

BY-LAWS
OF
WORCESTER LODGE
No. 280

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By-Laws

1821

PREAMBLE.

This Lodge acknowledges the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of England, the authority of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire, and the Ruling of the Book of Constitutions.

1.—The Lodge shall meet at the Masonic Hall, Worcester, on the second Wednesday in December, when the Master Elect. shall be installed, the Officers invested, and the Festival of St. John the Evangelist be celebrated, and on the third Wednesday in the months of January, February, March, April, May, September, October, and November, at such times as the Master shall direct.

2.—(a) The Lodge Committee shall consist of the following Officers for the time being, namely, the Master, S. & J. Wardens, I.P.M., Treasurer, Secretary, D.C., and Senior of the Stewards. In addition, two Master Masons not in office shall be appointed annually at the regular meeting in January to serve on the Committee. Any four of the Committee shall form a quorum. The Committee shall consider and report to the Lodge upon any matter referred to it by the Lodge.

(b) The Audit Committee consisting of three members of the Lodge, shall be appointed annually at the regular meeting in November.

3.—The Master and Treasurer shall be elected annually by ballot at the regular meeting in November. The Tyler shall be elected at the same meeting by show of hands.

4.—(a) The accounts shall be made up to the 31st of December in each year and presented by the Treasurer to the Audit Committee for audit. The audited accounts shall be submitted to the Lodge at the regular meeting

in February. Cheques shall be signed by the Master and the Treasurer.

(b) The stock of wine and the supply thereof shall be under the direction and management of the Master and the Stewards, who shall keep a cellar-book and wine-account, and report the state thereof in writing at the meeting of the Audit Committee convened to audit the accounts of the Lodge.

5.—(a) The dues payable in the Lodge shall be as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For initiation, to include Registration Fees and Grand Lodge Certificate ..	10	16	6

For rejoining	3	3	0
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The joining fee for a Brother initiated in another Lodge to include Registration Fee	4	18	0
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The joining fee for a Brother not previously registered under the English Constitution, including Certificate and Registration	6	6	0
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(b) A fund, to be called the Worcester Lodge Reserve Fund, shall be established and an account opened at the Bank, into which all sums accruing from investments shall be paid. The sum of Five Guineas shall be trans-

ferred to the said Reserve Fund out of every initiation fee received.

6.—(a) The Annual Subscription, which does not include refreshments, shall be £3 13s. 6d., for all members, except those who reside more than twenty-five miles from Worcester, who shall pay £1 11s. 6d., per annum. Subscriptions shall be due and payable in advance on 1st January. Any brother joining or being initiated after the April Meeting shall pay half the subscription for that year.

(b) Along with and in addition to this Annual Subscription every member is expected to pay two shillings per annum to the Worcester Masonic Buildings Fund; always provided that any member belonging to more than one Lodge meeting at the Masonic Hall, Worcester, shall be expected to contribute only one such yearly sum of two shillings to the said Buildings Fund.

7.—Any member whose subscription is unpaid for a period of six months or more shall not be permitted to vote on any motion, propose or second any candidate or be appointed or elected to any office. Any member whose subscription is unpaid for more than one year shall be liable to be excluded from the Lodge, in accordance with Rule 181 Book of Constitutions.

8.—The name, address, and profession or occupation of any Candidate for initiation, or applicant for joining membership of the Lodge, shall be sent in writing on

the prescribed form to the Secretary for submission to the Pastmasters of the Lodge, at least four weeks before any proposal is given in open Lodge. No person can be initiated or admitted as a joining or re-joining member if two black balls appear in the ballot.

9.—Any member wishing to resign his membership of the Lodge shall give notice thereof in open Lodge, or in writing to the Secretary, and shall be entitled to the Certificate mentioned in Rule 175 Book of Constitutions stating the circumstances in which he left the Lodge. Unless such notice is given to the Secretary at least seven days before the Annual Subscription becomes due, he shall be liable for same.

10.—Any visiting Brother invited by a Member of the Lodge shall be considered as a guest of that Member, but the Master shall have the privilege of inviting the Master, S.W., J.W., Secretary and Treasurer of the other Worcester Lodges or those in the immediate vicinity as guests of the Lodge.

11.—No money shall be voted from the funds of the Lodge for any purpose other than current expenses without notice having been given at a previous regular meeting. In cases of urgency, however, a sum not exceeding ten guineas may be expended by the Master, subject to such expenditure being reported for confirmation in the summons convening the next regular meeting of the Lodge.

12.—The books, papers, furniture and property of every description belonging to the Lodge shall be vested in the Master, S.W., and J.W. for the time being in trust for the Lodge.

13.—A copy of these by-laws shall be presented to each member of the Lodge, to every joining member and to every candidate on his initiation.

14.—Addition, alteration or amendment to these By-Laws or any of them, shall be made by notice of motion given in writing in open Lodge at one regular meeting, or to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the next meeting, for insertion in the summons. The motion shall be considered at that meeting and, if then approved, shall be submitted for confirmation at the next regular meeting, but shall not become effective until finally approved by the Provincial Grand Master and the M.W. Grand Master.

Approved by the Provincial Grand Master,
FRANCIS J. DAVIES.
March 16th, 1945.

Approved by the M.W. Grand Master,
SIDNEY A. WHITE,
June 26th, 1945. G. Sec.