

Minutes of the Coleraine Probus Club AGM

Held in Portstewart Golf Club on Tuesday 29th January 2013

Attendance: 41 members were present.

Apologies: Arnold Carson, Alex Elliott, Ronnie Gray, Jack Henderson, Aubrey McElhinney, Ian Murray, James Nesbitt, Gareth Parry and Joe Wishart. (9)

The President, Ross Torrens welcomed guest, Peter FitzGerald our Rotary Club Liaison Officer, and Probus members to the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the AGM of 31st January 2012 were read, agreed and signed.

Matters arising: None not covered by the agenda

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Nigel Semple talked through the audited accounts for the members. A copy of the summary had been distributed to members before the meeting began - a further copy is attached to these minutes. During his presentation of the accounts, Nigel wanted to give a special mention to Mervyn Patterson for arranging the very successful and minimal cost to club funds, Inter-Club Quiz, and also, to members all for their prompt payment of membership fees. In view of the careful expenditure over the year, he was not proposing an increase in club subs for the coming year.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary, Mike Turner read his report on the Club activities and membership for the passed year - a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Questions: Norman Maxwell was concerned that there was no specific mention of the Club's 25th Anniversary in the reports and no specific budget allowance for the occasion. The Secretary said that there would be more information about the anniversary as the year progresses, stating with a surprise for all members the first week of the anniversary year. The Treasurer confirmed that any anniversary expenditure would be covered within the existing club budget.

Adoption: Members were asked if the club should adopt both the Treasurer's and Secretary's reports. Cecil Leitch proposed the acceptance, and this was seconded by Mervyn Patterson. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Outgoing President: Ross Torrens took the opportunity of this, the last time he would be chairing a club meeting, to thank committee members for their help over the last year. Ross especially wanted to thank John McHenry and the speakers' sub-committee for providing such a great series of talks throughout the year. Ross also gave a special mention to Jim Gordon for all the hard work in arranging the lunches and social occasions, as well as volunteering to chair the sub-committee looking into the All-Ireland rally hosting. There were additional special mentions for the Treasurer and Secretary, along with a genuine and heartfelt thanks to all the club members - let's see more of them in the coming year! The President then formally declared all the current officer and committee posts vacant, and asked Peter FitzGerald to conduct the elections for the new club post holders in the new 2013 Probus year.

Elections: Our Rotary Liaison Officer, Peter FitzGerald took the chair and congratulated the club on such a good attendance on such a wet, windy and generally miserable day. He also hoped that we would all do our bit to encourage more people to attend, and to wear their Probus Pin with pride! Peter then proceeded with the elections:

Results of Election of Club Office Bearers and Committee

Position:		Proposed by:	Secoded by:
President	Graham Kane	Ross Torrens	John McHenry
Vice President	Gordon Ward	Graham Kane	Jim Gordon
2 nd Vice President	John Graham	Gordon Ward	Reggie Patterson
Hon Secretary	Mike Turner	Ross Torrens	Norman Maxwell
Hon Treasurer	Nigel Semple	Graham Kane	Cecil Spotton
Hon Auditor	Graham Kane	Nigel Semple	Jim Gordon

Elected Committee Members:

Speaker Secretary	John McHenry	Nigel Semple	Bob McIvor
Events / Catering	Jim Gordon	John McHenry	John Leslie
Welfare	Tony Smyth		
	Cecil Spotton	John Dobson	Norman Maxwell
Press Officer	John Dobson	Mike Turner	Dermot Jennings

The immediate past President automatically becomes an ex-officio member of committee
The Club Committee has powers to co-opt members to the committee for special events and / or additional Club Sub-Committees

Presentation: Peter FitzGerald congratulated Graham on becoming President and thanked Ross for asking him to preside over the elections.
New President Graham Kane thanked Peter FitzGerald for conducting the elections and the members for electing him as president. Graham then went on to present Ross Torrens with a 'Past President's Plaque' and badge.

Investiture: Ross Torrens invested the incoming president with the chain of office.

Presidents Address: New President Graham Kane thanked the members for their support and said that he had thought hard about the prospect of becoming President, and was very nervous about it, however, now that he was actually in the post, he was very pleased and happy to be here - even if seeing all the members faces looking at him from rows of chairs in front, was more than a little scary!

Any other business: 1) The President said that there had been one item raised under AOB, that being an extension of the Constitution relating to the duration club sub-committees and co-opted members could serve. On checking the constitution carefully, it had been decided at the main club committee meeting, that this aspect was already covered, so no additions were required.

Next AGM: Will be the AGM on 28th January 2014 at the Portstewart Golf Club. 10.30 for 11.00

The new President thanked members and Peter FitzGerald for attending, then closed the meeting at 11.50 am.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____