



Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

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Minutes of Meeting held on: Wednesday 4th February 2026 at Linlithgow Rose Club

WELCOME: Vice-President Jim Hannan welcomed all the members and visitors Eileen and John McLean. Jim was deputising for George because his wife had fallen and was on strong painkillers and cannot be left.

Jim paid tribute to past president David Yorke who had died. His funeral is at Stirling Crematorium on Friday 6th February at 1.00pm and afterwards at Auchterarder Golf Club.

APOLOGIES:

George Bird; Dora Kelly; Jim Kelly; Sheena Litster; Donald Macdonald; Meg McCormick ; Randolph Murray; David Robertson

ALMONERS REPORT

Gary reported that Donald Macdonald has not been well but we hope to see him soon and wish him the very best.

MATTERS ARISING

A small working party had been working on a new Constitution for the Club. It will be sent out shortly for consideration at the AGM on 18th March.

George and Murdoch had prepared an article for the next issue of the Black Bitch covering the 50th Anniversary of the Club.

A professional photographer, Rebecca Holmes, will be present on 4th March to take a group photograph. All members were encouraged to attend.

AOCB

No other issues were raised.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Jim proceeded to introduce today's speaker Hugh Dan Maclellan by reciting a very small part of his CV. Hugh then proceeded to strike terror into the hearts of his audience by starting his presentation in Gaelic. He soon relented and proceeded to give a fascinating talk on his career from his childhood in Caol, near Fort William where his schoolmates included several well known footballers and Charles Kennedy

MP through to his early days commentating with the BBC. The club learned hitherto unknown facts about the game of shinty and the characters involved in it. Many thought that shinty was a dangerous game but it paled into insignificance when he moved to his next subject – the rugby charity “Hearts and Balls”. Hugh talked movingly about the horrendous injuries wrought on fit young men who suffered paralysing injuries in tackles or when scrums collapsed. Hearts and Balls provided financial and other support to these players and their families.

VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was given by Bert Lawson who presented Hugh with a cheque for Hearts and Balls. He was supported by the members in the usual manner.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 18th February when the subject will be “Putting Linlithgow on the map” and the speaker Chris Long.

Chris Collen
Secretary
04/02/2026