

United Religious Military and Masonic Order of the Temple
and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine Rhodes and Malta
of England and Wales and Provinces Overseas.

Provincial Priory of Kent

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End to Suspension of Masonic meetings in England

Dear Brother Registrar's

3rd December 2020

Following the Parliamentary vote on 2nd of December 2020 the Grand Secretary R.W.Bro.Ryan A. Williams has with immediate effect lifted the Suspension of Masonic meetings introduced in November 2020.

Meetings may now resume subject to the Tier level of risk within the area of your Preceptory.

Tier 1 Masonic meetings fall within the 'permitted organized gatherings' exemption in the new legislation which means they can only be held in Masonic Centers or on other premises permitted by law i.e. a function room in a members club or Hotel.

Those responsible for organizing such meetings, as well as those who manage the premises where they take place are obliged to conduct a risk assessment and take all reasonable steps to minimize risk of transmission of the virus.

Consequently, meetings may resume subject to the Rule of Six and does include the Guard.

Tier 2 The New law also allows Masonic meetings to be held in areas falling within Tier 2 as 'permitted organized gatherings' described above.

To minimize the risk of transmission of the virus, the maximum permitted attendance at a meeting is Six including the Guard.

Tier 3 The restrictions on people from separate household meeting indoors means that in areas falling in Tier 3 Masonic meetings cannot take place and should be suspended.

Individuals who live in Tier 3 areas are not permitted to attend Masonic meetings in Tier 1 or Tier 2 areas.

Summons will now be required from all Preceptory's in Tier 1 and 2 areas unless they are having a Virtual Business meeting. Tier 3 area Summons are not required.

Festive boards must not take place at any Masonic Meeting.

Preceptory's may if they wish conduct Virtual Business meetings in Lieu of Scheduled meetings during the new Coronavirus Tier restrictions.

To help you keep up to date with local restrictions you can check the postcode of any address to see precisely what alert level is in force at the location by using the following address.

www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-restrictions

Please share this announcement with all your brother Knights, including those not on email.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Dean". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a smaller "Dean" following it.

E.Kt. Dennis Dean
Provincial Vice-Chancellor for the Provincial Priory of Kent