

# The Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas

## District of East Lancashire

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25<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

Dear Brethren,

You will be aware that on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020, I imposed local restrictions on activities within the District and the suspension of all face to face meetings.

I am pleased to report that having considered the recent Government's decision, I am delighted to direct the previous restriction order be rescinded. This decision has been taken in line with the advice from Mark Masons Hall and the Craft / Royal Arch in this Province and complements the huge amount of work done by the Masonic Halls to allow us to meet again safely.

Members are expected to comply with any reasonable requirements set out by individual Masonic Halls, such as track and trace forms or QR codes, wearing of face masks, etc. It is important that we remain considerate to those who may not be as risk averse or particularly vulnerable. There is no expectation to attend until a member feels safe and comfortable to do so. Remember that this is only a step on the way back to "normal" and the pandemic is far from over.

For the avoidance of doubt the first meeting of your Council should be an Installation or a Proclamation of the Worshipful Master and summonses should be issued in a timely manner. I know that we have a number of candidates waiting to be admitted, I ask that the DC and officers are made aware in plenty of time and given the opportunity for a rehearsal. I am sure that, like me, even the best of ritualists can become deskilled after a long layoff. We must make every effort to give the candidates the best possible experience of this wonderful Order.

This directive is effective immediately and I ask that secretaries please communicate it to those members who do not have email access.

I, or my Deputy, will make every effort to visit your Council for your first meetings, we are looking forward to your company and resuming Allied masonry in East Lancs.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

*Mervyn F Wilson*