HIGH WYCOMBE GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

32nd Annual General Meeting of the High Wycombe Group of Advanced Motorists Tuesday 22nd March 2016 at The White Hart, BEACONSFIELD, HP9 1LW at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present

Committee: Keith Chanter (KC), Peter Gunn (PG), Adrian Blackburne (AB), Sean Pearce (SP), Jan Caddie (JC), Valerie Brickell (VB), Matti Alderson (MA).

Full Members: Alan Baker, Robert Frost, Eric Hambling, Tim Lawrence, Nigel Mason, David Pinnock, Dave Rose, Peter Woolley.

Associate Members: James Darley, Ray Hall and his son Mark, David Kerr.

Other Group Members: David Barnacle.

Guest Speaker: Shaun Cronin and his son Josh.

1. Apologies for Absence

Richard Catton, Roy Craig, Susan Crouch, Simon Dunn-Lwin, Ashley Frazer, Patti Garrett, Pauline Grubnic, Robert Hill, John Hope, Verna Lipinski, Martin Moore, Robin Thomas, Andrew True, Robert Williams.

2. Minutes of Last AGM

No comments. Minutes were accepted by the membership and signed off by the chairman.

3. Matters Arising

None raised.

4. Chairman's Report

KC reminded the group that his full report was circulated with the AGM invitation.

He thanked AB for his contribution as secretary.

Two particular passes during the year were worthy of note:

- Ray Samuels 87 years, old passed first time.
- Julie Harris her profound deafness presenting a number of extra challenges.

Very well done to both.

Committee members attend both national and regional IAM conferences to keep up to date with the charity's developments. Current major initiative is the IAM's re-branding: 'IAM RoadSmart'. This aims to address the problem that although people may have heard of the IAM they have little idea of what it actually does.

5. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Accounts

The detailed report was circulated with the AGM invitation. Key points:

- Renewals for 2015 were 81 compared with 78 in 2014.
- 21 new joiners, the same as for 2014, giving around 100 members and associates in total.
- Closing balance just over £12,000.

Comments from the membership suggested that the closing balance was rather high - should the group consider visiting country shows? PG said this could be looked at again but the group needs to be wary of increasing associate numbers too much due to the limited number of observers and hence limited capacity to handle new recruits.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by SP and seconded by VB.

6. Election of Officers (Chairman, Treasurer & Secretary)

KC offered to re-stand as chairman and was proposed by PG, seconded by AB. AB standing down from the committee. MA put herself forward as secretary and was proposed by AB, seconded by JC.

PG offered to re-stand as treasurer and was proposed by MA, seconded by JC.

7. Introduction of Chief Observer as Officer Role

The committee felt that the role of Chief Observer deserves greater recognition. It has the heaviest workload and huge responsibility for maintaining the standards of the group and for the training of new observers. There was agreement in the room. KC proposed that Chief Observer become an officer role, seconded by JC.

Andrew True, the group's current Chief Observer was unable to attend the AGM.

8. Election of Committee (one third must retire annually)

All non-officer members were prepared to re-stand. KC proposed all to be re-elected, seconded by PG.

KC reminded the group membership that they were welcome to put themselves forward to join the committee.

Committee now consists of:

Chairman Keith Chanter
Secretary Matti Alderson
Treasurer Peter Gunn
Chief Observer Andrew True
Membership Secretary Jan Caddie
Webmaster Sean Pearce
Events Valerie Brickell

9. Any Other Business No matters were raised.

10. Date of Next Meeting 7th March 2017

11. Presentation

Shaun Cronin, Southern Region Quality Manager for the IAM and also Chief Instructor for the Under 17 Car Club, gave a very engaging talk, ably assisted by his son Josh. As a key member of the IAM team that is driving the IAM RoadSmart re-branding, Shaun was able to give the audience an insight into the strategy behind this initiative. The accepted view is that the IAM needs to evolve if it is to survive. Shaun went on to talk about the Under 17 Car Club, illustrating the very high standards achieved by its young members who all go on to take the IAM advanced driving test. The U17CC is the only young driver organisation officially endorsed by the IAM.

KC thanked Shaun for speaking and Shaun was applauded.