Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Essex Keystone Province 150th Anniversary Keystone Province Grand Patron – Mark Benevolent Fund



## Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Essex

Dear Sir & Brother,

We were due to hold our Annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons Meeting at Felsted on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 but with the continued Restrictions and Suspensions imposed by the Government due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. Terence Sheern has sadly had to cancel our scheduled Meeting.

For the second year running the Provincial Meeting will now take place as a Zoom Virtual Business Meeting which will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2021, to enable those at work to also attend, details and a full Agenda will be published and distributed to all Provincial Members prior to the Meeting.

The Provincial Grand Master has also taken into account savings made by not holding a Physical Annual Meeting and has decided that he will for a second year running make reductions to the Provincial Grand Lodge Annual Fees. Taking the lead from Grand Lodge he has approved a 50% reduction per member from the normal annual fee amount, hoping that this will benefit all Lodges during our road to recovery and returning to full Meetings, this will of course take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. Lodge Treasures are asked to take this reduction into account when reviewing subscriptions.

The Provincial Grand Master has also decided to Reappoint in 2021 all the Active Provincial Officers Appointed in 2020. He believes this Reappointment may give the Active Officers an opportunity to enjoy their Office as others have done in previous years. The knock-on consequence of this decision and taking into account the restrictions placed on the number of Appointments permitted by the Book of Constitutions and Regulations, the eligibility criteria have this year been adjusted for First Appointments.

All those honoured with either First Appointments or Promotions will be entitled to wear that Rank from 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 with pride once we commence normal Meetings again. Letters inviting brethren to accept Appointments and Promotions will be sent out in the next week.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

Paul Busby

W.Bro. Paul Busby Provincial Grand Secretary