



Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

Minutes of Meeting held on: 13th November 2024 at Linlithgow Rose Club

WELCOME: President Neil Edwards welcomed all the members and Duncan McCuish.

APOLOGIES:

Margaret Cameron, Chris Collen, Alan Hannan, Jim Hannan, Ann Duncan, Bill Duncan, Dora Kelly, Jim Kelly, Julie Lawrie, Randolph Murray, David Olwa and George Wilson

ALMONERS REPORT

Gary reported that he had sent a card on behalf of the Club to Jim and Dora Kelly. Ross confirmed the sad news that Dale Macpherson had died, on 9 November. The funeral arrangements would be sent out to members. Dale was a past President and had been secretary for 16 years.

MATTERS ARISING

The Club had entered St Michael's Church Festival of Christmas Trees 2024 which this year had the theme of 'Christmas Movies'. The Probus team had chosen *The Snowman* and the work was progressing well.

Regarding the Christmas Lunch, members attending were asked to email their menu choices to Chris. The cost would be finalised shortly.

New members who hadn't already done so were asked to see George at the end of the meeting to have their photographs taken for the rogues' gallery.

AOCB

None

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Bert warmly welcomed Liz Park to the Club, saying that she really was a well-kent face around the town being a Black Bitch and rising to be the town's first female Provost.

Liz told the members she could trace her family back 200 years in Linlithgow. She had been immersed in the Gala Day and Marches since she was a child and became a member of the Deacon's Court following the encouragement of Barbra Braithwaite. There were about 50 members of the Court and she had not envisaged that one day she would be provost. Liz described the effort that goes into fund-raising and planning for the great day and entertained members with a description of what is

involved on Marches Day including for those having a provost as neighbour. She ended with a video showing that even in the trying times of the 2020 virtual Marches there were laughs to be had. In answering questions Liz mentioned that the Marches now cost about £55,000 each year, hence the importance of fund raising and also there was a need to involve newcomers to the town in the rich history of the celebrations.

VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was given by Neil who warmly thanked Liz for what was a most interesting insight into the work of the Deacon's Court and Provost.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be our St Andrews Day celebration with Cockleroy, on 27 November, a great chance to exercise the vocal chords.

David Elliot
Secretary-Substitute
13 November 2024

