

# **BERKSHIRE MARK BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**



## **The Minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting of BeMBA Held at Sindlesham Court on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2019.**

The Chairman, V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman, opened the meeting at 7:30pm., welcomed all present and thanked them for their attendance.

### **THERE WERE ALSO PRESENT :-**

|                        |               |   |
|------------------------|---------------|---|
| W. Bro. Raymond Head   | Vice-Chairman | Rep. Caduceus Mark Lodge;                     |
| W. Bro. Jim Payen      | Treasurer     | Rep. Hungerford Mark & Porchester RAM Lodges; |
| W. Bro. Hugh Ranscombe | Secretary     | Rep. Jersey Lodge of RAM;                     |
| W. Bro. Guy Barlow     |               | Rep. Cranley Mark Lodge;                      |
| W. Bro. David Fisher   |               | Rep. Jersey Mark Lodge;                       |
| W. Bro. David Medley   |               | Rep. Linden Acre Mark & RAM Lodges;           |
| W. Bro. David Wiltcher |               | Rep. Conrad Costin Mark Lodge.                |

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE :-**

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting had been received from :-

W. Bro. Tony Hardiman (Rep. Leopold and Wilder Lodges) and W. Bro. Richard Haydon (Rep. Windsor Castle Mark and RAM).

### **2. MINUTES :-**

The Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2019 had been circulated to all BeMBA representatives. They were proposed as a true record by W. Bro. D. Wiltcher, seconded by W. Bro. R. Head, confirmed by the Brethren present and signed by the Chairman.

### **MATTERS ARISING :-**

There were no matters arising from those Minutes.

### **3. TREASURERS REPORT :-**

The Treasurer, W. Bro Jim Payen, gave a report of the financial position of BeMBA, a copy of which is attached to the paper copy of these minutes. The balance stands at £28,016.51, which represents a healthy state of affairs for the charitable support for the year.

BeMBA is expecting income from the PGM's Reception held in January.

### **4. HOLIDAY SCHEME :-**

There are no claims in the pipeline so far but Lodge representatives are encouraged to stress the scheme in their reports.

### **5. BERKSMARK WIDOWS :-**

A revised contact list had been prepared for this year's gift vouchers. Seventeen Widows had been removed from the Provincial list, there having been no reply from all the correspondence over the past two years, despite stamped addressed return envelopes having been included with all letters and cards.

Updates on those that reply this year, will be sent to Lodges.

**6. CLAIMS FOR ASSISTANCE :-**

Two claims had been actioned by the Executive since the last meeting :-

- 6.1. **The St. John’s Ambulance** Organ Donors Event – a ‘get-together’ event being organised by the Berkshire branch - £150;
- 6.2. **St Michael’s Childcare Trust** (Easthampstead) – setting up of a ‘sow, grow and prepare’ garden for pre-school children – £250.

Three other claims were considered by the Committee :-

- 6.3. The Vodafone Foundation, which invests in the communities where Vodafone operates. It is at the centre of a network of global and local social investment programmes. It was felt that this was not within the remit of BeMBA.
- 6.4. Wargrave Church Hall. A request via W. Bro. Henry Wade for assistance with refurbishing the church hall was not felt to be an appropriate use of BeMBA’s funds.
- 6.5. A request from Kostas Voukelatos of the Turn2Us charity was received via W. Bro. Mike Sanders, asking for contact details of our Charity, to support people in need in Manchester. This was not considered relevant to BeMBA’s activities.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS :-**

**7.1. Support for the Blood Bike Charity.**

It was agreed that, if possible, the presentation to the Blood Bike Charity should be made at the Mark Annual Provincial meeting in September. The other option of the PGM’s Reception in January, 2020 was considered to be less favourable, in view of the possibility of the weather conditions affecting the presentation (the Blood Bikes are not permitted to be on the roads in temperatures below 3deg. C., for safety reasons).

**7.2. BERKSHIRE-WIDE CHARITY :-**

No Charity was identified for next year’s support and Reps. were asked to publicise this at their Lodge meetings, so that a decision could be made at the beginning of next year.

**7.3. DINING WITH THE CLASSICS :-**

It was agreed to encourage Lodges to invite their widows to the Summer event.

**8. FUTURE MEETINGS :-**

- 8.1. Next Committee Meeting – The date of the next Committee Meeting was agreed as Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup>. January, 2020.
- 8.2. It was recommended that a proposal be put to the Annual General Meeting of BeMBA “that Committee Meetings should take place every **fourth month**”.

There being no other business, the Committee Meeting was closed by the Chairman at 20:18pm.

Signed .....

Chairman.

Date .....