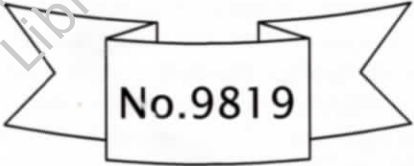




By-Laws
of
George Taylor Lodge



No.9819

Adopted at the
Consecration Meeting
held on
Saturday 15th July 2006

By-Laws of George Taylor Lodge No. 9819

1. Place and Dates of Meeting

The Lodge shall meet at the Masonic Hall, Rainbow Hill, Worcester, or at other places as may be authorised by the Lodge Committee, and a dispensation for the same granted by the Provincial Grand Master. The regular meetings shall be on the second Monday in June (Installation) and on the second Monday in July and the third Saturday in September, at such hour as the Master shall direct.

2. Election and Installation Meetings

The Master and the Treasurer shall be elected by ballot, or declared elected (subject to the provision of Rules 105a and 112a respectively) at the regular meeting in September. The Master Elect shall be installed at the regular meeting in June.

3. Election of Tyler

Subject to the provisions of Rule 113, Book of Constitutions, the Tyler shall be elected by a show of hands at the regular meeting in September.

4. Lodge Committee

The Lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Officers and Past Masters of (and in) the Lodge. This Committee shall consider and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership and on any matters specially referred to it by the Lodge. Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum.

5. Account Examination Committee and Annual Accounts

The Account Examination Committee (AEC) shall consist of two members of the Lodge who shall be elected annually at the regular meeting in September. The accounts shall be made up to 31st May in each year and shall be presented to the Lodge, duly examined, at the regular meeting in September.

A copy of the accounts and of the AEC's certificate that all balances have been checked and that the accounts have been examined, shall be sent to all members with the summons convening that meeting.

6. Fees and Annual Subscription

The Initiation fee shall be £1025 the joining fee £25 and the re-joining fee £25, such fees to be exclusive of subscription. In addition to these fees the candidate shall pay to the Lodge such registration fees as are payable to Grand Lodge and to Provincial Grand Lodge together with any tax thereon, and the candidate shall, before becoming a member be informed of the total amount due. The annual subscription, due and payable in advance on 1st June and exclusive of dining fees, shall be of such amount as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the summons at the previous regular meeting. The Secretary's services shall be deemed equivalent to payment of subscription. The dining fee for members and visitors shall be such amount as determined by the Lodge from time to time, and notice of such shall be given in advance of the relevant meeting. The Master shall have the privilege of inviting one guest to each dinner free of the visitor's fee. Any member whose subscription is unpaid for 6 months shall be liable to be excluded from the Lodge, after due notice, in accordance with Rule 181, Book of Constitutions.

7. Admission of Candidates

The admission of candidates for initiation and joining shall be regulated by the provisions of Rules 157 to 166, Book of Constitutions. On the ballot for a candidate for initiation or joining one black ball shall exclude.

8. Labour of Lodge

The Labour of the Lodge shall be determined by the Worshipful Master assisted by the Senior Warden; Junior Warden; Immediate Past Master; Secretary and the Director of Ceremonies

9. Termination of Membership

Any member desirous of terminating his membership of the Lodge shall tender his resignation in writing to the Secretary, or orally in open Lodge, in accordance with Rule 183, Book of Constitutions, and he shall be entitled to the Certificate mentioned in Rule 175, Book of Constitutions, stating the circumstances in which he left the Lodge. Should he at any future time wish to rejoin he shall be subject to the rules relating to joining members.

10. Payments from Lodge Funds

Payment of any sum exceeding £250 if for other than ordinary purposes may be made only by resolution of the Lodge, of which notice has been given on the summons, except in a case of emergency when such payment may be authorised by the Master and reported to the Lodge at the next regular meeting.

11. Amendment of By-Laws

Except as otherwise required by Rule 141, Book of Constitutions, 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 Lodge at a regular meeting.

(b) The Motion shall be set out on the summons for the next regular meeting or for an Emergency meeting summoned for the purpose and shall at such meeting be put to the Lodge.

(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 Provincial Grand Master, and if not substantially in accordance with the model by-laws issued from time to time on behalf of the Grand Master, by the Grand Master also.

Founder's Recommendations

Progression of Officers

It is expected that the candidate for the post of Junior Warden will have delivered a paper to the Lodge. His appointment will be determined by the Worshipful Master; Senior Warden; Junior Warden; Immediate Past Master; Secretary and the Director of Ceremonies.

2022/5-72

W Bro George Taylor PGStB

Born 1850

Died 1923

Worshipful Master of The Lodge of Hope and Charity No. 377	1877
Provincial Senior Warden (Worcestershire)	1881
Secretary of Worcestershire Masonic Charity Organisation	1880 - 1886
Provincial Grand Secretary	1881 - 1896

George Taylor was a man of great vision, determination and generosity who worked tirelessly for the good of freemasonry both within Worcestershire and further a field.

Outside of the ranks of Provincial Grand Masters, he has probably been the most influential and significant figure in the history of Worcestershire Freemasonry.

He was the first secretary of the Worcestershire Masonic Charity Organisation and then went on to hold the office of Provincial Grand Secretary for fifteen years. He worked very closely with the then Provincial Grand Master, Sir Edmund Lechmere, in developing the Province and was honoured by being the founding WM of the Lechmere Lodge (No 1874) in 1881.

He was recognised both nationally and internationally as an authority on Masonic memorabilia and over a number of years built up his own collection of rare and priceless Masonic artefacts. It was this collection that formed the basis of the world famous exhibition which he helped organise at Worcester Guildhall in 1884 and when the exhibition closed George Taylor made the incredibly generous gesture of selling his whole collection to the Province of Worcestershire at cost. Thus was formed the Library and Museum of Worcestershire, which today is generally considered to be one of the finest collections of Masonic memorabilia outside of Great Queen Street.

During the last three years an Appeal has been running within the Province which raised £204,000 for the benefit of the Library and Museum and now for the first time in its 120 year existence the L&M has a sound financial structure which will sustain it for many years to come.

To celebrate this wonderful achievement, a new Research Lodge with a strong Museum bias is to be formed in Worcestershire.

In recognition of the great impact and influence that he has had on the history of our Province, the Founders wish to honour the memory of George Taylor by naming the Lodge after him.