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MELKSHAM & DISTRICT GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS
(Group No 1198) (Registered Charity Number: 1055930)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE RIVERSIDE CLUB, MELKSHAM ON THURSDAY 20 MAY 2010

Committee members present:

Paul Wilkins	Chairman
Chris Tarbitten	Secretary
Graham Bennett	Treasurer
Marie Green	
Pat Ham	
David Major	
Luke Pickett	
Helen Pickett	
Angela Summers	

Luminaries:

Andy Poulton	Staff Examiner
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Visiting Groups:

Bristol	Martin Evans (Group Secretary)
WaBAM	Nigel Lavender (Webmaster)

ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The following apologies for absence had been received:

Members – Bob Gregory
Luminaries – David Merson, Richard Furneaux
Invited Groups – Taunton Group
Invited visitors – Scott Hill

ITEM 2. MINUTES OF THE 2009 AGM (Resolution No 1)

The minutes of the AGM held on 21 May 2009 (proposed by Graham Bennett and seconded by Elaine White) were unanimously agreed as a true record and signed off by the Chairman.

ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

ITEM 4. AMENDMENTS OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THIS AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.



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ITEM 5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 2009-10 year started well with a reasonable number of Associates.

In terms of the number of Associates who passed the Advanced Test, we maintained our near 100% record. One Associate failed to make the grade after 2 attempts at the test.

Unfortunately, the number of Associates has virtually dried up. The reason for this is not entirely clear, but we believe that the IAM decision to put the cost of the Skill for Life programme up from £85 first to £99, and then to £139 is a major factor. It is also not helped by the decision to phase out the Mobile Display Units, which (in our experience) were highly effective at attracting interest.

There has been some change in the last few weeks to this. Angela has had a request from the Red Cross about taking all their drivers through the programme, and we wait to how this evolves. We still need more Associates though.

The group made two visits: Highgrove Gardens and Morgan Cars

Both visits were very successful. The Morgan visit was particularly illuminating to see how the vehicles are built. The process is very different from the mass production seen on the visit to Vauxhall in Luton. As one of our members commented, "Buying a new Morgan isn't buying a car, but joining a very exclusive club". The waiting time for membership is about seven years.

Evening meetings have, as usual, been very varied, and have included:

The History of the Motor Car

Skittles

Drive Check evening - although as usual there were more Observers than members going for the check!

We managed to get some publicity both in the local press for reports on the monthly meetings, and also on BBC Wiltshire Sound, where I was interviewed by Mark O'Donnell on the subject of "do people still go out driving on a Sunday afternoon?" I say, "I was interviewed": it was more like I managed to get the occasional word in edgeways. I did manage to challenge him to do the Skill for Life programme. We had discussed in the committee prior to this the idea of offering to pay for a journalist to do the programme. He eventually sent me his contact details and application form, which we duly sent off with our cheque. Unfortunately, it all went dead and despite attempts I have not been able to contact him again - but I will try again. Publicity is going to be important in the near future, and we will devote some effort to it.

I do have two pleas to make:

The first is to ask everybody to make some effort to publicise the IAM and the Group. If we all do this, hopefully things will change.

The second is about the monthly meetings. We are going to stop calling them "meetings" and publicise them as social events. Even so, would Group Members please tell us what they want from the meetings? Helen Pickett is doing a sterling job in organising speakers, but this only works if she knows what people want. So, please can we have some ideas?

Finally, our thanks go to Marie who is standing down from the committee. She also did a sterling job as Events Coordinator and was a hard act for Helen to follow.



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ITEM 6. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS (Resolution No 2) (Resolution No 3)

The Treasurer presented the annual financial report and provided further information on the points of the report. The Group has had a healthy year with income exceeding expenses by £176.

The Group's financial status as at April 2009 was £1500.15 in the Current Account and £1097.49 in the Deposit Account giving a grand total of £2597.64.

Questions were invited from the floor. There were no questions.

Approval of the accounts (Resolution No 2) was proposed by Mike Daggart, seconded by Marie Green and carried unanimously.

The approval of freedom to change the Group Membership Fee by no more than 20% should it be necessary (Resolution 3) was proposed by Chris Tarbitten, seconded by Luke Pickett and carried unanimously.

ITEM 7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman:	Paul Wilkins
Vice Chairman:	No nominations
Secretary:	Archer Endrich
Treasurer:	Graham Bennett

Proposed en bloc by Tom Pignon, seconded by Elaine White and carried unanimously.

ITEM 8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Chairman advised that the following committee members were standing down:

Marie Green was standing down as a Committee Member and not seeking re-election.
Pat Ham was standing down as Librarian and seeking re-election.
Helen Pickett was standing down as Events Coordinator and seeking re-election.

This complies with IAM requirement that 1/3 of the committee stands down each year.

The following individuals sought re-election to the committee:

Pat Ham	Librarian
Helen Pickett	Events Coordinator

Proposed en bloc by Graham Bennett, seconded by Marie Green and passed unanimously.

ITEM 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no AOB.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19:50 hrs.

