# HIGH WYCOMBE GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

## 36TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HIGH WYCOMBE GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

**TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2020 AT 7.30PM**
**LISTON HALL, CHAPEL STREET, MARLOW SL7 1DD**

# MINUTES

**PRESENT**

*Committee*: Keith Chanter (KC) Chairman, Peter Gunn (PG), Valerie Brickell (VB), Jan Caddie (JC), Sean Pearce (SP), Viv Silverman (VS), Andrew True (AT), Tim Nicholson (TN)

*Attendees*: Alex Beeston (Thames Valley), John Bennett, Khursheed Bhatti, Colin Brickell, Roy Craig, Robert Frost, Avis Gunn, Ray Hall, Mark Hall, Eric Hambling, Bob Hill, Paddy Hopkirk, Joanne Kitching, Michael Kitching, Nicky Kitching (Thames Valley), Janet Marchant, Nigel Mason, Shirley McKiernon, Tara Ridgeway, Nick Room (Thames Valley), Jonathan Smith, Andrea Tallis (Thames Valley), Tim Taylor (Thames Valley), Chris Tennant (Speaker), Peter Woolley.

Keith Chanter welcomed members and guests at 7.30pm, adding that he was pleased that our President, Paddy Hopkirk, was able to join us. KC set out the programme for the evening: after the AGM a short break for refreshment would be followed by a talk by Dr Chris Tennant, Visiting Fellow at The London School of Economics and Political Science.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

   *Committee*: Matti Alderson (MA) was unable to attend but sent her best wishes.

   *Other:* Mike Anderson, Teji Barnes, Louise Child, Jamie Gibbs, Steve Gledhill, Venkatatramanan Panchapakesan, Hugh Sommerville, Graham Smith.

2. MINUTES OF LAST AGM

   The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by KC.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's REPORT

KC circulated his sixth Annual Chairman's Report in advance of the meeting. He thanked the Committee for all their hard work during the year. He also thanked the Observers for their work with the Associates no matter how many Observed Drives were needed to reach test standard. Thanks to AT the number of Observers has increased but we still would benefit from having more. It would be an enormous boost if we could have some female Observers.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ADOPTION OF THE ACCOUNTS

PG had circulated the accounts for the year to 31st December 2019 prior to the meeting.

PG advised that renewals were in line with last year - 91 in 2018 and 89 in 2019. The number of new Associates was also very similar to the previous year – 34 in 2018 and 26 in 2019.

The Events figure of £963 was higher than in 2018. It includes a cost relating to a 2018 social function. This cost had been queried but not resolved until 2019.

Bags and clipboards had been purchased and this cost is shown within Equipment.

VS proposed that the Accounts be accepted, and this was seconded by SP.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (CHAIRMAN, TREASURER AND SECRETARY)

KC advised that he is standing down as Chairman. PG and MA are both willing to stand again. MA as Secretary and PG as Treasurer and also as interim Chairman.

Chairman – PG. Proposed by AT and seconded by JC.
Treasurer – PG. Proposed by KC and seconded by TN.
Secretary – MA. Proposed by VB and seconded by VS

7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE (ONE THIRD MUST RETIRE)

SP retired and was proposed by JC and seconded by VB.
VS retired and was proposed by MA and seconded by MN.
TN had been co-opted to the Committee and has confirmed that he willing to continue. Proposed by NM. Seconded by PG.
Nigel Mason had been nominated for the Committee. Proposed by AT and seconded by SP

All other members of the Committee were prepared to continue.

All appointments to the Committee were accepted by the members present.

The Committee comprises:

| | |
|---|---|
| Chairman | Peter Gunn |
| Secretary | Matti Alderson |
| Treasurer | Peter Gunn |
| Chief Observer | Andrew True |
| Membership Secretary | Jan Caddie |
| Webmaster | Sean Pearce |
| Events & Assistant | |
| Observer Administration | Valerie Brickell |
| Without Portfolio | Viv Silverman |
| Without Portfolio | Tim Nicholson |
| Without Portfolio | Nigel Mason |

KC reiterated the need for additional Committee members and invited anyone who felt able to contribute to make contact.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Paddy Hopkirk (PH), the Group's President, presented a case of wine and a signed copy of his, Paddy's, book to KC, the Group's retiring Chairman, in recognition of KC's hard work and dedication.
PH informed the meeting that KC had been involved with the Group for 24 years and was responsible for getting his son, Patrick, through the advanced Test.
PH was honoured, both, to have been invited to be President and to have been asked to make this presentation.

Paddy went on to advise the meeting that the Grand Prix would continue at Silverstone for another 5 years.

A short discussion took place concerning the age limit applied by some vehicle rental companies. The exception is Enterprise and PH hoped that the IAM might develop a relationship with the company.
KC thanked PH for the presentation and assured the Group that he would continue Observing. He also thanked JC and VB for their work in organising this AGM.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2ND March 2021

The formal business of the AGM concluded at 7.45pm.

## PRESENTATION:

The AGM was followed by a break for refreshments.

This was followed by a presentation by **Dr Chris Tennant (CT)**, Visiting Fellow at The London School of Economics and Political Science, entitled 'Are we willing to share the road with driverless cars and are they ready to share the road with us?

CT had asked members and non-members to complete a survey prior to the meeting. The survey asked a number of questions about motoring behaviour and our attitude to driverless vehicles (DV).
It would seem that there was no significant difference in responses between IAM members and non-members with exception that IAM members indicated strongly that they would miss the pleasure of driving should DV become the future.

CT pointed out that the Government is actively promoting DV. Suggesting that 90% of accidents are as a result of driver error and that by eliminating the driver the number of accidents would diminish. The Government also states that 1.2m people are killed in road accidents each year worldwide. However, CT pointed out that many of those are a result of poor road maintenance and poor driving discipline.
CT suggested that in order to promote driverless cars motorists might find themselves penalised. For example, increased insurance and limited road access.

A short discussion followed
The question of responsibility in the event of an accident involving DV was raised.
It was suggested that drivers would not embrace DV car sharing as they liked to have a vehicle outside their house. CT pointed out that attitudes to car ownership had changed and many younger people did not aspire to owning a car.

PG thanked CT who was given an enthusiastic applause.