

STOKESLEY PROBUS CLUB
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 15th April 2025

1. Attendance: 27 Members attended with 11 apologies
2. Guests: One guest.
3. Minutes of previous AGM held on Tuesday 16th April 2024
Minutes accepted
4. Matters arising: None

5. Chairman's AGM Report: Keith Waller

Committee: On behalf of the Membership, thanks to Committee Members for their contributions, which are vital to keep the Club running. There are currently five Committee Meetings per year plus ad hoc smaller meetings.

Chris Griffiths, who had been co-opted to the Committee was confirmed in the role of Speaker Finder by the Membership. Thanks to Bob Scott who has stepped down after three very successful years in the role. In appreciation of his work Bob was presented with a copy of, "A Book of Trains"

Membership: At the previous AGM there were 47 Members. Since then, sadly, 4 Members passed away, and a further 5 resigned or left due to ill health. However, there were 5 new Members bringing the total current membership to 44.

Monthly Meetings – high average attendance of 27 (down from 31 for previous year). Including apologies for non-attendance this equates to a healthy 86% participation. Thanks to Keith Bell for organising the refreshments, and for leading the team of volunteers – Derek Whiting and John Edwards.

Speaker Programme: Talks are the mainstay of the monthly meetings. Thanks to Bob Scott for organising a good mix of subjects which have been appreciated and enjoyed by Members.

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Thanks to Chris Lee for all his hard work to keep these necessary club functions up to date, and in good order. And thanks also to Maj Chuhan for providing the vital auditing function.

Members' Lunch Programme: 4 per year. Thanks to Peter Robinson for organising these popular and always well attended events.

Trips: These are proving increasingly problematic to arrange at a reasonably affordable level due to rising costs of transport. Car sharing to be looked at as a viable alternative when feasible. The next trip being researched is to Castle Howard.

Christmas Lunch: yet another successful and popular event enjoyed by all 51 attendees (29 Members and 22 guests) at the Wainstones. Thanks to Chris Lee for all his hard work in organising this annual event. Chris has booked the next Christmas lunch for Tuesday 9th December 2026, again at the Wainstones.

Website: This is now easier to access, contains more information, and is regularly updated.

Thanks to Brian Clark for enhancing and updating this very useful tool.

Secretary: Thanks to John Edwards for providing minutes of meetings and summaries of talks (mainly for the benefit of Members unable to attend Meetings).

In Summary: the Club is in good shape and the outlook is positive, but this is predicated on a continual push to attract new Members.

Thanks to the Membership for their enthusiastic support, without which the Club would not survive, and which is an essential element of its success.

Programme Cards for 2025/2026 were distributed. Thanks to Stefan Barnes for designing and printing

6. Treasurer and Membership Secretary's AGM Report: Chris Lee

The Treasurer led a vote of thanks for the Chairman to acknowledge his hard work and fine stewardship, which keeps the Club running so smoothly.

The 2024/2025 Annual Accounts had been issued to Members and shows a surplus of around £70.

Costs have risen and Membership has fallen slightly over the last few years. Annual subscriptions have increased from £25 to £33 in that time. Average speaker fees have risen from around £25 to £35. STH room rental charges have increased. It has been challenging to keep to budget. The speaker's fee for J Harrison (Atlantic rower) was a particular challenge, but a very generous anonymous donation from a Member was received to offset this cost. Many thanks to the donor.

To meet anticipated future cost increases it is proposed to raise annual subscription from £33 to £35 for the coming year.

The Auditor, Maj Chuhan, confirmed that he had audited the accounts and found them to be in order.

No queries were raised by Members.

The accounts were accepted by Members as a true record.

The proposed increase in Membership subscription to £35 for 2025/2026 was accepted by Members. Payments can be sent to the Chris Lee by cash or cheque or can be paid direct by Bank Transfer

7. Constitution – To remain unchanged. This was accepted by Members.

8. Committee Elections

Chris Griffiths accepted as Speaker Finder.

Appointment of Paul Bruce as General Member accepted.

Keith Waller stood again as Chairman unopposed and was accepted.

Maj Chuhan stood again as Auditor unopposed and was accepted.

9. Lunches – The next lunch will be on Wednesday 30th April 2025 at The Royal Oak, Great Ayton. Please advise Peter Robinson of your pre-order asap but no later than 25th April. Thank you.

10. AOB - Fun draw:

The lucky winners of books on Botany were Brian Clarke and Robin Stimpson.

Next AGM is Tuesday 21st April 2026

Next Members' meeting is Tuesday 20th May 2025

JE 21.4.25