



Province of West Lancashire MASONIC HALLS APPEAL NEWSLETTER

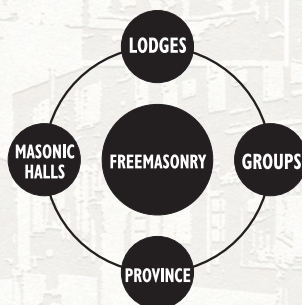
Issue 1

May 2010

A meeting of Masonic Hall Chairmen and Brethren involved in the business of running and managing Masonic Halls in the Province of West Lancashire was held at Leyland Masonic Hall on Tuesday the 2nd February 2010. The P.G.M. Bro Peter John Hosker opened the meeting and presented to the assembly a very interesting vision for the future.

**IDENTIFY A
'KEY CAPITAL
PROJECT' FOR
YOUR HALL**

**SET A
TARGET &
TIME
FRAME**



Provincial Grand Lodge on Monday 1st November 2010 will see the official launch by the RW Provincial Grand Master of a new initiative for Masonic Halls.

**SUBMIT
YOUR
BUSINESS
PLAN**

His intention is to bring Masonic Halls to the top of the Provincial Agenda, to raise the profile of Masonic Halls and encourage all Brethren to focus upon their own Hall and thereby to develop a culture of support for Masonic Halls.

The **'Masonic Halls Appeal'** scheme will allow all Masons meeting at their respective Halls to concentrate on supporting their Hall through an approved scheme to raise funds for a key capital project(s).

He has made it quite clear that the Province does not wish to act like 'Big Brother' or interfere in the running and management of the Masonic Halls but will be there to Advise Assist and Support.

The overriding Principles of the scheme are to be ones of Flexibility and Support.



The Provincial Grand Master has in my opinion come down strongly in favour of the idea what we the Hall Chairmen have felt for a long time, that Masonic Halls have always taken a back seat in the thinking of Masons and Masonry in General.

I am very confident that these proposals and this Scheme can only make Masonic Halls stronger, more vibrant and competitive in everything that we as Masonic Hall Chairmen have been trying to achieve for a large number of years.

Tony Hough
Chairman Cleveleys
Masonic Hall.

MAKEUP OF THE SCHEME

A working committee, consisting of, Tony Hough, David Randerson and David Winder have been invited and agreed to make up that committee. The Committee will be involved in the following:-

- **Producing a detailed plan for running and managing the scheme**
- **Producing and issuing the application forms for the Halls who wish to take part**
- **Assisting Halls, as and when requested, and to advise on the completion their applications forms**
- **Putting together the Provincial pack to be issued to Halls taking part – guide booklet, banners, posters, circulars, flyers etc**
- **Approving applications and then issuing the Provincial pack**
- **Acting as an advisory body to Halls taking part if any problems arise**
- **Doing all such other things as may be necessary to ensure the success of the Appeal**

The Province will make money available for the costs and expenses of the work and actions mentioned above.

FINAL WORD FROM PGM

Chairmen/Brethren, My wide ranging consultation in respect of the proposed Masonic Halls Appeal has clearly shown that there is strong support and enthusiasm for the Scheme. Let us now make the Appeal a great success and demonstrate that Masonic Halls are at the very heart of our Masonic family here in West Lancashire. Peter Hosker – P.G.M.

THE SCHEME

The Provincial Grand Master went on to explain that the thinking is to make the Appeal as simple as possible empowering each Hall to run and manage its own Appeal under the Provincial Banner for the benefit of its own Hall.

If, under the Provincial Banner, the Province is encouraging Brethren to support their own Masonic Hall, it is felt that minimum standards should be demonstrated. Accordingly, it is suggested that each Hall wishing to take part should demonstrate the minimum standards

- **Complete an application form to take part**
- **Identify a key capital project and a target figure for its Appeal fund raising**
- **Produce the Hall's business plan expanded to incorporate the identified project and agreed with Group.**

(It is anticipated that the applicant's business plan will be readily available in accordance with the Masonic Halls' Code of Practice).

In all of this, if the Province is lending its name to the scheme, it is reasonable that the Province is given some assurance as to the viability of each application.

But the Province must proceed in a helpful and supportive manner and avoid bureaucracy at all costs.

In short we must help those Halls who wish to take part and who have a reasonable proposal to go ahead. He continued "Let me make it quite clear that if any Masonic Hall does not wish to take part and prefers to go its own way in the matter of fund raising that is entirely acceptable. However, I am anxious to bring Masonic Halls to the top of the agenda for the benefit of all Masonic Halls and thus encourage all brethren to think seriously about the importance of their own Masonic Hall and the need to support it. **The Masonic Halls are there for the Freemasons of West Lancashire, they are our homes**".