



Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club

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Minutes of Meeting held on: Wednesday 29th April 2026 at Linlithgow Rose Club

WELCOME: President Jim Hannan welcomed all the members.

APOLOGIES:

Bill Duthie; Bruce Jamieson; Dora Kelly; Jim Kelly; Alan MacLeod; Duncan McCuish; Clare Pollock; Bob Ross; Stuart Smith;

ALMONERS REPORT

Garry reported that Stuart Smith and his wife were recovering well although Stuart would not be returning to Probus this session.

Dora Kelly had had a heart attack but was now home.

Garry was pleased to see that Donald Macdonald and Raymond Corr were present and bade them welcome.

MATTERS ARISING

There were now 34 names on the list for the outing to Glasgow Transport Museum. That leaves 8 spaces on the bus. Members were invited to pay their £15 per head for those taking the coach and £5 for those making their own way by transfer to the bank account, details as follows:

Name of Account: Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus

Sort Code: 80-17-37

Account No: 00231008

Reference - OUTING

Once again, Probus had been invited to judge the Gala Day Arches. Jim looked for volunteers and, George Bird, Chris Collen, Liz Collen, Alan Guthrie, Jim Hannan, Sheena Litster, Gregor Macdonald, Hamish Macintyre, Di Wild, Garry Withnell, stepped forward. Jim will be in touch once arrangements were ready to be made.

AOCB

George advised that he had arranged a lunch to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Club. It will take place in the Rose Club on Wednesday 30th September 2026 using Wee White Dog (the Linlithgow Golf Club caterers) The cost would be £20 for 2 courses, £24 for 3 courses (with an excess of £5 for steak) and coffee and tea for £1. The menu will be available within the next fortnight.

The secretary proposed repeating last year's summer meet-up for lunch and enquired how many were interested. He originally proposed 2 meals over the summer but in view of the 50th anniversary lunch on 30th September it was agreed that one at the end of July would be sufficient. It would be at Corbie Inn and people will be expected to

pay their own bills to save the Secretary's workload! Details will be sent out in due course.

Garry put in a plug for the Barony Players production of 'Brassed Off' in Bo'ness from 4th to 9th May

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Bert Lawson then proceeded to introduce today's speaker – Iain Kirkman. Iain, a member of the Friends of Kinneil is a post-graduate student at Edinburgh University where he is researching the Enclosures with particular reference to the Bo'ness area. Iain proceeded to talk about the Agricultural revolution in the late 18th century as farming practices changed from cottars working on their own furrows to tenant farmers working on much larger areas that they rented from the big landowners – in this case the Dukes of Hamilton. His talk was well illustrated with maps of the area showing the different geographical features of the pre- and post- enclosure periods. A large number of questions followed that Iain answered fully.

VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was given by Alan Guthrie who highlighted the number of questions and comments as showing the interest that Iain had raised. He was supported by the members in the usual manner.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th May

Chris Collen
Secretary
30/04/2026