continues as well as seasonal parties and even theatre groups coming into the home to entertain with plays and dramas of all types.

Despite the expense occurred over the year the committee have been mindful of the £500,000 investment by the RMBI into refurbishing the home and it is our intention to make a significant investment to supplement the good work of the RMBI when we know what areas are left to upgrade.

We have received the following correspondence:

- (a) Invitation to the R.M.B.I. Associations Meeting 2019 at Connaught Court in York.
- (b) Invitation to the Warrington Group's Giving Day in February. ACTION: Peter Hegarty / Mark Stephen Gregory
- (c) Request from Widnes Group to host the 2020 Gala Dinner.

Almoner's Report

Stan Bibby (the newly appointed East Lancashire Ecclesholme Almoner) commented that recent admissions to the home include three Widows and one Brother and wished to express his thanks to the Home Manager for her help and assistance. He commended the Home Manager and all of her

Staff at Ecclesholme for their hard work and dedication to our residents. All present expressed their agreement and appreciation.

Other Business

Discussion and confirmation of the recent £500,000 donations from “Masonic Charitable Foundation” to both Ecclesholme and The Tithebarn.

Stan Bibby and Donal Roberts expressed the importance of promotional articles and the use of email as a distribution mechanism

Malcolm Warren has asked R.W.Bro. James Anthony Harrisson, Provincial Grand Master of the Province of West Lancashire to be our Principle guest at the 2020 Summer Fair, along with his Wife Maureen. He was delighted to accept and would await a formal invitation from the Secretary in due course.

Confirmation of our Registered Charity number as 510151

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 3:23pm.

SignedChairman

Signed..... Secretary

SignedPresident