

PAUL BUSBY

Provincial Grand Secretary



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To All Secretaries/Scribes,

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Sir & Brother,

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update II - Election & Installation Meetings**

The Provincial Grand Master has now obtained further advice with regards to meetings where the Election of the Master/Commander and other Officers are agreed for the ensuing year as well as for any Installation Meetings.

Under Rule 105 of the Book of Constitutions, the Provincial Grand Master may grant a Dispensation if it becomes impracticable to hold the Election or Installation Meeting upon the day named in the By-Laws for that purpose fourteen days before or after that fixed by the By-Laws.

However the Provincial Grand Master has confirmed that we have now reached "Special Circumstances" where the restriction of fourteen days before or after that fixed by the By-Laws has been lifted.

All requests for Dispensations will therefore be considered by the Provincial Grand Master on an individual basis. He considers this more appropriate due to the varying dates of forthcoming meetings.

All Dispensation applications will need to be sent to the Provincial Grand Secretary who will process them for the Provincial Grand Masters consideration and approval of which no charge will be made.

All Lodge Summons will need to be produced as normal but if the meeting is to be abandoned due to insufficient attendance a note must be entered in the Minute Book stating that '*the Regular Meeting of the Lodge on [insert date] was duly called but abandoned due to the incidence of coronavirus*'.

If a Lodge decides to go ahead with their meeting they are permitted to do so but they should use the shortened Meeting just to comply with the Book of Constitutions which is to open, confirm the minutes any other urgent business and the closing.

It is now hoped that the Provincial Grand master has provided sufficient information for Lodges to be able to address their individual needs for any meetings in the immediate future or at least until the present situation eases.

As we all know this is a fast moving situation and advice may well change on a daily basis.

Yours sincerely and fraternally

*Paul Busby* 

W.Bro. Paul Busby  
Provincial Grand Secretary