



Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

Minutes of Meeting held on: 20th September 2023 at Linlithgow Rose Club

WELCOME: In Neil's absence, George Bird welcomed all the members and guests Hamish McIntyre and Anne Duncan.

APOLOGIES:

Alan Hannan; Lyn Aitken; Helen Murray, Neil Edwards

ALMONERS REPORT

Nothing to report.

George reiterated that with winter approaching arrangements should be made as in previous years for people either able to offer a lift or people requiring a lift to give him their names.

MATTERS ARISING

Scottish Charity Air Ambulance had thanked the club for their donation of £50.00.

Pictures of most of the members had been added to the Club website. Anyone missing should speak to George who would take their picture.

David Elliot wanted to enlarge the item in the last minute about judging the Gala Day decorations. In addition to Stewart and Gary, George, Jim, himself plus George, Jim and David's wives had taken part. He wanted to highlight that the judging was not an insignificant effort as there wasn't much notice given and there were a large number of sites to visit meaning they couldn't all see every site. There was also an awareness that if they had made controversial decisions it would reflect badly on Probus. However, it was felt that it was a worthwhile exercise and lessons had been learned for future years.

AOCB

The Treasurer still has some Probus badges for sale at a bargain price of £5.00 each.

Syllabus cards are still available from the Secretary.

The paid up membership is currently 42 persons.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

George introduced the speaker for the day, our member Andrew Jones. Andrew had taken an MA through the Open University and the Dissertation he had prepared then formed the basis for his talk today

Andrew then took us through the long and tortuous proceedings whereby Linlithgow Town Council attempted to exert it's rights as a Royal Burgh to levy customs on items

passing through the town and across the Avon River. They were supported by the Scottish Court of Session but it was overruled by the House of Lords.

There were a few attempts to compromise from both sides over the years but neither side wanted to compromise at the same time!

The case extended over nearly 20 years and the final legal bills added to the accumulated deficit resulted in the Council applying for sequestration. The creditors received 3/- in the Pound (15%) and the Sequestration wasn't lifted until 1877.

As usual, the only winners were the lawyers.

VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was given by David Elliot and supported by the members in the usual manner.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 4th October when Ian Lambie (Linlithgow's own rugby internationalist will be talking on 'A Rugby Career'

Chris Collen
Secretary
21/09/2023

<https://blythswood.org/contact-us/>