

WILTSHIRE FREEMASONS



PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS OF [LODGE NAME and NUMBER]

With thanks to the Master and members of Fiat Lux Lodge No.9773 for allowing us to use their By Laws as an example.

This template is an example of how current By Laws can be set alongside the UGLE Model for comparison purposes. Words in *Italics* are for advice only. Words in Orange are recommended to be included as Notes to the By Laws, and words in Red are for discussion before inclusion in a redrafted set of By Laws.

The Provincial Grand Master is sure that all Lodges would wish to update their By Laws and has asked the Provincial Communication Officer to work with Lodges that wish to bring their existing By Laws up to date and in line with the UGLE Model By Laws.

Current By Laws	UGLE Model By Laws
<p>1. Place and time of meeting. The Lodge shall meet at the Masonic Hall Morris Lane, Devizes in the province of Wiltshire and shall hold regular meetings on the third (3rd) Thursday in March, April, October and November at such hour as the Master shall direct.</p>	<p>1. Place and dates of meeting The Lodge shall meet at the Masonic Hall Morris Lane, Devizes in the province of Wiltshire and shall hold regular meetings on the third (3rd) Thursday in March, April, October, and November. The Lodge will Tyle at such hour as the Master shall direct.</p>
<p>2. Election of officers The Master and the Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the regular meeting in November. The Master Elect shall be installed at the regular meeting in March each year.</p>	<p>2. Election and Installation Meetings (see note a). The Master, and Treasurer shall be elected annually by ballot at the regular meeting in November. The Master Elect shall be installed at the regular meeting in March. <i>(For further guidance refer to Rule 105, Book of Constitutions)</i></p>
<p>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 November.</p>	<p>3. Election of Tyler Subject to the provisions of Rule 113, Book of Constitutions, the Tyler shall be elected by a show of hands at the regular meeting in November.</p>
<p>4. Lodge Committee The Lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Past Masters of (and in) the Lodge, the Treasurer, and Secretary, and two Brethren other members to be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in November. This Committee shall consider and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership and on any matters specially referred to it by the Lodge.</p>	<p>4. Lodge Committee (see note b). The Lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Past Masters of and in the Lodge, the Treasurer, and Secretary, and two Master Masons to be elected at the regular meeting in February. This Committee shall consider and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership and on any other matters specially referred to it by the Lodge. Five members of the Committee shall form a</p>

<p>Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum.</p>	<p>quorum. The Committee shall meet not less than twice each year.</p>
<p>5. Audit Committee and Annual Accounts</p> <p>The Audit Committee shall consist of two members of the Lodge, who shall be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in November. The accounts shall be made up to the 31st December in each year and shall be presented to the Lodge, duly audited, at the regular meeting in March.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>5. Audit Committee and Annual Accounts (see note f).</p> <p>The Audit Committee shall consist of two members of the Lodge, who shall be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in February. The accounts shall be made up to the last day of December in each year and shall be presented to the Lodge, duly audited, at the regular meeting in March.</p> <p>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 March meeting.</p>
<p>6. Fees and Annual Subscriptions</p> <p>The Initiation fee shall be £30.00. The joining fee £10 and the Re-joining fee £5 such fees to be exclusive of subscription.</p> <p>In addition to these fees the candidate shall pay to the Lodge such registration fees as are payable to Grand Lodge and if applicable to Provincial or District Grand Lodge together with any tax thereon, and the candidate shall before becoming a member be informed of the total amount due.</p> <p>The Annual Subscription (except for country membership as provided for in By-Law No. 7) due and payable on 1st January and exclusive of dining fees 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.</p> <p>The fees for members and visitors for dining shall be 'at cost'. The members can be informed of the dining fee by a separate note included with the summons for each meeting.</p> <p>Any member whose subscription is unpaid for six months shall be liable to be excluded from the Lodge, after due notice, in accordance with Rule 181, Book of Constitutions</p>	<p>6. Fees and Annual Subscriptions</p> <p>The Initiation fee shall be £30.00. The joining fee £10. The Re-joining fee will be £5. (Such fees to be exclusive of annual members' subscription)</p> <p>In addition to these fees the candidate shall pay to the Lodge such registration fees as are payable to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge together with any tax thereon and the candidate shall before becoming a member be informed of the total amount due.</p> <p>The Annual Subscription (except for country membership as provided for in By-Law No. 7) due and payable on 1st January of each year 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.</p> <p>A member whose subscription remains unpaid as at the first day of July shall be liable to be excluded from the Lodge, after due notice, in accordance with Rule 181, Book of Constitutions.</p> <p>A member whose subscription remains unpaid for six months (as of 1st July) shall be deprived while so in default of the rights of voting, proposing or seconding candidates, and being appointed or elected to office.</p> <p>The Secretary's services shall be deemed equivalent to payment of subscription</p>

<p>7. Country Membership Any member who, for reasons acceptable to the Lodge, is not in a position to enjoy the privileges of the Lodge regularly may on written application to the Secretary and by resolution of the Lodge be considered a Country member and shall pay a subscription annually in advance on 1st January of such less amount than that provided for in By-Law No.6 as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the summons at the previous regular meeting. When attending the Lodge and dining such member shall pay the current dining fee.</p>	<p>7. Country Membership Any member who, for reasons acceptable to the Lodge, is not in a position to enjoy the privileges of the Lodge regularly may on written application to the Secretary and by resolution of the Lodge be considered a Country member and shall pay a subscription annually in advance on 1st January of such less amount than that provided for in By-Law No.6 as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the summons at the previous regular meeting. Or The Lodge does not offer Country Membership in which case Item 7 is removed.</p>
<p>8. Admission of Candidates The admission of Candidates for Initiation and joining shall be as regulated by the provisions of Rules 157 to 166, Book of Constitutions. On the ballot for Initiation or joining, two black balls shall exclude.</p>	<p>8. Admission of Candidates (see notes d and e). The admission of Candidates for Initiation and joining shall be as regulated by the provisions of Rules 157 to 166, Book of Constitutions. On the ballot for Initiation or joining, two black balls shall exclude. (N.B. Should there be any objection to the introduction of a Candidate for Initiation, or a Brother for Joining, it is recommended that such objection be mentioned privately to the Master or Secretary, who may communicate with the Proposer, and give him the privilege of withdrawing his Candidate.)</p>
<p>9. 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 time wish to re-join, he shall be subject to the rules relating to joining members. (N.B. Fees and subscriptions are not returnable to those who resign.)</p>	<p>9. 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 time wish to re-join, he shall be subject to the rules relating to joining members.</p>
<p>10. 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 case of emergency, when such payment may be authorised by the Master and reported to the Lodge at the next regular meeting.</p>	<p>10. 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 case of emergency, when such payment may be authorised by the Master and reported to the Lodge at the next regular meeting.</p>

11. Amendment of by-laws

Except or otherwise required by Rule 136, 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 Regular Meeting, or for an Emergency Meeting summoned for the purpose, and shall, at such meeting, 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.
 - i) in Provinces and Districts by the Provincial or District Grand master and if not in accordance with the model By-Laws issued from time to time, by the Grand Master.

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- (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, and if not in accordance with the model By-Laws issued from time to time, by the Grand Master.