

STOKESLEY PROBUS CLUB
Minutes of Business Meetings 2018-2019

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Minutes of business meeting - 11.00 on 19 March 2019

1. There were 38 Members present and 12 Apologies.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th February were Accepted.
3. There were no Matters Arising.
4. Alec Smithson was a new Member but he had sent his apologies.
5. The Chairman said that he would circulate the Club Membership List by email. Hardcopies were available at the Meeting for Members without email.
6. There were 3 Guests at the Meeting: David Burton, the Speakerfinder's son, Neil Glover a guest of Fred Logie and David Milner introduced by Mike Lawrenson. The Chairman welcomed the last David, who arrived as a Guest and left as a Member.
7. The Treasurer said that the Committee had agreed to recommend to Members at the April AGM an unchanged subscription of £25 for the next year.

The Secretary called for Nominations to the Committee. At the AGM, the Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary will all be standing down at the ends of their Terms of Office.

The Website Manager, apologised for any difficulties with the website over the last year. The view of the Meeting was that Stefan has done a terrific job in running it. The Chairman thanked Stefan his efforts and said that the Club Programme Cards would be issued in May following the Committee changes at the AGM. He thanked Stefan for producing new cards with forenames only in larger type. Following a question from a Member, Keith said that Members could use their existing cards if they so wished. He also said that he would investigate the cost of Probus lapel pins. Card holders were available for those who needed one.

The Speaker Finder reported that the Programme for next year was complete, subject only to confirmation of the talk in March 2020.

8. The Chairman said that he would circulate the Calendar of Events to Members by email after the Meeting. Hard copies were available for those without email.

9. The Chairman summarised the roles of Committee Members:

Retiring at the end of term of office and standing down – Keith Waller, Chairman; David Middleton, Treasurer and Peter Robinson, Secretary

Retiring at end of term of office and offering himself for re-election – Derek Whiting, Ordinary Member

Retiring at end of term of office and willing to be reappointed – Maj Chuhan, Auditor

Standing for election as Ordinary Members – Kevin Clifford and Graham Howard

Continuing in Office: Stephan Barnes, Website Manager; Keith Burton, Speaker Finder; John Edwards and Keith Bell, Ordinary Members.

10. Keith said that the status of Trips for 2019 was:

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'The King and I' at Sunderland Empire on 6th June for which 4 Members and 4 Guests had booked. There were 4 Apologies.

'Les Miserables' at Newcastle Royal on 26th September for which 8 Members and 7 Guests had booked with 15 Apologies.

There were a limited number of seats available for anybody who had not yet booked for either of these shows.

The trip to Auckland Castle and Shildon Railway Museum proposed for 31st July would be to the Museum only. Auckland Castle is undergoing major refurbishments at present and will be looked at as a possibility in the future. To go to the Railway Museum only would cost about £25 and would include a welcome cup of coffee and a guided tour. Alwyn Boulby highly recommended the visit and said that there is a lot of history there and about 70 locomotives. Following further interest at the Meeting, 6 Members and 3 Guests had confirmed bookings.

All other trips which had been previously been discussed had now been abandoned because of insufficient interest.

The prizes in the Fun Draw were combined Crossword Puzzles and Jigsaws. They were won by Keith Bell and John Foster.

11. The next Meeting will be the AGM on Tuesday 16th April when Martin Pegan will talk on 'A town of rampant sin'.

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Minutes of business meeting - 11.00 on 19 February 2019

1. There were 40 Members present and 8 Apologies.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th January were Accepted.
3. The Chairman thanked Members for donations of books, CDs and DVDs for the benefit of Brain Tumour research.

He had received a phone call from the Children's Society thanking Probus for their donation

He told the Meeting of a talk entitled 'It'll be fine' at Christ Church in Great Ayton, the story of 4 women rowing across the Atlantic. Proceeds will go to Marie Curie.

Keith noted that in January, 50 of the 53 Members had either attended the Meeting or sent Apologies, a remarkable demonstration of the commitment of Members.

He confirmed that the Christmas Lunch had been booked at the Wainstones Hotel for 10th December.

Keith advised that, following the question of a year's free visits to York Minster at January's Meeting, the Minster had advised that this did not apply to group bookings.

Derek Whiting had written an article for the D&S Times on the York trip.

4. There were no new Members.
5. Alex Smithson was a Guest of the Chairman.
6. The Treasurer said that the Club had made a profit of £25 on the trip to York.

The Secretary called for Nominations to the Committee for election at the AGM in April. The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were all retiring. Derek Whiting and Chris Lee had reached the end of their terms of office as Ordinary Committee Members. Derek was willing to stand again and Chris Lee was willing to stand as Treasurer. Maj Chuhan had completed his 3 year tenure as Auditor and was willing to be reappointed.

The Website Manager was absent but had nothing to report.

The Speaker finder had completed the Speaker Programme for the next year. The programme cards would not be issued until May because of changes to the Committee Membership following the Elections at the AGM.

7. The Chairman said that the Committee had discussed changes in the Committee roles with the aim of sharing the workload. The new Treasurer might not wish to organise the Christmas Lunch. Speakers will be asked to provide a synopsis of their talks. In the absence of this, the Speaker finder will produce these. If he is not present, then the Secretary or the Chairman will produce one. This will reduce the work of the Secretary. To reduce the Chairman's workload, Peter Robinson had offered to organise Members' Lunches. The Club needed to find volunteers to organise trips and the Christmas Lunch. This posed the question whether these volunteers should be Members of the Committee. Two Members, Kevin Clifford and Graham Howard, had volunteered to stand as Ordinary Members of the Committee. Members had no questions on these proposals.

8. The Trips planned for 2019 were 'The King and I' at the Sunderland Empire on 6th June and 'Les Miserables' on 26th September at the Newcastle Royal. Keith said there were still places available if anybody else wished to go to either of these.

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Various suggestions for other trips were considered and Members were asked to indicate their support for these. On shows of hands, it was decided that:

A combination of a visit to Auckland Project and the Shildon Railway Museum should be taken forward. There was insufficient support for trips to Temple Newsam, the Buddy Holly story at Darlington Hippodrome, Kynren and Durham Lumiere. The 2020 programme for the Princess Alexandra Auditorium in Yarm would be researched to identify shows which might be of interest. Maj Chuhan suggested that following the two theatre visits this year the next trip should be a visit in order to maintain a good balance. Jim Gannon remarked that for local trips, there would be cost but little benefit in the Club organising coach transport. Keith noted that in this case, any group discount at the venue would be unaffected.

9. The Chairman said that the In Memoriam section of the Club Website was set up to remember those who had passed away for one year. He would ask Stefan to take down the article remembering Clive Addison who died a year ago.

The Fun Draw prizes were Memory Activity Books won by David Storry and Peter Robinson. Keith offered to continue the Fun Draw if the incoming Chairman wished him to do so.

10. The next Meeting will be on Tuesday 19th March with Peter Atkinson talking on 'Is everything relative?'

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Minutes of Business Meetings 2018-2019

Minutes of business meeting - 11.00 on 15 January 2019

1. There were 38 Members present and 12 Apologies.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th November were Accepted.
3. There were no Matters Arising
4. The Chairman welcomed 4 new Members: Brian Dinsdale, Fred Logie, Richard Rose and John Foster who had re-joined (John was one of the Apologies)
5. Brian Fitzgerald and Alex Smithson were Guests of the Chairman, George Pattison a Guest of Maj Chuhan and Chris Lloyd of Bill Graham.
6. 27 Members and 24 Guests had enjoyed Christmas Lunch at the Wainstones. There was general agreement that it had been very good value. For 2019, Members had a choice of 4th, 10th or 17th December. They voted to hold the event on Tuesday 10.
7. The Treasurer said that the Club had made a profit of £3 on the Christmas Lunch.

The Secretary had nothing to report.

The Website Manager was absent.

The Speaker finder advised that Speakers for the next year are turning down a fee of £25. A budget of £330 which has been fixed for the last 4 years is now too low. The Committee had agreed that this figure should be raised to £400. This was Approved

by Members. Keith also advised that Mike Irvine will be replaced as the Speaker in March because of ill health. Peter Atkinson will talk on 'Is Everything Relative?'

8. The Chairman informed the Meeting that the Committee had been discussing additional roles. One person might organise Members' Lunches and a second the Christmas Lunch. These might not be Committee Members. Maj Chuhan has agreed to continue as Auditor and Derek Whiting as a Committee Member. Chris Lee is willing to take on the Treasurer's role. Peter Robinson is ready to organise Members' Lunches. Kevin Clifford and Graham Howard are prepared to stand as Ordinary Members. There are vacancies for the Chairman and Secretary's positions.

9. 15 Members and 13 Guests had gone to York on 30th

November. The coach and driver were excellent. Unfortunately the group missed the tour of York Minster because of delays in traffic. The £180 deposit was lost despite appeals. Maj Chuhan asked if we could get admission for the next year. Keith will follow this up. Confirmed trips for 2019 are to 'The King and I' at Sunderland Empire on 6 June and to 'Les Miserables' at Newcastle on 26th September. For 'The King and I', 10 seats have been booked and 8 have been taken. The cost is likely to be less than £50 per person including the minibus. 12 seats (7 Members, 5 Guests with 15 Apologies) have been booked for 'Les Miserables' and 9 deposits paid. The cost will be less than £90 each. Please let Keith know if you would like to go on either trip.

Other possibilities include Auckland Castle/Shildon Railway, Temple Newsome, Buddy Holly, Kynren, the Durham Lumiere and the Alexandra Auditorium in Yarm.

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Maj Chuhan suggested that final decisions should be taken to reduce the time the Chairman spends on investigating suggestions. Keith agreed and said he would include this in the February agenda.

10. The Fun Draw prizes were AA Road Atlases won by Keith Burton and Geoff Phillips.

11. The next Meeting will be on Tuesday 19th February with Tony Daniels talking on 'Your next stop – Stokesley'.