

**The minutes of the 281th Regular Meeting of the North Harrow Lodge No. 6557 held at Harrow District
Masonic Centre on Friday 12th May 2017.**

The Officers were as follows:-

W.M.	W.Bro. Rimal Shah
I.P.M.	W.Bro. Vaughan Coleridge-Matthews (Acting)
S.W.	Bro. Leonardo Monno
J.W.	Bro. Richard Flood
Chaplain	W.Bro. Terry Clayfield
Secretary	W.Bro. Nigel Harris-Cooksley
Treasurer	W.Bro. Michael Breen (Acting)
D.C.	W.Bro. David Russell
Almoner	W.Bro. David Errington
Mentor	W.Bro. Vaughan Coleridge-Matthews
Charity Steward	W.Bro. Derek Biddle
S.D.	Bro. Kam Chana
J.D.	Bro. Moses Kiwanuka
Asst. D.C.	W.Bro. Pratik Karia
Asst. Secretary	W. Bro. Howard Paton Barnes
Inner Guard	Bro. Srdjan Susic
Snr Steward	W.Bro. Ken Crisp
Stewards	Bros. Feliciano Romero, Shilen Thakker, Alkesh Shah, Sanjay Kotecha, Matthew Jeffrey
Tyler	W.Bro. Mike Porter
Acting Organist	W.Bro. Nigel Ball

Members present: W.Bros. David Olive, Tony Moore, , Bros. Paolo Russo, Aiedan Sagayarajah

Also present: W.Bro. Ted Bentley (Marlborough 1349), W.Bro. David Chittleborough (Gradation 6368)), W.Bro. Philip Scully (Herongate 4960), W.Bro Alex Schwartz (Herts Imp.Yeo 3492), W.Bro Maurice Ndirika (Wealdstone 5236) Bro Rick Beets (Hundred Elms 5749)

The Lodge was opened in due form and solemn prayer at 4.40pm.

The minutes of the 281st Regular Meeting held on Friday 10th March 2017 having been previously circulated with the summons were proposed by Bro. Leonardo Monno & Seconded by Bro Richard Flood were approved and signed.

In the Absence of Bro Treasurer, W. Bro Michael Breen read out the Notice of Motion given on 10th March 2017 by Bro. Treasurer that from 1st July 2017 the annual dues will rise as follows: Full Membership Subscription to £240. Country Membership Subscription to £165. Was proposed by W. Bro Derek Biddle, seconded by W. Bro David Olive and carried unanimously by the brethren.

The Resolution of Notice of Motion for the exclusion of Brethren for non-payment of dues under Rule 169 & 181 BoC was not needed.

The Lodge was opened in the 2nd Degree and Bro. Aiedan Sagayarajah answered the questions leading from the 2nd to the 3rd Degree, entrusted and retired from the Lodge.

The Lodge was opened in the Third Degree. Bro Aiedan Sagayarajah was readmitted and took the obligation of a Master Mason given by W. Bro Rimal Shah, from then on it was again our intention to involve as many brethren in the ceremony as possible, seamlessly appearing, performing their ritual and returning to their seats, which they all did with perfection as follows:
Bro Srdjan Susic = The Exhortation, W. Bro Vaughan Coleridge-Matthews = Graveside Address, W. Bro David Olive = Raising, W. Bro Howard Paton Barnes = Charge, W. Bro Pratik Karia = Signs, Bro Leonardo Monno = Traditional History, W. Bro Derek Biddle = Alternative Signs & 3rd Degree Tracing Board, Bro Moses Kiwanuka = Working Tools, Bro. Matthew Jeffrey = Charge after Raising.

W. Bro Rimal then had great pleasure in congratulating on taking the third regular step in Freemasonry and presented Bro. Sagayarajah with his ritual book and other papers explaining the ceremony.

The only nominations of which Bro. Secretary was aware are Bro Leonardo Monno as Master and W.Bro. Andrew Robb Watterston as Treasurer and subject to the provisions of rules 105(a) and 112(a) respectively the ballot was declared in their favour. Both rose and thanked the brethren for their confidence and promised to perform their duties to the best of their abilities.

W. Bro Michael Breen & W. Bro Vince Haffenden were duly elected Auditors for the forthcoming year. Following which, W. Bro Mike Porter was re- elected Tyler.

WBro Saeed Ahmad and Bro John Romero were appointed to act on the Lodge Committee.

Almoner's Report:

W. Bro David Errington was pleased to say, he had nothing to report. However, W. Bro Derek mentioned that Bro Almoner has been unwell, but was back on good for and was present today.

Charity Steward's Report:

An exceptional increase in commitments to the Festival has been made since our last Meeting, and the Brethren concerned are thanked for this. Commitments made can cover up to five years so the amounts below are not one-off donations.

The latest commitments are £17365, but more might have arrived. This gives the Lodge a Steward level of Honorific, and the next level – Vice Patron – is less than £1500 more, if Gift aid can be added. The current amount relates to Lodge donations and those of 14 members of the Lodge.

Forms for dealing with this are available as are details of the personal honorifics available.

The Charity Collections at Lodge Meetings do need some help, as the amounts are not very high. We collect using Relief Chest envelopes at the Festive Board, and the amounts are relatively small for a Lodge our size. The last Lodge Meeting raised £107, an average of £3 per person at the Meeting. In most cases, Gift Aid reclaim adds to the final amount.

It is possible to pay donations into the Lodge Relief Chest by Direct Debit, and even at £1 per month, this would mean that you were giving the equivalent of £3 per Meeting, more if you agreed to Gift Aid, please consider if this would help you and the Lodge's charitable efforts.

At the Festive Board this evening, we will be selling the draw tickets for the MGFF Fete, instead of standard raffle tickets, to draw for the prizes we have in the raffle tonight. The end part selected will pick the winner. After tonight, all end parts will be put into the MGFF draw, so you might win once tonight and again in July.

The value that we return after selling these tickets will be added to the Lodge commitment to the Festival as well, so we may need less than £1500 for our next level!

Provincial Co-ordinator's Report:

W. Bro Nigel referred the brethren to the Lodge website for all events, other items would be covered in the risings.

The W.M. rose for the first time.

Bro. Secretary stated that all communications from Grand Lodge have been electronically received and subsequently forwarded to the Brethren.

The W.M. rose for the second time.

Bro secretary had received communications of congratulations from WBro Brian Fisher APMG to W. Bro Andy Watterston on his promotion in Provincial Grand Lodge to PPrJGD and 1st. appointments for W. Bro Pratik Karia to PPrGSwdB and W. Bro Howard Paton Barnes to PPrAGDC and that many of our brethren attended the Provincial AGM in support. Congratulations have also been received from W. Bro Brian Fisher and W Bro Patrick Frederick to Bro Aiedan Sagayarajah on his being raised to a Master Mason.

The W.M. rose for the third time.

W. Bro Derek reported that on 25th April, the Ladies Night was held, and attended by 91 people. We had a scare that the most important person to be there might not make it, due to ill health, but she did for most of the evening, and I understand that our WM's wife Ushmi is much better now. Our deepest respects must go to her on turning up, and doing so well in her response on behalf of the Ladies. I believe that those attending enjoyed it, and would welcome comments. On the figures currently available, we will have made over £800.

This is our last Meeting and during the summer, we usually have social events, organised by our Social Secretary, Matthew. Please try to help him by supporting his efforts, and remembering that it is at events like this that you really get to know your Brothers.

Bro Secretary informed the brethren that a number of members had travelled to Paris for the twinning of Gradation Lodge No.6368 (MetGL) and Tara Lodge No.1541(GLNF) and were hosted admirably by the French Lodge and their Province and that he had written to the Worshipful Master of Tara Lodge, expressing our gratitude on the way we were received.

Bro Secretary had pleasure in reading out a Registration Form P for a joining Member:

W. Bro Maurice Rista Ndirika of 21 Woodhall Gate, Pinner Middlesex, HA5 4TN, a Chartered Surveyor at Maurice & Associates Ltd, Pentax House, South Hill Ave, Harrow, HA2 0DU, D.o.B 22/05/66, Member of Wealdstone Lodge 5236

Proposed by W. Bro Nigel Harris-Cooksley and seconded by W. Bro Terry Clayfield

Apologies were received from the Brethren absent at the meeting, W. Bros Andy Watterston, Vince Haffenden, Adam Clayfield, Saeed Ahmad, Qadeer Mirza, Bros. Simon Thomas, Navin Bhatia, Aamir Khan, Shaun Dias, Mark and John Romero, Nigel Lanchbury, Hari Ravindran

There being nothing further offered for the good of Freemasonry in general or this the North Harrow Lodge No. 6557 in particular. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 6.55pm.

W. Bro Nigel Harris-Cooksley (Secretary)
04/7/2017

Signed: _____ W.M

13th October 2017