

Minutes of the Provincial Priory of London Meeting 29th September 2023

held under the banner of the Faith & Fidelity Preceptory No. 26

The Knights assembled and were called to order at 12.00 noon for the entry of the Malta Delegation led by V.E.Kt. Stephen Warwick, Sub-Prior of Malta.

This was followed by a procession of the visiting Provincial Priors and past Provincial Priors of London.

At 12.10pm Rt.E.Kt. David James Thompson, the Provincial Prior, preceded by the Provincial Sword Bearer and followed by the Provincial Banner Bearer; along with E.Kt. Antony Fabian Legge, the Provincial Sub-Prior, entered in procession accompanied by Officers of the Province. Each procession was under an Arch of Steel.

The Chapter of Provincial Priory was opened at 12.15pm

The Provincial Prior was saluted and he responded according as were Rt.E.Kt. Michael Fox and Rt.E.Kt. Eddie Goodwin.

The Provincial Prior called on the Provincial Almoner to read out the names of those Knights who had passed to the Holy City and this was followed by prayers from the Provincial Prelate.

The minutes of the Chapter of Provincial Priory held on 29th September 2022, having been circulated, were proposed by the Provincial 1st Constable, seconded by the Provincial 2nd Constable and adopted by the Knights of the Province.

The Provincial Prior then extended a warm welcome to the distinguished visitors with Rt.E.Kt. Roger Dixon KCT, Provincial Prior for Warwickshire, responding to the salute.

The Provincial Registrar confirmed those Provincial Officers in attendance.

The Provincial Banners were paraded at and the roll of Preceptories called by the Provincial Vice-Chancellor with each Preceptory being represented.

At 12.55pm the Provincial Treasurer presented his report for the year ending 31st May 2023, outlining that the finances of the Province were in good order and with a healthy balance. Comments of agreement were made from the Account Examiners and the accounts were proposed by the Provincial 1st Constable, seconded by the Provincial 2nd Constable and adopted by the Knights of the Province with thanks to the Provincial Treasurer and the examiners for their continued work.

An election was called for the Provincial Treasurer, and as E.Kt. Matthew Hampson, Past Great Herald, was the only nomination and as no Knight called for a ballot, the Provincial Prior declared him duly elected. E.Kt. Gavin O'Sullivan and E.Kt. Stephen Gill were proposed, seconded and appointed as Provincial Account Examiners. E.Kt. Brian Francois, E.Kt. Alexander Maclean-Bather, E.Kt. Simon White and E.Kt. Les Sinclair were proposed, seconded and appointed to the Provincial Council.

The Provincial Prior thanked E.Kt. Antony Fabian Legge for his service over the previous year as the Provincial Sub-Prior and reappointed him for the forthcoming year.

The Provincial Prior appointed and invested those active Officers of the Provincial team for the year 2023 to 2024. A list of those officers for 2023 to 2024 can be found on the Provincial website. This was followed by the Provincial Prior greeting those Knights who received Past Provincial Ranks on Promotion or a Past Provincial Rank for their First Appointment. A list of these promotions and appointments can be found on the Provincial website.

The Provincial Prior appointed E.Kt. Paul Richards as Commander of his Bodyguard and E.Kt. Mark Leung as Deputy Commander. Members of the Bodyguard were received, thanked for their service and certificates presented to new members.

The Provincial Prior called upon the Provincial Vice-Chancellor for any motions that would affect the Province. It was agreed that the next donation to the St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital would be made at the forthcoming Malta Meeting on Monday 29th January 2024.

The Provincial Prior gave his address to the Knights.

The Provincial Prior announced that the next meeting would be held on Monday 30th September 2024 and called upon a Host Preceptory. United Preceptory of Kemeys Tynte and Temple Cressing No. 45 answered, and the forthcoming meeting will be held under their banner.

Alms were collected during which the Templar's Hymn was sung.

The Chapter of Provincial Priory was closed in due form and solemn prayer at 2.05pm and the first verse of the National Anthem was sung.

The Provincial Prior, along with the Provincial Sub-Prior, distinguished guests, Great Officers, Officers of the Province and the Malta delegation retired in procession under an Arch of Steel.

The Knights were dismissed.