

# HIGH WYCOMBE GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

## 39th Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7.30pm  
at Liston Hall, Marlow.

### **Present**

*Committee* - Peter Gunn (PG) Chairman, Valerie Brickell (VB), Bob Hill (BH) Nigel Mason (NM), Sean Pearce (SP), Andrew True (AT).

*Members* – John Bennett, Robert Frost, Margaret Gordon, Mark Hall, Ray Hall, Eric Hambling, John Huntley, Shirley Mckeirnon, Norman Reeve, Graham Smith, Guy Stroud and Peter Woolley.

*Guests* - Alan Beeston (TVG), Graham Feest (Road Safety Consultant), Nikki Kitching (TVG), Katrina Lowe (IAM Area Service Delivery Manager).

Peter Gunn welcomed the members and introduced Katrina Lowe, our Area Service Delivery Manager.

PG advised that there would be presentation to Peter Woolley at the end of the meeting.

After the formal business of the AGM there would be a short refreshment break after which Graham Feest will give a presentation and answer any questions from the floor.

### **1. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies had been received from Yugal Ali, Ian Allard, Juliet Auld, Alan Baker, Teji Barnes, Martin Carpenter, Gerri Chandler, Michael Collier, Keith Chanter, Mick Croome, Adam Crosby, Ruth Dodson, James Gledhill, Steve Gledhill, Angela Hector, Patrick Hopkirk, Mary Ledingham, Stephen Lowry, John Ludlow, Ronald MacDonald, Janet Marchant, David Montague, Stuart Morris, Joseph Nichol, Tim Nicholson (TN), Roger Payne, David Pinnock, Nick Powell, Laurence Redfern, Tara Ridgeway, Stuart Whiteman,

### **2. Minutes of the Last AGM.**

The minutes, which had been circulated with the AGM notice, were accepted by all as a true record.

### **3. Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising.

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

PG had circulated his Chairman's Report, with the AGM notice, in advance of the meeting.

The Group had had a steady year following the Covid-19 pandemic. PG thanked the members and the Committee for their support.

Sadly, in June 2022, Paddy Hopkirk, our President, passed away. His son, Patrick, hopes to become involved with the Group.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts.**

Tim Nicholson was unable to attend the meeting but had circulated his Treasurer's Report, together with the 2022 Income and Expenditure statement, with the AGM notice in advance of the meeting.

The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Sean Pearce and seconded by Nigel Mason. The proposal was carried.

#### **6. Election of Officers ( All Officers must retire annually)**

Chairman – PG advised that he was willing to stand again. All present voted in favour.

Treasurer – TN advised that he was willing to stand again. All present voted in favour.

Secretary – VB advised that she was willing to stand again. All present voted in favour.

#### **7. Election of Committee (1/3rd must retire annually).**

At present the Committee comprises PG, TN, VB, AT, SP, NM and BH.

In accordance with Group Rules AT and SP will stand down but are both willing to stand again. Whilst AT is willing to stand again as a Committee member NM will take on the role of Chief Observer.

All present voted in favour.

Margaret Gordon is also willing to stand for Committee. Proposed by PG and seconded by AT.

All present voted in favour.

It is hoped that Margaret will take on the role of Secretary in due course.

#### **8. AOB.**

There was no AOB.

The formal business of the AGM concluded at 19.37 hrs.

After more than 20 years as an Observer Peter Woolley is retiring but will remain as a Member. Peter has successfully coached more Associates than any other Observer.

Katrina Lowe presented Peter with a certificate acknowledging his contribution. PG, on behalf of the Group, presented Peter with a case of wine.

## **9. Date of Next Annual General Meeting.**

Tuesday 5th March 2024.

### **Presentation by Graham Feest (GF) a Road Safety Adviser**

GF started his career with Worthing Borough Council in 1974 moving later to West Sussex County Council and then to Northamptonshire County Council. He was also IAM's Head of Road Safety for two and a half years. Living all the while in Worthing.

GF's Presentation drew attention to the following points.

- In the seventies the emphasis was on educating children about road safety although GF felt that adults should be targeted.
- Whilst the motoring world is moving towards automation there is still a long way to go. However there is a lot of driver assistance available.
- Driving Instructors do not emphasis safety.
- A short quiz demonstrated that all drivers breathe and move, If traffic did not move there would be no accidents.
- There is a very fine line between those crashes where people walk away and those where they do not
- Those most at risk from an accident are Child Pedestrians, Motorcyclists, Young Drivers and Pedal Cyclists.
- The question of revising the timing of a vehicle's MOT from 3 years to 4 years has been raised again. This matter had previously been discussed 10 years ago.
- People who learn to drive with an older relative make better drivers than those who learn with a driving school. This is mainly down to the variation in routes and more practice.
- Annual road fatalities have remained almost constant, at 1700, over the last 10 years. About 750 are car occupants with at least one third not wearing a seatbelt. Generally the number of fatalities increases in line with the age of the driver.
- The number 1 reason why people crash is that they fail to look properly. This is also the main reason that people fail the driving test.

- People die on the road as a result of a number of reasons. The 1<sup>st</sup> is the failure to wear a seat belt, 2<sup>nd</sup> is the influence of alcohol and 3<sup>rd</sup> is distraction. However the influence of drugs is moving towards number 1.
- A number of factors are driving the current road safety agenda. These include Active Travel, Safe Systems Approach, Hierarchy of Road Users and CO2 emissions.
- A number of changes are expected in the future. E Scooter legislation will come in later this year. Road Pricing is back on the agenda, Proposals for a National Road Safety Strategic Network are being discussed. The growth in Electric Vehicles is expected to continue. There may be changes to the Licensing Rules.

In reply to a question from Graham Smith concerning the abundance of speed cameras in Northamptonshire GF responded that these were installed during his period with the council. It was a pilot scheme as the county had had none up until this time. The matters of enforcement, maintenance and revenue continue to be discussed.

At the conclusion Graham Feest was warmly applauded and presented with the gift of a hamper.