



Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists

Registered Charity 1053330

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 9th May 2012
Time: 20.00
Location: Friends Meeting House.
8b Summerfield Road.
Wolverhampton.
WV1 4PR.

Committee Members

Present

Graham Foulkes
Bill Goodreds
Roy Richards.

Tony Robson
Nigel Packer

Guest Speaker.

Phil Collins RGC,

Apologies

Carol Woodhead
Paul Williamson

Minutes of the 30th AGM (2011)

The minutes of the groups 30th AGM (2011) were distributed to all present and reviewed as a true record of events.

Proposed by: Nigel Packer.
Seconded by: Graham Trusselle.

Chairman's Report.

- Tony commenced by welcoming everyone present to the 31st AGM .and explained that Paul Williamson,(Chairman), was unable to attend this evening due to prior family commitments. He had sent his apologies and Tony then read out the following report which he had received from Paul

“First of all a number of Thank You’s.

Thank all of you for coming tonight please accept my apologies in the fact I am not with you this evening. This has been caused by the kindness of my family and my wife’s forthcoming birthday. They bought us a short break away ahead of her birthday.

Back to my thanks next to all of the Committee for there help, support and commitment given both to the Group and myself over the last twelve months.

Next to all of the Groups Observers in recognition of the time they have given to ensure the development of their own and the skills of others.

To everyone who has helped out at the events the Group has attended Including Wombourne carnival, Wolverhampton City Show, an open day at Bilston Fire Station and Himley Classic Vehicle and Transport show.

and finally to Phil Collins who you will hear from later tonight.

There are a number of things which we as a Group need to address in the coming months. The Groups Committee will be asking in the coming weeks and months via the newsletter for your views on these proposals. Most of which are of ways at reducing the running costs of the Group in these economically hard times as we hope if we can to retain the Group

membership cost at its present level however with postage costs rising by one third and the room rental costs rising may require us to do this. We as a Group have run at a small loss for the second year in a row which cannot be sustained for the long term however. The AGM is the opportunity where we have to ask you the membership for us to have the ability to do this should it be necessary during the coming 12 months.

The current £12 fee has remained static for over 10 years I just wish the cost of petrol had. We / I believe will hear that we this year as a group broke even more or less. However, next year there are a number of challenges to the group that we will need to face and address.

We as a group have always been very prudent with our spending but some examples such as the recent rise in postage rate will mean we need to request your help in keeping our costs down. I will suggest the Chairman will need to request the right if necessary to increase our Group Membership cost from £12. where it has remained for the last 10 years. You might ask how much of an increase I would say no more than £15 the problem is a group of our size has some fixed costs that exist such as room hire cost if we get 1 or 100 members attend for example.

To close my apologies again but I am over 200 miles away so to come back is not practical have a good evening.

Paul”

Tony then asked the members present for their comments to Paul’s report,-non were forthcoming

Secretary’s Report.

Meetings & Events

- (24 Meetings / Events – Averaging every 2 weeks throughout the group’s active year) – comprising:-

2011

May – AGM Meeting.

June – WAM Group Meeting.

June – Group Observer Meeting.

July – Wombourne Carnival.

July - Wolverhampton City Show attended by our Group.

July – WAM Group Meeting.

August - Westfield Sports Car – Group Visit.

August – West Midlands Police Force Traffic Unit – Talk by PC Rogers.

August – Bilston Fire Station Open Day attended by our Group.

September - Classic Car Show at Himley attended by our Group.

September – Wolverhampton Trading Standards – Talk by William Humphries.

October – Morgan Car Company – Group Visit.

October – West Midlands Fire Service – Fire Dogs – Talk by Mat Dixon with two dogs.

November – St. Johns Ambulance Service – Talk by Sam Lukes.

November - RAC Centre – Group Visit.

November – Group Associate Evening.

December – No Meetings.

2012

January – WAM Group Meeting.

January - Group Observer Meeting.

February - WAM Group Meeting.

March – Wolves FreeWheelers (Blood Bikes) - Talk.

March - Group Associate Meeting

April - Group Observer Meeting.

April - Examiner Night with Mark Wakelam.

May - AGM Meeting.

Many thanks to:

Carol Woodhead / Paul Williamson & Nigel Packer – for arranging these Meetings, Events & Visits!

- Such feedback as we get – indicates that our membership appears happy with what the Group Committee are doing on their behalf. However – ideas from members with supporting detail continue to be as rare as hen's teeth!!
- Contributions to your Group – would be very much appreciated – as a serving Committee Member – or – as an Observer – or with constructive comments and possible solutions – or with suggestions as to talks, events, days out, etc. plus supporting detail. This is a continuing request at all meetings, in your newsletters, etc.
- Observer & Associate Nights – Are a continuing part of our structured group year.
- Your Committee also attended – on your behalf
 - Region 3 Meetings at Hindlip Hall, near Worcester.
 - IAM All Groups Conference at Warwick.
 - Wombourne Carnival.
 - Wolverhampton City Show.
 - Himley Hall Classic car Show.
- Group Membership
 - As at 31st March 2012
 - Associates (8) 14 – up 75% (Fluctuating throughout the Group year).
 - Full Members (62) 57 – down 4% (Again fluctuating throughout the Group year). A steady although small traffic coming and leaving mainly due to the financial situation as most leavers state this or they are after the pass rather than anything else. ADI's are now appearing more. Again we gather this could be to show continuing improvement to their hierarchy. The odd 1st Responder we get is not renewing as the IAM Test is part of their training and not a personal choice.
 - Social Members (2) 2 – no change here.
 - Total = (76) 74 – plus 4 Life Members – down 2½% (due to non-renewals and few new associates over this year period).
- Test Passes
 - (5) 11 – up 120% - (A marked improvement from 2010-2011).
 - We are very pleased to announce that (subject to the issue of a certificate) our Group has their first 'home grown' IAM F1rstMember! This membership is only awarded to those who achieved a score of 'one' in every category of their advanced test. We do have one other but this member took the test in another Group before transferring to us.
- Group Membership Fee
 - Remains again at £12 per year.
- Skill for Life Fee
 - Remain at £139 and are likely to do so at least for the foreseeable future – per IAM memo from London.
- Group Newsletter
 - Is continuing to serve the Membership – and is also circulated to IAM London and most of the Group in Region 3 (our Region) – who send us theirs by return.

- However – your newsletter does not write itself. Would you believe we have very little input from the group membership! Please contribute something motoring or driving orientated or even some ‘thank you’ letters from members that have recently passed their IAM test.
- Next Group Meetings – are:
 - 12th May – Group Visit to the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon.
 - Wednesday 13th June (8pm). Wolverhampton Health Trainers – talk following up an earlier one on diabetes.
 - Details of these have already been published in the latest Group Newsletter.
- Next Committee Meeting
 - Is Tuesday 12th June (7.45pm).(provisional). Meetings are usually held on first Tuesday of each month, however, it was pointed out that on this occasion it would clash with a public holiday
 - If any full / associate member would like to come to our next committee they will be more than welcome.

Treasurers’ Report.

Graham Foulkes (Treasurer) reported on the group accounts in some detail, and invited questions from members present. None were forthcoming.

Thanks were extended to Ray Kenna (FCA) for compiling and auditing the accounts of the group.

Membership Fee’s.

The members present were asked for their permission to rise the groups membership fee’s for the forthcoming year should it become necessary.

There were no objections.

Election of Officers.

The members present were asked for their nomination forms for group officers for the forthcoming year. The following people were nominated for the roles.

<u>Role.</u>	<u>Nomination.</u>
Chairman.	Paul Williamson.
Secretary.	Tony Robson.
Treasurer.	Graham Foulkes.

Paul, Tony and Graham were unanimously voted into their roles.

Election of Committee Members.

<u>Role</u>	<u>Nomination</u>
Chief Observer	Geoff Davis
Minutes Secretary	Roy Richards

A nomination had also been received for Eddie Reade, who had expressed his willingness to join the Committee.

Geoff and Roy were unanimously voted into these roles.
Eddie was unanimously voted to serve a term of office on the Committee.

Guest Speaker

Phil Collins commenced by introducing himself, and outlining his role as a Regional Group Co-ordinator.

The I.A.M had faced a declining membership and an ageing member profile across all groups. Nationally membership was about 100,000 of which only 24,000 could be considered active. Wolverhampton currently has 75 members but only 11 present tonight
We were suffering loss of income across the board, and also must accept that we were in a competitive situation.

Phil then went on to outline some of the changes that are either currently being implemented or are planned at a future date.

These include'

- Administration Structure at HQ.
- Computerised Membership records. Groups will be able to access membership database direct,
- Observer Training consistency. Hoped to be implemented over a 18 month period.
- Regional Training Teams. Our region up and running by March 2013, Full time employee in post in SE England.
- Introduction of Modular Training eg Motorway Driving, Night Driving ,Confidence booster sessions and Track Days. Currently all we have is Skills for Life. Changes to Special Assessment structure currently being developed.
- Regional forums.

Phil then invited all present to a question and answer session

Tony expressed his thanks to Phil on behalf of the group for his attendance at this evenings AGM
AOB.

None

Date of Next Meeting.

Group Night	13th June,2012
32 nd AGM	May 2013.

The AGM was closed at 21:40