

# **BORDESLEY ABBEY CHAPTER**

**No. 4495**

**BY-LAWS.**



By Laws originally adopted in open  
Chapter on  
the 7th Day of May 1951.

This revision compiled in November 2002 and  
contains all revisions approved be Grand Chapter  
up to and including that date.

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Approved in Open Chapter 15<sup>th</sup> January 2003  
Approved by Provincial Grand Chapter 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2003  
Approved by Supreme Grand Chapter 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2003

## Place and Dates of Convocation.

- 1 The Chapter shall meet at the Masonic Hall, Redditch, Four times in each year, namely on the Third Wednesday in the months of September, November, January and March at such hour as the Three Principals shall direct. The holding of Emergency Convocations shall be regulated by the provisions of Rule 59, Royal Arch Regulations.

## Election of Officers.

- 2 The Annual election of Principals and other Officers shall take place at the Convocation in January of each year and the installation of the Principals and the Investing of the Officers at the Convocation in the March following.

### Proposals.

- 3** The Election of Candidates for Exaltation or of Joining Members shall be conducted in conformity with the requirements of Rules 65,66,67,68 and 69 of Royal Arch Regulations. The inclusion of one black ball in a ballot for any candidate shall exclude.

The names and full particulars of all candidates for Exaltation or Joining shall be submitted to a meeting of the Chapter Committee for consideration and report to the Convocation at which the Candidate is to be proposed.

### Annual Subscription.

- 4** The Annual Subscription due, and payable in advance, at the March Convocation shall be of such amount as the Chapter may from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the Summons.

## Exaltation and Joining Members Fees.

- 5 The Exaltation Fee shall be £ 20.00. The joining fee £ 20.00, and the re-joining fee £ 20.00, such fees to be exclusive of subscription. In addition to these fees the candidate shall pay to the Chapter such registration fees as are payable to Supreme Grand Chapter and, if applicable, Provincial Grand Chapter, together with any tax thereon, and the candidate shall before becoming a member be informed of the total amount due.

## Country Members.

- 6 Any Member residing more than fifteen miles from the premises in which the Chapter regularly meets or on account of other approved circumstances, may, on written application, become a Country Member and pay an annual subscription of such amount as the Chapter may from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the Summons.

### Dining Fee.

- 7 A Dining Fee shall be payable in respect of each Companion or Visitor staying for refreshment after a Convocation. This fee shall be fixed by the Chapter on the recommendation of the Chapter Committee and shall be stated on the circular for each Convocation.

### Resignations.

- 8 Any Member desirous of terminating his membership of the Chapter may tender his resignation in writing to the Scribe E, or orally in Open Chapter and he shall be entitled to the certificate mentioned in rule 70 of the Royal Arch Regulations, stating the circumstances in which he left the Chapter. Should he, at any future time, wish to rejoin, he shall be subject to the rule relating to Joining Members.

### Exclusion By Arrears.

- 9 Every Member whose subscription is unpaid for two years will be liable to be excluded in

accordance with Rule 181 in the Book of Constitutions and can only become a member again, after payment of arrears, by regular proposition and ballot according to Royal Arch Regulations.

### Authorization of Expenditure.

- 10 Payment of any sum exceeding fifty Pounds, if for other than ordinary purposes, may be made only by resolution of the Chapter of which notice has been given in the circular except in case of emergency, when such payment may be authorised by the Principals and confirmed by the Chapter at the next Regular Convocation.

### Committee.

- 11 The Committee of the Chapter shall consist of the Principals and other Officers and the Past Principals, four to form a quorum. This Committee shall meet not less than

fourteen days before each Convocation and at such meeting the business of the Convocation shall be approved. The Inventory of the property of the Chapter shall be verified by the Committee at its meeting prior to the Convocation in March and such verification of the Inventory shall be recorded in the Minutes of the March Convocation.

### Accounts.

- 12 The Audit Committee shall consist of two members of the Chapter to be elected annually at the January Convocation. The Accounts shall be made up to the end of February of each year and presented to the Chapter, duly audited, at the September Convocation.

### Property.

- 13 The Robes, Jewels, Regalia and other property of the Chapter shall be, and

hereby are, vested in the Three Principals in trust for the Chapter and must be insured against loss.

### Alterations and Amendments.

- 14** No alteration or amendment of these By-Laws shall be made until due notice of motion has been given of the proposed alteration or amendment at a Regular Convocation of the Chapter, such notice to be inserted in the circular of the following Regular Convocation. At such Convocation any member present may move an amendment to the alteration proposed and such amendment shall be put first to the Convocation and, if carried, shall then be put as a substantive Resolution. If the proposed alteration or the amendment thereto shall be agreed and afterwards confirmed and duly approved by the Grand Superintendent and the Most Excellent the First Grand Principal, Scribe E, shall enter the same in the book of the By-Laws.