

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE HELD AT THE WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL ON TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

## **OPENING**

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer by the R W Provincial Grand Master, Bro James Anthony Harrison, assisted by WBro Daniel Crossley, Provincial Senior Grand Warden and WBro Benjamin Gorry, Provincial Junior Grand Warden at 2.30 p.m.

#### **DEPARTED MERIT**

The RW Provincial Grand Master said, "Brethren, since our Provincial Meeting in April 2019, many of our colleagues both in Grand Rank and in Provincial Grand Rank, have departed this life and have been called to higher service. Our thoughts and prayers go to the families and friends of those we have lost. Would you please stand with me for a moment in respect of departed merit."

#### **SALUTATION**

The RW Provincial Grand Master was saluted according to ancient custom to which he responded.

#### **APOLOGIES**

The Provincial Grand Secretary announced the receipt of apologies from 122 Grand Officers and 356 Provincial Grand Officers and 102 other Brethren.

#### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge held at Winter Gardens, Blackpool on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 which had been previously published, were put to the meeting and approved.

## RW PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER REFERS TO THE DEPUTY PROVINICIAL GRAND MASTER

VW Bro Philip Gunning, you have been my Deputy for almost seven years, throughout which time you have always fully applied yourself to the multitude of responsibilities such high office attracts. It is therefore very reassuring to know I have such a committed Deputy Provincial Grand Master by my side and I therefore have no hesitation in re-appointing you. Deputy proclaimed and saluted.

The Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters and visiting Very Worshipful Brethren are saluted.

#### RETIREMENT OF ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER

The RW Provincial Grand Master continued: Today, one of my APrGMs retires from office. I refer to Bro Keith Kemp, who cannot be with us today as he is still suffering the after-effects of Covid. Keith was my PrGDC for 8 years, which is the longest term any PrGDC has served in recent times. Prior to that, Bro Kemp was a DepDC in the Craft and RA for 6 years and for the last 3 years served as one of my APGMs. I wish to record my sincere thanks to him personally, and on behalf of the Province for his loyalty and dedication over such a sustained period of time and I wish both Keith and his wife Beryl a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Over the past 18 months, three of my APGMs retired from office, namely, Kevin Poynton, Derek Parkinson and Stewart Seddon.

Bro Kevin Poynton served as a DepDC for six years, an AtoPrGPs for 2 years and finally as an APGM for 6 years.

Bro Derek Parkinson was PrSGW of this Province in 2001 and then served as AtoPrGPs for 2 years and finally as one of my APGMs for six years.

Bro Stewart Seddon was a member of the Group Executive in the then Leyland Group for 14 years, serving as Vice Chairman and Chairman and finally serving as one of my APGMs for 5 years.

I thank you collectively and individually for your sustained loyalty and commitment. No doubt you are all enjoying a well-earned rest in your retirement and I now have pleasure in investing you with your Collarettes of a PAPrGM.

## **RE-APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS**

The RW Provincial Grand Master continued "I am pleased to report that the remainder of my Assistants have all indicated that they wish to continue in their important roles. I thank them individually and collectively for all their help and support and I am delighted to re-appoint them. I will now ask you to stand as I call your names and may I ask you Brethren to show your appreciation with applause when I have completed the list: David Ogden, Frank Umbers, Barry Jameson, Mark Matthews, Andrew Whittle, Duncan Smith and Peter Lockett. Thank you very much indeed.

The Assistant Provincial Grand Masters were saluted.

#### **CEREMONY of OBLIGATION and INVESTITURE of an ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER**

"Brethren, following the retirement of Keith Kemp as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master, I intend to appoint W.Bro Peter Schofield to succeed him."

Bro Director of Ceremonies, was then asked if Bro Schofield was in attendance. The Director of Ceremonies, then formed a deputation and escorted him into Provincial Grand Lodge, so that the Provincial Grand Master could proceed to obligate and invest him.

The Provincial Grand Master addressed Bro Schofield:

"Bro Peter Schofield you have been a member of the Group Executive in the Furness and South Lakeland Group for eleven years, serving as Secretary, Vice Chairman and finally for the last 5 years as Chairman.

As a consequence, you are held in great esteem in both your own Group and neighbouring Group of Lancaster and both of these Groups will now come under your care.

It will come as no surprise to anyone that you hold Grand Rank in both the Craft and Royal Arch. You are a highly experienced Freemason and more than qualified to undertake the duties of an Assistant Provincial Grand Master, but I must ask you in this Provincial Grand Lodge, whether or not you are willing to take on the duties and responsibilities of that Office.

Then I will, following your obligation, proceed to invest you

I call upon the PrGSec to read the Patent of Appointment.

I would now ask you to kneel on both knees, rest the Volume of the Sacred Law on your left hand, place your right hand upon it, and recite your Obligation.

Seals Obligation on VSL.

You will now rise and advance to the pedestal so that I may invest you.

Bro Schofield, it gives me great pleasure to invest you as one of my APrGMs and in your case, with particular responsibility for the Lancaster Group and the Furness and South Lakeland Group.

Bro Schofield is then proclaimed and saluted.

# **APPOINTMENTS TO GRAND LODGE**

The RW Provincial Grand Master reported the following appointments and promotions in Grand Lodge.

"Brethren, Earlier this year on 28<sup>th</sup> April, a number of brethren received appointments to and promotions in Grand Rank, although it was not possible to hold official investiture, it takes nothing away from these very special honours and it therefore gives me particular pleasure to confirm the names as follows:-

## Re-appointed to the Rank of Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Barry Fitzgerald

## **Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies**

Peter Stuart Allen	Stuart Sutherland Boyd	Stewart James Cranage
lan Jeffrey Halsall	Stephen Warren Kayne	John Andrew Wrennall

#### Promoted to the Rank of Past Senior Grand Deacon

Charles Peter Lockett Robert Duncan Smith

## Promoted to the Rank of Past Junior Grand Deacon

John Philip James Francis Roy Pyne

The Provincial Grand Master congratulated all the recipients who had been invested in Grand Rank on their appointments and promotions.

## **GROUP APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS**

The Provincial Grand Master continued, "Brethren, I now refer to changes in Group Office taking place today.

There is just one of my Group Chairmen retiring today, following a dedicated and productive period of office in the service of the Province. I refer of course to Bro Peter Schofield, who has led his Group with distinction, and we owe him a considerable debt of gratitude.

Bro Schofield will be succeeded today as Chairman of the Furness and South Lakeland Group by:-Bro Gary Rogerson, who in turn will be succeeded as Group Vice Chairman by Bro Alan Pattinson.

I thank both of these newly appointed Brethren for agreeing to assume these primary roles within our Provincial structure and I look forward to working with them in the future.

Brethren, please join me in showing our appreciation of the service given by these brethren to the Province.

#### NOMINEES FOR THE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The Provincial Grand Master explained by stating: Brethren, you will of course have heard of the Masonic Charitable Foundation and for a number of years Mark Matthews and Colin Rowling have represented this Province as members of the Foundation. Today, both Mark and Colin are to retire as representatives and I wish to record my sincere thanks to both of them for the commitment they have shown in this role, whilst holding high office within this Province.

They will be succeeded By Bro Stephen Kayne, a Chartered Accountant and Past CEO of the WLFC and together with Bro Alan Riley, who is the Applications Manager at the WLFC will represent West Lancashire at the MCF.

There is no doubt brethren, their extensive knowledge of working within our own WLFC, will prove invaluable when attending the meetings of the MCF at Great Queen Street.

Thank you to both of you for agreeing to represent this great Province of ours at the MCF.

## **PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS 2017**

Bro Neil Latham, PrGTreasurer, Provincial Grand Treasurer, presented the consolidated accounts of the Province for the year ending December 2020

#### **PROPOSITION**

W.Bro. David Ogden, PSGD, APrGM to propose that the accounts be received, adopted and entered into the minutes. This was seconded by W.Bro. Frank Umbers, PSGD, APrGM

## **VOTE OF THANKS**

W.Bro. Barry Jameson, PSGD, APrGM proposed a vote of thanks to the Provincial Treasurer (but not the Auditor), which was carried with acclamation.

## **ELECTION OF TREASURER**

RW Provincial Grand Master declared WBro Neil A. Latham, a Chartered Accountant, duly elected as Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

# **ELECTION OF AUDITORS**

W.Bro. Mark Matthews, PSGD, APrGM proposed MD Sale and Company, Chartered Accountants, Southport to be Auditors for the ensuing year. The proposition was seconded by W.Bro. Andrew Whittle, PAGDC, APrGM. The proposition was carried.

#### **ANNUAL FEE**

W.Bro. Neil Latham, PrGTreasurer announced the annual dues for the year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, will not be increased and will remain at 14.00 + VAT for each subscribing member and will be payable in arrears on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

#### **CHARITY COLLECTION**

The RW Provincial Grand Master continued, "Brethren There would normally now be a collection for charity, but as you know, all donation have been made this on-line and the current total is £1560.00 Thankyou for your generosity."

## **INVESTITURE**

The RW Provincial Grand Master continued, "Brethren, you are aware that I conferred the Acting Rank, First appointments and Promotions on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at the virtual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Today we have come together to celebrate those appointments and I now wish to congratulate those recipients personally.

PrGSec will you please read the names of the recipients.
PrGDC will you please present them before me for investiture.

## **ACTING OFFICERS**

# **Provincial Senior Grand Warden**

**Daniel Jonathon Crossley** 

## **Provincial Junior Grand Warden**

Benjamin John McEwan Gorry

## **Provincial Grand Chaplain**

John Michael Hall

#### **Provincial Grand Treasurer**

**Neil Andrew Latham** 

#### **Provincial Grand Registrar**

John Robert Rimmer

#### **Provincial Grand Secretary**

Peter Michael Taylor

# **Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies**

Malcolm Irving Bell

#### **Provincial Grand Sword Bearer**

**Brian Peter Horrocks** 

# **Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works**

Paul William Heathcote

## **Provincial Deputy Grand Registrar**

Matthew Charles Stockwell

# **Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary**

Andrew Simon Ridal

#### **Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies**

Gary William Smith Ryan Lee Modlin

**Robert Dominic Fitzsimmons** 

### **Provincial Deputy Grand Sword Bearer**

Stephen James Gerrard

## **Provincial Grand Almoner**

Paul Stephen Broadley

## **Provincial Grand Charity Steward**

**Philip James Preston** 

#### **Provincial Grand Mentor**

**Stewart James Cranage** 

## **Provincial Grand Membership Officer**

Joseph Neil Ward

# **Provincial Grand Communications Officer**

Clive Barry Dickinson

**Provincial Senior Grand Deacon** 

Ian Kenneth Dawson Andrew Otto Keith Francis David Laird

Steven Charles Williams

**Provincial Junior Grand Deacon** 

John-Paul Lovie Stephen Thomas Oliver David Parker

Malcolm Pembridge

**Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies** 

Andrew Baxendale William Patrick Joseph Feeney Christopher Anthony Fletcher

Roderick James Green Michael Edward Hornby Phillip Anthony Johnson

Peter Francis Ramejkis John Malcolm Thompson

**Provincial Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works** 

Alan Telford

**Provincial Grand Organist** 

Stephen Philip Derringer

**Provincial Grand Standard Bearer** 

James Murray Scott Kenneth Toohey

**Provincial Assistant Grand Standard Bearer** 

**Anthony Hanson** 

**Provincial Deputy Grand Organist** 

**Robert Eric James** 

**Provincial Grand Pursuivant** 

Gavin Paul Egan

**Provincial Assistant Grand Pursuivant** 

Michael David Idle John William Leigh

**Provincial Grand Steward** 

Kevin Byrne Alan Joseph Charles Cavanagh Alan Joseph Cornes
James Howell Eddowes Gordon Evans Carl Bernard Horrax

Christopher David HughesPhilip HughesChristopher Hesketh JonesAlan John LedgerMichael John PurcellDavid Michael RadfordPaul RobinsonGlen Frederick ScreetonAdam John Simpson

Patrick Smith Robert Ian Wood

**Provincial Grand Tyler** 

James Finnegan

FIRST APPOINTMENTS

**Past Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works** 

**Derek Knowles** 

Past Provincial Deputy Grand Superintendent of Works

James Carmichael-Prince Ian Edward Kenyon Robert Henry Murphy

**Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon** 

Robert Stuart Brown Ronnie Christer Norman James Corke

Bryan Davidson Derek Evans Alan Ferrier

Barry Denis Harnick Dirk Peter Heijstraten Neil Anthony Houldsworth

Nicholas St.John Paul Hudson John Edward Husdell John Mercer
Barry Morton Joseph Anthony Patrick O'Brien Mark Ian Oliver

Martin Allan Richards Kenneth Walter Rouse Paul Anthony Shuttleworth

Ian Clark Titterington Ian Charles Tyrrell

**Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon** 

Matthew John BaldwinPaul Anthony BastowRandal Howard BoydRobert Richard CaudwellRobert CooperRobert Marcel CrookStephen Christopher DarwinKenneth DaviesWilliam HammondRodney Ian HigginsClive Mark JervisMalcolm James Long

Thomas McAlister Christopher Harry Monday Roy Norman

Neil PaceyDavor Stuart ParkerJames William PenningtonMichael John PinionStephen Eric Mepham ReadGraham Martin Taylor

**Timothy Marcus Walton** 

Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Simon Almond Paul Martin Brown Christopher Cash Steven Makin Grimshaw Lawrence George Harries James Roberts

William Routledge Peter James Staunton David Andrew Thornton

Past Provincial Assistant Grand Sword Bearer

Nicholas John CuttingGary FridayBarry FulsterCarl John FutterStephen Tatham GardnerGordon MaxwellAnthony Bruce NelsonDavid Peter QuinnJohn TruemanPaul Anthony WebbPeter James WilsonDerek Irwin Worrall

**Past Provincial Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works** 

Angelo Andrew Colosimo Patrick Adam Deakin Joe Christopher David Emmerson

Lance Gorman Raymond Edward Holliday Philip Irving
Christopher John Isherwood James Peter Kennard Colin George Lee

Norman James Stockdale Peter Arthur Yearsley

**PROMOTIONS** 

**Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden** 

Peter Neil Beswick George William Michael Casey Ian Robert MacKinnon
John Henry Marsden Liam James Mawdsley Graham Paul Snape

Arnold Paul Webster

**Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden** 

John Terence Barnes David Frederick Barr Alan Boyle

Michael James Cunliffe Jason Peter Dell Anthony Edward Farrar Henry Kenneth Granby William Henry Claude Hembrow Francis John Kennedy Geoffrey Gerald Lever Leslie Frank Norton Glenn William O'Brien

Nigel Frederick Paton Brian Charles Povey William David Crawford Rushworth

John Henry Selley Brian Stanley Skinner Robert Innes Teesdale

Patrick Joseph Walsh

**Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer** 

Ian Matley Allison Graham Ashmore Derek Mansfield Atherton

Robert Avery Robert John Baron John Bates

Gordon Iain Sinclair Beckett William David Boylin John Ronald Brown Robert Cadman Christopher Alan Carnell Vincent Carte Harry William Chatfield **Anthony Christy** John Barry Dearden Eric James Delamere Philip Andrew Evans Timothy John Gill Raymond William Hampson Leslie David Hickman Frank Stewart Hogarth James Harold Holt

Frederick Robert Hopwood Stephen Jennings Arnold Jolley John Mallalue Derek Alastair McKee Michael Melling David John Mortimer **Ronald Newton** Michael Shaun O'Brien **Gregory Pinnington** Alexander Prescott David Henry Michael Price Arthur Robinson William John Roscoe Michael John Rudd Colin John Sharples Adolphus Ralph Taylor Walter Taylor James Kenneth Brian Tite **Terence Watson** 

John Thomas Whitehead

Lucas Roger Kelly

**Past Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works** 

**Roland Alderton** William Allen **Stephen Peter Andrews** Stanley Samuel Blake Andrew David Blaquiere Mark John Blundell Peter William Booth Frank Leonard Bone Raymond Booth **Graham Samuel Bottomley** David Roy Brown Norman Byrne **Kevin Thomas Chicken** Alan James Clare **Henry Causey** Peter George Ernest Clay **Robert Andrew Corrigan Brian Arthur Coward** Terence Forsyth Stephen Charles Gill Michael John Graham **Barrie Peter Hage** Philip John Hallinan Nigel James Higginson John Richard Holmes Wilfred Darlington Holt Graham Jackson **David Sydney Jennings David Thomas Jones** Eric William Kehoe

Nigel Lawrence Kent

Henry Kilgour

Eric Wasil Kos William John Kilmurray Kenneth Joseph Knott Stephen William Livesey Stephen Martin Lunt Ian John Lynch John William Martin Stanley Merrill David James Miller Jason Andrew Powell Nash Geoffrey Martin Needham Arthur Newby **Raymond Trevor Pinkstone Robert Roberts** Rodney John Roche **Brian Rollins** Eric John Sarti John Stansfield John Thornton **Edwin Alan Taylor** Paul Philip Thompson

Kadaba Srinath Vasudev Peter Frederick Whaley Warren Alan Whalley
James Wheeldon Michael Andre Whitton David Wynford Williams

#### Past Provincial Deputy Grand Superintendent of Works

Rodney Alexander Barnes Kevin Beaumont Philip Myles Burrow
Stephen Leslie Campin Joe Codling David Dewhurst
Alan Russell Dobkin Swainson Charles Eckersley Donald Richard Evans
John Fegan Paul Richard Gerrard Michael William Glover

Anthony Richard Gerald Gregg Keith Halligan Adam Charles Edward Kennaugh

Leslie Wilman King David Charles Lawn David Marlor

David Phillips William Thomas Pinto David Clifford Rigby

Peter John Roberts Arthur Paul Sinclair Russell Julian Mark Skidmore

David Smith Andrew John Sumner Arthur William Swift

Mark John Taylor Colin David Wood

#### **Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon**

Stewart Carl Aimson **Neal Stuart Atkinson** Stephen Atkinson Umesh Dhayabhai Dholakia **Ronald Dimelow** William Leslie Donnell Martin Leonard Farmer Kevin Ernest Hickman William John Lewis George Stephen Moffatt David Robert Pallister Norman Gary Pollock Michael James Rogers **Howard Leslie Savage** Anthony Lee Slater Louis George Esztergomy Vinnyey John Stephen Walters Creag Glynn Williams Stuart Pickering Wilson Oliver Kingsley Winder Simon John Worswick

**Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon** 

John Patrick Broadhurst Geoffrey Francis Thomas Ditty John Matthew Forsyth

Trevor Jones Robert Frank Philipson Brian Purdie

Walter Carl Thompson

#### **ADDRESS**

# The Provincial Grand Master will addressed the meeting "Brethren,

Brethren it is good to see so many of you here this afternoon. I am pleased that you have taken the opportunity to attend PGL. Our new Digital Registration procedure has eliminated the need for manual signing in as we are all aware of the need to be cautious and careful regarding Covid-19.

The Lateral Flow Test is, I know, a nuisance to administer and to many uncomfortable, but it does gives us confidence in that we have all proved negative and able to attend and enjoy the meeting.

I have been pleased to invest 352 Brethren with their first appointment or their promotion in Provincial Grand Lodge and it has been an honour for me to do so. Brethren this means that you are now expected to return to your Lodges and encourage more junior brethren to work hard within the Lodge, achieving status that will, in due course, entitle them to Provincial appointment.

I thank those acting officers from last year who were unable to receive their honour at PGL that they unfortunately missed but are now assisting us today and on some of the many Provincial occasions throughout the Province as we celebrate Centenaries and other important occasions that have been carried over into this year's calendar.

The disruption we have experienced has been unprecedented, but I cease to be amazed at the resourcefulness of you, our brethren, who have done so much both inside and outside the Craft in remaining true to those values we professed to admired when we first became a mason. It should be a real delight and satisfaction to us all to reflect on the good we have done and how each and every one of us have all played our part, however small, in making freemasonry increase its standing and reputation both inside and outside the Craft. Very well done indeed.

The Foodbank Appeal just prior to Christmas last year was a huge success, to the extent, that we even got acknowledge by UGLE and we will be doing it again this year, hopefully with the same result. A special thanks to Baines Lodge on the Fylde for providing the inspiration and initial assistance and methodology. I congratulate all those Lodges and individuals who have received a letter of Commendation from the Most Worshipful Grand Master for their efforts and achievements. They know who they are and there are too many to name here this afternoon. Well done indeed. It is all good news, because, as I alluded to before, the public's perception of Freemasonry has certainly changed following your amazing contributions.

Our MCF 2021 Festival has now concluded apart from a few events which had to be postponed and will be taking place over the next couple of months - please support these if you possibly can. The Finale Dinner concluded the 4 years of hard work by so many brethren and my most grateful thanks go to them and all of you who supported and contributed to the Festival in such a magnificent way. On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September the Province was visited by the Assistant Grand Master Sir David Wootton, Richard Hone QC, Paul Crockett and several other Brethren and their Ladies from the MCF to reveal the most marvellous Total of £3,504,423-00. Wow it was a fantastic moment, certainly for me as no one would give me a total prior to the announcement!! It would be timely, at this moment in time, to remember and acknowledge the contribution made to the Festival, by WBro. Geoff Saul PAGDC the Festival Secretary, who passed away only last week and was sadly so gravely ill that he could not attend the finale. Our thoughts and prayers are with Geoff's family at this very sad time.

Well, now that the Festival has concluded, we must turn our Charitable giving towards the WLFC who have suffered greatly during the last 4 years. In addition it would be good if Lodges would consider opening a Relief Chest with the MCF. Many have already done so. It enables Lodge Charity collections, raffles & personal donations to be made and receive Gift Aid status, if applicable and, importantly, receive a good rate of interest. This of course would alleviate much of our Treasurers/Charity Stewards of hard work as it provides an automatic balance of accounts for audit purposes and facilitates a very easy way to distribute funds

If you want to know the benefits, just ask a Lodge who already has one and they will tell you how easy it is and the benefits to be gained.

I do not have to explain how important membership is to the future of Freemasonry. New initiatives are taking place across the country and the Digital Marketing Campaign organised and funded by United Grand Lodge was launched on September 20<sup>th</sup> It is aimed at attracting new prospects for initiation and assist in retaining our current membership. Already it has generated our Province 30 new prospects which are now being processed within our Membership system.

It would be wholly wrong if I didn't mention the contribution that has been made by one of my APGMs Peter Lockett and the Provincial Membership Officers Neil Ward and Mark Humphreys, together with the Group and Lodge Membership Officers who have so readily embraced and engaged in the new way of membership administration. I can assure you brethren it has not gone unnoticed in this Province and further afield. There certainly are some exciting times ahead for the future of Freemasonry. Brethren, I am very keen to ensure that every Master Mason should be encouraged to complete his journey into pure and ancient masonry and be invited to become a Royal Arch Mason at an early opportunity before taking up any invitations to join other orders of freemasonry. Many of you are well aware of the Holy Royal Arch, what it is and what it offers to the Companions and we should endeavour to extend that opportunity to the many brethren who have still to experience that prospect. On your behalf Brethren I would like to thank our Provincial TEAM, my deputy PGM. Phil Gunning and all the APGM's for their sterling work with their respective Portfolios and the tremendous support given during the lockdowns and throughout the Province.

The Provincial Grand Secretary, W.Bro. Peter Taylor, and his staff, Diana, Violet, W.Bro. Andrew Ridal and the many volunteers, for their work in ensuring the success of this meeting, and for the work they have undertaken during this unprecedented year for our Freemasonry with West Lancashire.

W.Bro.Malcolm Bell, the ProvGDC, and all his Deputies, for their involvement in today's ceremonial and

for what they have done, carrying out their respective duties around the Province.

W.Bros. Mike Pinkard and Liam Mawdsley last year's Acting Wardens together with Daniel Crossley & Ben Gorry this year's Acting Wardens and all the other Acting officers over the past 2 years, I hope that you have all enjoyed yourselves, despite the fact that there have not being many meetings to attend. Before I close Brethren, when the last and hopefully final lockdown was lifted, I decided that we would not wear gloves at our meetings. We are now well into the Masonic season and I think now it's time to start wearing gloves again as from Monday, 1st November.

Lastly may I thank those Brethren from the North Fylde Group of Lodges and Chapters under their Chairman W.Bro John Cross, who have looked after us all so well this afternoon, for stewarding this meeting, and ensuring that we have been able to enjoy our Annual meeting Brethren Covid-19 has not gone away it will be with us for a long time to come, so please be cautious and very careful in order that you may all continue to enjoy another interesting and exciting masonic year.

Thank you for attending PGL, have a safe journey home and may God bless you all.

#### **SALUTATIONS**

The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies will conduct salutations to the Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters of West Lancashire.

Salutations were given to Grand Officers.
Salutations were given to Provincial Grand Officers.

#### **ATTENDANCE REPORT**

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported the attendance of 49 Grand Officers, 59 Masters in Office, 157 Provincial Grand Officers and 86 other Brethren.

## **INVITATION**

The Provincial Grand Master enquired of the Provincial Grand Secretary whether there was an invitation to hold Provincial Grand Lodge next year. The Provincial Grand Secretary replied that there was an invitation from the Lancaster and District Group of Lodges to host the Meeting on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS/CLOSING**

There being no further business, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, after which both verses of the National Anthem were sung.

WEBSITE: <a href="www.westlancsfreemasons.org">www.westlancsfreemasons.org</a> EMAIL: <a href="mailto:centraloffice@provinceofwestlancs.org">centraloffice@provinceofwestlancs.org</a>