

By-Laws
of
The Chapter of the Holy Wells

No. 275

of
Antient Free and Accepted Masons

1951

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Chapter of the HOLY WELLS (No. 6975)

FOUNDERS

EX.COMPANION	R.B. LEWIS, P.A.G.D.C. P.P.G.J. P.Z.5414, 4001
EX.COMPANION	G. RANDALL P.P.G.REG.,P.Z.5414
EX.COMPANION	W.H. GREEN P.P.G. 50J(WARKS) P.Z.1551
EX.COMPANION	H.W. DAY, P.P.G.D.C., P.Z. 2724
EX.COMPANION	D.H. ATACK, P.P.A.G.S.E., P.Z.5414
EX.COMPANION	A. WATSON, PROV.G.Std.B.P.Z.5414
COMPANION	J.E. SMITH, 6031
COMPANION	A.F. HODGETTS. 5414
COMPANION	R.T. NETTELL, 5414
COMPANION	T.W. VICKERS, 6031
COMPANION	W.E. ROBERTS, 5414
COMPANION	S.S.L. JONES, 5414
COMPANION	E.W. NEWBOULD, 5414
COMPANION	S.G.T. de BEAU, 5414
COMPANION	R.H. DANIELS, 5414
COMPANION	A.G. BRODERICK, 5414
COMPANION	R.M. WARD, 4001

Consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Churchfields, Bromsgrove
Worcestershire on Saturday 28th June, 1975.

The Chapter of the Holy Wells

No. 6975

1.— The Chapter shall meet at the Masonic Hall, Churchfields, Bromsgrove and shall hold regular convocations on the First Wednesday in October, December, February and April, at such hour as the Principals shall direct.

2.— The three Principals, two Scribes, Treasurer, Principal Sojourner and two Assistant Sojourners shall be elected by ballot at the regular convocation in February. A Director of Ceremonies and Organist, an Assistant Scribe E, and Stewards may also be elected. The Installation of Principals Elect and investiture of Officers shall take place at the regular convocation in April.

Note — A Chapter may by annual resolution under Rule 48, Royal Arch Regulations, give authority to the Principals Elect to appoint the rest of the Officers, with the exception of the Treasurer and (subject to para 5 of Rule 48) the Janitor. Such authority cannot be given by By-Law

3.— Subject to provision of Rule 48, Royal Arch Regulations, para. 5, the Janitor shall be elected by show of hands at the regular convocation in April.

* The words in brackets may be omitted if desired.

+ A small number say two or three is strongly recommended.

± Not later than the third convocation after the date to which the accounts are made up.

4.— The Chapter Committee shall consist of the Principals, Past Principals of (and in*) the Chapter, two Scribes, Treasurer, Principal Sojourner and two Companions to be appointed by the Chapter at the regular convocation in February each year. 5 shall form a quorum. This Committee shall deal with any matter specially referred to it by the Chapter.

* 5.— The Audit Committee shall consist of two members of the Chapter who shall be elected annually by the Chapter at the regular convocation in February. The accounts shall be made up to 31st March in each year and shall be presented to the Chapter duly audited, at the regular convocation in October ±. A copy of the accounts and of the Audit Committee's certificate that all balances have been checked and that the accounts have been audited shall be sent to all members with the summons convening the convocation.

* 6. — The exaltation fee shall be £7.50 and the joining fee £5.00, such fees to be exclusive of subscription. The annual subscription (except for non-dining membership as provided for in By-Law No.7), due and payable in advance on April 1st, shall be of such amount as the Chapter shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice

on the summons. The visitor's fee at dinners shall be such amount as the Chapter shall from time to time determine by resolution after notice on the summons.

7.— Any member who for reasons acceptable to the Chapter, is not in a position to enjoy the privileges of the Chapter regularly, may, on written application to the Scribe E. and by resolution of the Chapter, be considered a non-dining or country member and shall pay a subscription annually in advance on 1st April of such less amount than that provided for in By-Law No 6 as the Chapter shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the summons.^f

^f See marginal note to By-Law No. 6.

When attending the chapter and dining such members shall pay the current visitor's fee.

8. — The admission of candidates for exaltation and joining shall be regulated by the provisions of Rules 65 to 69, Royal Arch Regulations. On the ballot for a candidate for exaltation or joining one black ball shall exclude.

9. — Any member desirous of terminating his membership of the Chapter shall tender his resignation in writing to the Scribe E. or orally in open Chapter, in accordance with Rule 183, Book of Constitutions (Craft) and he shall be entitled to the certificate

mentioned in Rule 70, 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 rules relating to joining members.

* 10.— Payment of any sum exceeding £10 if for other than ordinary purposes, may be made only by resolution of the Chapter, of which notice has been given in the summons, except in case of emergency, when such payment may be authorised by the First Principal and reported to the Chapter at the next regular convocation.

11. — Except as otherwise required by Rule 141, Book of Constitutions (Craft), amendment of these By-Laws or of any of them may be made only in the following manner:—

(a) Notice of motion in writing stating the precise amendment or amendments proposed shall be given in open Chapter at a regular convocation.

(b) The Motion shall be set out in the summons for the next regular convocation or for an Emergency convocation summoned for the purpose, and shall at such convocation be put to the Chapter.

(c) A resolution for amendment, of which notice shall have been given as aforesaid shall be carried if a majority of the members voting shall vote in favour of it but it shall not be effective until approved by the (Grand Superintendent and by the**) First Grand Principal.

** The words in brackets apply to Provincial and District Chapters only.

Amendments to Chapter By-laws

5 Audit Committee and Annual Accounts

The phrase "at the regular convocation in October" to be amended to "not later than the regular convocation in December".

6. Fees and Annual Subscription

"The Exaltation fee shall be £10.00, the joining fee £10.00 and the re-joining fee £10.00, 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 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.

The annual subscription (except for non-dining or country membership as provided for in By-Law No. 7), due and payable in advance on 1st April shall be of such amount as the Chapter shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the summons at the previous regular convocation. The visitor's fee at dinners shall be 'at cost', the fee to be notified to members with the summons for each meeting.

Any member whose subscription is unpaid for one year shall be liable to be excluded from the Chapter, after due notice, in accordance with Rule 181, Book of Constitutions."

10. Payments from Chapter Funds

Payment limit to be increased to £100.00.

07.12.2005