



NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Tony Pearson; Chairman

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Fraser Gunn; Honorary Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 February 2020

1. **Chairman:** Tony asked members to stand to remember former member Peter Attenborough who sadly did last week and also welcomed Harold Williams return.
2. **Apologies:** Richard Crisp, David Clowes, John Weeden, John Oakman, Gareth Williams.
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** Minutes of the last meeting previously posted on the club website were accepted as a true record and duly signed.
4. **Matter arising:** None
5. **Officer reports:**
 - 5.1 **Theatre visits:** Nothing to report
 - 5.2 **Outings:** Nothing to report
 - 5.3 **Pub Lunches:** Tony said that the next Pub lunch would be at the Weston Cross, Weston under Penyard on 3 March. Tony said the menu was on the club website and ask those wishing to attend let him know as soon as possible.
 - 5.4 **Programme secretary:** Nothing to report
 - 5.5 **Treasurer:** Jim outlined the budget for next financial year and explained that there will be a shortfall of £622. This is due to the drop in membership. The club has a healthy bank balance, to he is recommending that the subscriptions for next year remain at £60. This had been agreed by the club committee. If membership doesn't improve, then the club may have to review the situation.
 - 5.6 **Webmaster:** Nothing to report
 - 5.7 **Almoner:** Nothing to report
6. **AOB.** None
7. **Guest speaker:** Alex Bailey – The Chartist of Snigs End

Alex gave a fascinating talk on the history of the Chartist movement. How it originated and what was to develop into the Labour Party of today. He showed the

location of the Chartist settlements in the country, with two being still in existence in our area, Sniggs End at Corse and Lowbands nr Ledbury. Although all now in private ownership, one of which he owns. He demonstrated the origins of the movement and the design of the houses which were intended to provide accommodation and land to support a family, unfortunately the quality of the land is poor and therefore not many people were able to survive and eventually had to leave the properties. The talk was very well received. A most interesting and a good presentation.

8. **Special events (Birthdays)** Fraser announced his usual “Thought for the day” and a few humorous stories.
9. **Date of next meeting:** 10 March 2020
10. **Speaker:** Roger Beard. BEM – An Engineering Icon in Gloucester