



**PROVINCE OF ESSEX**  
**THE ESSEX MASTERS' LODGE**  
**No. 3256**

The Essex Masters' Lodge is especially established for the association of Masters and subscribing Past Masters of the Lodges in Essex and of Installed Masters of any Lodge, under the English Constitution, who are subscribing members of Lodges within the Province.

**1. Place and Dates of Meetings.**

The Lodge shall meet at **Southend Masonic Centre, Saxon Hall, Aviation Way, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 6UN** and shall hold regular meetings on the third Tuesday in February, fourth Thursday in June and the second Wednesday in October at such hour as the Master shall direct.

**2. Elections and Installation Meetings.**

The Master and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the regular meeting in June. The Master Elect shall be installed at the regular meeting in September.

**3. Election of Tyler.**

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

**4. Lodge Committee.**

The Lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Past Masters of the Lodge, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, Almoner, Charity Steward, Assistant Secretary, Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Secretary or their representatives and five other members to be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in June.

The Committee shall consider and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership and on any matters specially referred to it by the Lodge. Seven members of the Committee shall form a quorum.

**5. Audit Committee and Annual Accounts.**

The Audit Committee shall consist of three members of the Lodge who shall be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in June.

The accounts shall be made up to the 31<sup>st</sup> August in each year and shall be presented to the Lodge, duly audited, at the regular meeting in January.

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 meeting.

**6. Fees and Annual Subscription.**

The Initiation Fee shall be	£10.50
The Joining Fee shall be	£10.00
The Rejoining Fee shall be	£10.00

Such fees to be exclusive of annual 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 1<sup>st</sup> September, 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 fees shall be charged pro rata to the cost.

Any member whose subscription is unpaid for three 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, joining or rejoining, two black balls shall exclude.

**8. 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.

**9. Payments from Lodge Funds.**

Payment of any sum exceeding £100, 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.

**10. Amendments 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 meeting or for an emergency meeting summoned for the purpose and shall 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. On behalf of the Grand Master.

*Should there be any objection to the introduction of a candidate for Initiation or for a Brother for Joining it is recommended that such objection be mentioned privately to the Master or to the Secretary who may communicate with the proposer and give him the opportunity of withdrawing his Candidate.*

N.B. The numbers of the Rules in the Book of Constitutions given above are as they appear in the 2009 Edition.

Approved by the R. W. Provincial Grand Master

*Andrew P Bishop*

Provincial Grand Secretary.

25<sup>th</sup> February 2013.