



**Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists**  
Registered Charity 1053330  
**Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**Location:** Friends Meeting House  
8b Summerfield Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 4PR

**Time:** 20.00

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**Committee Members Present**

Paul Williamson  
Tony Robson  
David Gallagher

Graham Foulkes  
Dr. Jonathan Hughes  
Nigel Packer

Roy Richards  
Geoff Davis

**Apologies**

Chris Smith

Richard Dodds

Paul Williamson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending this evening.

Paul thanked the Group Officers, Committee Members and Observers for their support though the course of the last year.

The minutes of the Groups 37th AGM (2018) were distributed to all present and accepted as a true record of events.

Proposed by: Kurt Dreslin

Seconded by: Lee Morris

**Chairman's Report**

Paul Williamson welcomed everyone again to the 38<sup>th</sup> AGM of Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists Group and thanked them for making the effort to attend making mention of the fact that this is the Groups 41<sup>st</sup> Year since separating from Walsall during the course of 1978.

Thanks, were given to all of the Groups Observers, Group Officers and Group Supporters in recognition of the time they have given to ensure the development and progress of the Group through the year.

Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists have had a good year and as a Group we have performed better than many other Groups as measured by IAM RoadSmart in their monthly "Scorecards".

Paul encouraged people to consider converting their current IAM RoadSmart Membership to that of being a Fellow Member and also encouraged others to consider extending their skills through doing their Master's with all of the benefits that both additional tests provide, especially with insurance.

Paul mentioned that we had to withdraw from the Himley Classic Car Show towards the end of 2018 because of lack of support from the Membership and our inability to provide sufficient manpower on the day, though mitigated this with the much greater level of support that has been indicated for the forthcoming Himley Mini Show.

Concern was mentioned that Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists were running with membership numbers below 100 and had done for some time; as such we need additional recruitment activity which was commended to the attendees. Mention was made of the "Free ADT to Under Twenty-fives" opportunity but that, with the offer being available through the last year, we had no takers which was seen as frustrating. Mention was also made of the £10 "Cover your Fuel" initiative which we have recently introduced. (In this

see the Group Committee Minutes for May 2019). Our minimum target is to gain a further five Group Members through the coming year.

Encouragement was given to interact and use the web-site with feedback requested if there were any areas that were felt could be improved or where additional information could be provided. The availability of current Emergency Service information via our live Twitter Feed was mentioned with the hope that this would attract people to visit the site prior to any journey.

## **Secretary's Report**

### **Meetings & Events**

Meetings and Events – Averaged one every two to three weeks throughout the Group's active year comprising:

- A broad variety of Talks and Presentations by Local and IAM RoadSmart personnel
- Group Associate and Observer Evenings
- Group Publicity Days at Local Shows
- Group involvement with National Events organised by IAM RoadSmart

Note that all forthcoming events and meetings appear on your Group Website Events Diary which is continuously updated and reflects the most current information about what is happening within your Group.

Many thanks to all your Committee Members (particularly Chris Smith, Events Manager). We continue to believe that your Group offers diversity, quality and quantity to its Members. Your Group always has a standing invitation to neighbouring Groups, any IAM RoadSmart Member, and, interested members of the public! We continue to operate an open Group with Committee Minutes, Newsletters, Information from IAM RoadSmart and many other documents all posted on our Group Website.

Feedback that we get indicates that our Membership is continuing to be happy with what the Group Committee are doing on their behalf

Contributions from Group Members are always very much appreciated and contribute to the diversity within the Group; when did you last contribute?

Our Group Website is a user-friendly, vibrant and ever evolving current showcase of our Group, a ready reference facility to members and the public alike. Your comments on this Group facility are always welcome to ensure that the detail that we are providing is what you want. Of particular interest currently is that we are providing Driving Advice from IAM RoadSmart updated every few days from within our News Items on the Home Page of the web-site.

Observer and Associate Nights are a current and continuing part of our structured Group activity to maintain the required IAM RoadSmart and IMI standards that are required of our mentors and students alike. Our Group Observers have all qualified as IAM RoadSmart Local Observers through periodic assessment by our approved Group National Observers Local Observer Assessors who, in themselves are being periodically nationally accredited.

Your Committee has also, in the last year attended:

- Regional Group Forum Meetings held near Worcester.
- Himley Hall Classic and Himley Hall Mini-Car Shows. (The latter of which is taking place this coming Sunday)

Other scheduled events for the Committee are posted on the Events Diary on our web-site.

## Group Membership

As at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 the Group is comprised of:

- 62 Full Members
- 16 Associate Members (Of which 3 are showing Expired Members of IAM RoadSmart)
- 78 Total Group Membership**
  
- 4 of the above are National Observers (Two of which are LOA's)
- 8 of the above are Local Observers
- 12 of the Full Members are Fellows
- 3 of the Full Members are Masters (All of which are "With Distinction")
  
- 3 Members of the Group are retained as Social Members

These numbers indicate a steady but continuing Membership traffic with those who have not stayed at renewal time, leaving due to their financial situation, other interests taking a priority, that they were only after the Advanced Driving Test pass or that this was a specified part of their job requirement.

## Group Test Pass Status

- Over the past 12 months Wolverhampton Group has achieved a Test Pass rate of 83%, (against a regional average of 87%). This is an improving situation and we anticipate that within the next few months our figures will be back above 90%.
- 42% of our Group's Passes were placed on the F1rst Register.

This reflects on the continuing high standard of our current Group Local Observer's skills and the Group standards in general.

## Group Newsletter

The Summer 2019 Edition is currently being compiled and will be issued when complete.

Please remember to keep your Membership Secretary updated with any changes in your email and other contact details as the vast majority of our Newsletters and other communications are issued electronically; with this in mind please also remember to tell the IAM RoadSmart Support Teams in Welwyn Garden City of such changes also in order to maintain the accuracy of the National DTE Membership Database.

Despite the electronic communications our Newsletter continues to serve our Membership and is also circulated to our Regional IAM RoadSmart Area Service Delivery Manager (Robbie Downing) and IAM RoadSmart in Welwyn Garden City.

Previous issues back as far as 1999 and up to Spring 2019 are always downloadable from our Group web site. A substantial historical reference about our Group and how it has continued to progress over the past 20+ years!

Your newsletter does not write itself, so please contribute something motoring or driving orientated or even some 'thank you' letters from Members who have recently passed their IAM RoadSmart ADT recognising the effort of their Observer or Mentor. time and effort.

Our next Group Meeting Evening Event is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019, (7.45pm). When we welcome representatives from IAM Surety Cornmarket Insurance Brokers.

Our next Committee Meeting is on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (7.45pm). Please feel free to email us if there is anything that you think needs to be discussed by your Committee. We will reply back to you following our discussing your item. If any Full or Associate Member of the Group would like to come to our next committee

meeting you will be made more than welcome however, please email me first so that we are aware and include you in any last-minute changes of venue.

## **Membership Fee**

Paul Williamson raised the possibility to the Meeting, of the need to increase the Group Membership Fee from the current £12 where it had been for a number of years to £15.00. In this matter a vote was taken and the Membership agreed unanimously that the Committee was empowered to increase the annual Membership Fee should they feel it necessary.

## **Treasurers Report**

Following the unexpected resignation of Christine Westwood in the position of Treasurer, (personal reasons), Geoff Davis has taken on the role as Group Treasurer. (See the Election details shown below).

The Group Accounts for the year 2018 through to 2019, are compiled, but yet to be audited, (Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheets). Concern was raised regarding the differential between our accounts from 2017/2018 and 2018/2019, the greater change created as a result of our expenditure increasing through the period and our income dropping, (mostly because of lower Associate numbers). Overall however the Group remains in fair financial order though care needs to be maintained to ensure that we remain able to ride any further downturns.

No questions were raised about the accounts as presented.

No details are shown within this document as the full unaudited accounts are available on the web-site adjacent to these Minutes.

## **Election of Officers**

The members present were asked for their nomination forms for Group Officers for the forthcoming year. The following people were nominated and seconded for the roles.

<b>Role</b>	<b>Nomination</b>	<b>Proposed and Seconded</b>
Chairman	Paul Williamson (Voted in Unanimously)	Roy Richards and Graham Foulkes
Secretary	Tony Robson (Voted in Unanimously)	Paul Williamson and Peter Spillan
Treasurer	Geoff Davis (Voted in Unanimously)	Roy Richards and Tony Robson

Both Paul Williamson and Tony Robson indicated that they would like to stand down at the 2020 AGM and asked for consideration to be given to any Member who would be willing to take on the roles; it was suggested that should someone wish they could adopt a "deputy" role for the forthcoming year to establish if they were comfortable taking on the role.

## **Election of Committee Members Role**

There were two other persons who needed to be voted in as Committee Members either as a result of three yearly rotation or their taking a new position within the Committee.

Geoff Davis (Treasurer) (Proposed Paul Williamson and Seconded Tony Robson)  
Chris Smith (Events) (Proposed Paul Williamson and Seconded Tony Robson)

## **A.O.B.**

There was a healthy discussion regarding how Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists could enhance their presence and visibility within the local marketplace; key proposals made included engaging local media, newspapers as well as radio and television. There was a general consensus that the recent £10 "Cover Your Fuel Cost" initiative was worthy of publicity and may yield additional contact.

There was some positive comment regarding the content of the web site especially the live Emergency Service feeds that are provided on our home page.

### **Next Meeting**

The next AGM is scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Start time 7.45pm). Details will be posted on the website and within the Newsletter nearer to the event.

The AGM was closed at 20:45