



## **Linlithgow & Bo'ness Probus Club**

### **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on: 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at Linlithgow Rose Club**

#### **WELCOME:**

President George Bird welcomed an excellent turnout of members. There were no visitors.

#### **PRESENT**

Jean Aitken; James Aitken; John Aitken; Lyn Aitken; Michael Baker; Alan Bennie; George Bird; John Carswell; Chris Collen; Neil Edwards; David Elliot; Sheona Erskine; Willie Erskine; Alan Guthrie; Alan Halley; Jim Hannan; Alan Hannan; Bruce Jamieson; Ross Jarvie, Andrew Jones; Bert Lawson; Hamish Macintyre; Alan MacLeod; Bob McCaig; Tony McKerron; Ian Morris; David Olwa; Jean Osborne; David Robertson; Bob Ross; Jim Thomson; Janice Tidswell; Pete Tidswell; Di Wild; George Wilson; May Wilson; Ricky Wilson; Garry Withnell;

#### **APOLOGIES:**

Bill Duncan; Bill Duthie; Dora Kelly; Jim Kelly; Murdoch Kennedy; Duncan McCuish; Claire Pollock; Andrew Ramsay; Stuart Smith;

#### **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the 2025 AGM were accepted unanimously

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

George started his report by paying tribute to Eileen Macgregor and past president David Yorke who had died during the year.

George thanked the committee who had supported him during the year, particularly Treasurer Mick Baker who as well as being the Club's longest serving member was retiring after 23 years as Treasurer. George presented him with a whisky glass (complete with contents) inscribed with his name and the Probus logo.

George also thanked the Rose Club for their hospitality, especially Eileen and Ricky who supplied the refreshments.

He thanked the Events group who had organised an excellent selection of speakers.

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

Mick Baker (in his 22<sup>nd</sup> and final report to Probus) reported that the finances were in a healthy state. They had been examined by John and been found to represent a fair view.

Mick reported that the membership now stood at 60, up from 49. Meeting attendance had averaged around 34.

Signed copies of the accounts were available.

The accounts were adopted – Proposed by George Bird, Seconded John Aitken

## **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

George had served as President for the past year and had decided to stand down. Mick had decided to retire after doing his 23 years but was happy to continue collecting the money each week. Ross Jarvie had decided to stand down as Bo'ness Almoner and it was agreed to amalgamate the two Almoners' positions. Stuart Smith wanted to come off the events committee. The rest of the Office Bearers and committee were happy to continue in their roles.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
President	Jim Hannan	George Bird	Bert Lawson
Vice President	Garry Withnell	George Bird	Jim Thomson
Treasurer	John Aitken	George Bird	Jim Hannan
Secretary & Membership	Chris Collen	George Bird	Mick Baker
Almoner	Gary Withnell	George Bird	Jim Hannan
Programme Committee	George Bird; Alan Guthrie; Alan Halley; Murdoch Kennedy; Bert Lawson;	George Bird	Chris Collen

The new President took the opportunity to thank George for his contribution to the club, having been involved in all activities.

## **SUBS FOR 2026/27**

It was agreed that the Annual Subscription and Meeting charge would remain at £20 and £3 respectively. Subs are due now.

## **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Ian Morris agreed to be the Independent Examiner for the accounts

## **CONSTITUTION**

The final version of the proposed Constitution issued with the meeting reminder on 17<sup>th</sup> March was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be on 1st April when Roy Johnston would be speaking on the subject “Cuban Missile Crisis”. Meantime the rest of the meeting was given over to a Quiz organised by George Bird and Jim Hannan which was deservedly won after a close fought contest by a team that consisted of David Elliot, Alan Hannon Bob Ross and Tony McKerron.

Chris Collen  
Hon Secretary  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2026