



## **Minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 2:00pm The Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells**

### **Present (13)**

**Members (10):** Nigel Godman (Chairman), Geoff Smith (Secretary), Mike Price (Treasurer), Martyn Davidson, Ann Jones, Chris England, Humphrey Morgan, John Oliver, Clive Todman and Paul Wilson.

**Associates (1):** Phillip Jones.

**IAM (2):** Rob Downing (IAM RoadSmart) and Sean Westlake (IAM Examiner)

### **1. Apologies (13)**

**Members (11):** Charles Austin, Colin Duncan, Gerry Eglinton, Mandy Giordano, Edgar Jones, Elaine Morgan, Neil Owen, Pauline Page-Jones, Elizabeth Stringer, Dave Tompsett and Caroline White.

**Associates (1):** Frieda Hughes.

**IAM (1):** Clive Rees (Examiner).

### **2. Minutes of Last meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

The minutes of this meeting had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting.

**Resolution:** That the Minutes of the 2016 12<sup>th</sup> AGM be approved as a true record.

Proposed by Humphrey Morgan, seconded by Paul Wilson and unanimously accepted. These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

### **3. Matters Arising from 12<sup>th</sup> AGM**

None.

### **4. Chairman's Report**

Nigel Godman gave his report on his year as our Chairman. He spoke about the formation of IAM RoadSmart and the resulting changes to the Advanced Driving and Riding courses. The major change was the introduction of the advanced course logbooks now provided to each associate. These form the comprehensive record of the associates' progress through their course. They comprise individual run sheets, competencies which must be achieved, review sheets and handouts covering all that is needed to become an IAM RoadSmart member. Because of the introduction of the logbooks we have now discontinued the associate introduction courses we used to run four times each year. Associates are now allocated to their nearest observer and, subject to their availability, can usually commence their course sooner than waiting to attend an introduction course.

Nigel reported that Geoff Smith gave a presentation on Advanced Driving to Llandrindod Wells University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age (U3A) at the start of 2016. He commented that MWAM presentations to groups are a good way to introduce the IAM. He stated that if you are a member of an organisation who would welcome a talk on Advanced Driving please contact the secretary. MWAM also attended the Welshpool Air Show with our Gazebo in June 2016. This was staffed by Mike Price and Martyn Davidson.

The group helped eight associates to IAM membership during 2016. Four in each category of car and motorcycle and four achieving the prestigious F1st grade. We are continuing to offer the membership category of 'Group Friend' which is intended for those who wish to support the aims of the group and we currently have seven in this category.

Nigel thanked Vince Gilroy our former Newsletter editor for his contributions at the start of 2016. He also welcomed his successor, Clive Todman, to the position who has produced the last two editions. The committee is considering the future of our newsletter as an effective method of communication to our membership. IAM RoadSmart is focussing on 'Social Media' and Clive is investigating Facebook as an alternative to the newsletter which he will be talking about later.

We are currently maintaining our existing website as the planned move to the IAM's new website has been unsuccessful. It will contain the latest information, news, meeting dates, events and copies of our newsletters.

Nigel reported on death on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 of Francis Torrens, our past Chairman. Francis became our Vice Chairman at our AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2006 and only 21 days later our then

Chairman resigned so he took over the role as our new Chairman. He served diligently in this position for 9 years and only stood down at our AGM in 2015 due to ill health. We owe Francis a great debt of gratitude for his contribution to MWAM as our Chairman and he will be sadly missed. Nigel attended Francis's funeral to represent MWAM and, in accordance with his families wishes, the group made a donation in Francis's memory to Wales Air Ambulance.

## 5. Secretary's Report

Geoff Smith reported that the group membership currently stood at 94 comprising 74 full members, 13 Associates and 7 Group friends. The group only ran one of the four associate courses planned during 2016 [2016?] and recruited 13 associates of whom 5 have now passed their IAM Test. We had no failures and two dropped out. The remainder are completing their on-road guidance or awaiting a test date. Since the group started in 2003 until the end of 2016 we have run 44 courses and recruited 233 associates of whom 147 have passed their IAM Test. Ten have failed and a total of 66 have withdrawn which is an overall dropout rate of 27.7%. At the end of 2016 we had 10 associates undergoing training or waiting to commence training. This represents a very creditable 93.6% pass rate.

The age profile of our associates, when recruited, ranges from the youngest at 17 to the oldest at 82, with an average age now of 58. By way of contrast our group membership profile ranges from the youngest aged 19 to the oldest 90 with an average age of 64. The average length of membership time is 7½ years.

Our observers are the life blood of the group and without their efforts there would be no group. We thank them sincerely for the gift of their time and expertise. We currently have 9 active observers; of these 1 is a Trainee, 3 are Locally Qualified and 5 Nationally Qualified. Two of our Observers have successfully completed their Local Observer qualification. This qualification is accredited by the independent awards body Institute of the Motor Industry(IMI). They are Humphrey Morgan and Clive Todman. This entails being evaluated by a group Local Observer Assessor and being recommended to IMI. We offer Humphrey and Clive our congratulations in achieving this status. Clive is also our first 'dual' observer as he is also a Local Motorcycle Observer.

## 6. Treasurer's Report & adoption of accounts

Mike Price had produced the Group's Audited Balance Sheet for 2016 a copy of which was available on the website prior to the AGM and copies were available at the AGM. Summaries were displayed for scrutiny. This had been audited by one of our members, Pauline Page-Jones, and was presented by Mike who asked for any queries or questions on these accounts. Mike explained that we had opened a new bank account for our designated repairs and renewals fund during the year. Due to the accounting process this appeared that we had made a loss during 2016 but this was not the case as funds had simply been moved to the new interest bearing account.

There were no further questions on the balance sheet and Mike was thanked by Geoff Smith for his work over the last year as our Treasurer and the clarity of the group's accounts. This was unanimously supported by the meeting.

The following resolutions were then put before the meeting:

**Resolution:** That the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2016 be approved.

Proposed by Martyn Davidson, seconded by Ann Jones and unanimously accepted.

**Resolution:**

That the Committee be authorised to change the subscription rate for 2018 if it is deemed necessary, but subject to the increase not exceeding £2 per annum.

Proposed by Ann Jones, seconded by Paul Wilson and unanimously accepted.

## 7. Election of Officers

Nigel Godman handed over the meeting to the Secretary to conduct the election for Chairman.

### Chairman

Nigel Godman our current Chairman has offered to stand for re-election and no other nominations had been received. On a show of hands **Nigel Godman** was unanimously elected as Chairman and was welcomed into the role by the Secretary and thanked for his tenure as Chairman for the group during the last year. The meeting was then handed back to Nigel who chaired the rest of the AGM.

### **Vice Chairman**

Dave Tompsett our current Vice Chairman has offered to stand for re-election and no other nominations had been received. On a show of hands **Dave Tompsett** was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman.

### **Secretary**

Geoff Smith has offered to stand for re-election as Secretary and no other nominations had been received.

On a show of hands **Geoff Smith** was unanimously re-elected as Secretary and thanked for his valuable contribution to the smooth running of the group for the past year.

### **Treasurer**

Mike Price has offered to stand for re-election as Treasurer and no other nominations had been received.

On a show of hands **Mike Price** was unanimously elected as our Treasurer to serve for another year and was thanked for his hard work on maintaining the group's finances over the last year.

## **8. Election of Committee**

In accordance with group rules one third of our committee, excluding the 4 officers, stands down each year. As two committee members resigned during 2016 only one member needs to stand down. However, two have stood down although they have only served for two years. This year Humphrey Morgan and Paul Wilson are offering to stand for re-election for a further three years.

On a show of hands **Humphrey Morgan** was unanimously elected to our committee for a further three years.

On a show of hands **Paul Wilson** was unanimously elected to our committee for a further three years. This leaves vacancies for three more persons on the current committee which includes the four officer and eight other places.

We had received no nomination prior to the AGM and following an appeal to the meeting no one offered to be nominated to join our committee.

Consequently, we currently have three committee vacancies which are available to any member who wishes to offer their services. Anyone interested should initially make contact with Geoff Smith.

## **9. Any other Business**

### Newsletter

Clive Todman, our Newsletter Editor, had suggested to committee that the group consider the future of the current quarterly newsletter. He has suggested replacing this with a 'Facebook' presence which all our membership could access and, if they wished, contribute. This would have the added benefit of being available to a much wider audience than just our membership and be more topical than a static newsletter. Clive gave an excellent presentation to the AGM about how Facebook would work and how easy it would be for our membership to create a Facebook login. It was stressed that members would not need to provide any personal or sensitive information in order to access Facebook. Geoff Smith proposed that the group accept Clive's suggestion and that we discontinue publishing the newsletter. This was unanimously agreed and supported at the AGM and it was also suggested that we could review the process at next year's AGM. Clive undertook to establish the Facebook presence for MWAM and Geoff would inform our membership via email of the changes.

### IAM RoadSmart – Rob Downing

Rob was invited to address the meeting and spoke at length about the re-organisation of the IAM Regions and the new support structure. He has been appointed as Area Service Delivery Manager for the newly formed Region 6 of which MWAM is now a member. He outlined the new national regional structure which had been based on population density. He stressed the he should be the first point of contact between the group and IAM RoadSmart and that he would endeavour to answer any questions and provide solutions to any difficulties.

As there was no other business Nigel thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 3:40pm.

Attendees were then able to socialise and enjoyed refreshments and cakes provided by Humphrey Morgan and Mike Price.