

**Minutes of 18th Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 28th May 2022 at 3:00pm
Radnor YFC Centre, Llandrindod Wells**

Present (11)

Members (11): Phil Jones (Chairman), Geoff Smith (Secretary), Mike Price (Treasurer), Colin Barnett, Chris Brown, Jim Campbell, Anne Harling-Bowen, Micheal Hughes, Ann Jones, Richard Lawson, Humphrey Morgan, and Paul Wilson.

Apologies (13)

Members (11): Dave Tompsett, Mandy Giordano, Angela Davies-Jones, Phil Sewell, Jacky Cole, Don Williams, John Oliver, Neil Owen, Mark Hodge, Edgar Jones, and Elizabeth Stringer

IAM (1): Rob Downing (Region 4 Area Service Delivery Manager)

Group Friends (1): John Baddeley

1. Report of the Last Meeting held in April 2021

The report of this meeting had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting.

Resolution: That the Report of the 2021 17th AGM is approved as a true record.

Proposed by Humphrey Morgan, seconded by Anne Harling-Bowen, and unanimously accepted. These were signed by the chairman as a true record.

2. Matters Arising from 17th AGM None.

3. Chairman's Report

I do not think that any of us thought in March 2020 that Covid would still be affecting life through to 2022 to the extent that it has, less of a serious problem now but still a threat to many people who have underlying health issues. Looking back at the number of members that we had in 2018 which was 84 we have maintained this figure but not increased it, some members have resigned, moved home, or others sadly passed away. Covid has meant that few people wish to share a vehicle with an observer, also observers have had to maintain safe practises to protect themselves from this disease. On the positive side, our bike observers have been busy with bikers being at less risk of Covid we have seen an increase in people signing up for the bike course. We have recently had three bike riders take up the free taster drive after which they then get 10% of the course/test fee, at the time of writing none of the three have however actually signed up for a course. To give some idea of the increase in bike courses/passes against car course/passes in 2018 we had 5 car and 4 bike passes, in 2019 we had 2 car and 4 bike passes, in 2020 we had 2 car and 1 bike pass and in 2021 we had 1 car and 5 bike passes. Over these 4 years, 13 of these passes were F1FIRST grade level passes. The group could not function without our dedicated car observers of which we have 3 and our bike observers of which we have 5. Bike observers have now been supplied with printed fluorescent waistcoats/tabards to publicise both IAM RoadSmart and MWAM. Going back to March last year I gained approval for offering 6+ young drivers (up to the age of 26) a free course and test a 'member get member' initiative called the 'Young Driver Initiative'. We sent out information on this offer to all members by email hoping to get a good response, this was a complete waste of time with not one young person taking up the offer of a course with us, very disappointing. I mentioned last year about Dave Tompsett our Chief Bike Observer having a stroke, unfortunately, Dave was unable to carry on with his function in the group. Following Chris Brown taking on the role of temporary Chief Bike Observer Chris has now been made the group's official Chief Bike Observer. Since taking on the role the bike training side of the group is increasing with Chris managing this increase well. After holding the position of Group Secretary since 2003 Geoff Smith is resigning his position at this AGM. Since I passed my test and joined the committee of MWAM I have worked closely with Geoff and have always been extremely impressed with his knowledge and commitment to the group, he will be sorely missed and a difficult act to follow. I am pleased to be able to tell you that we have a new Secretary in Jim Campbell who has offered to take over from Geoff following the AGM. I should mention that the position of Secretary was opened up to our membership without any other positive interest.

I wish Jim all the best for his position within the group, the Secretary is the linchpin of the group and I am sure that Jim will bring with him new ideas and experience to benefit MWAM. Another new appointment is that committee member Colin Barnet has taken over the position of Webmaster from Geoff Smith, which the committee thanks him for.

4. Secretary's Report

Geoff thanked Phil sincerely for his hard work as our Events & Publicity Secretary and his dedication to the role of our Chairman for the last three years. He has worked tirelessly to raise the profile of our group and we owe him a great deal.

Geoff Smith reported that the group membership currently stood at 101 comprising 72 full members, 16 Associates, and 9 Group friends. In 2021 we recruited 14 associates of whom 10 have now passed their IAM Test. Four associates were awarded the prestigious F1st grade, one for car and 3 for motorcycle classes. We had no failures and one dropped out. The remaining are completing their on-road guidance or awaiting a test date. Since the group started in 2003 until the end of 2021, we have recruited 295 associates of whom 182 have passed their IAM Test. Ten have failed and a total of 91 have withdrawn which is an overall dropout rate of 30.3%. At the end of 2021, we had 6 associates undergoing training or waiting to commence training. This represents a very creditable 94.8% pass rate. Free 'taster' sessions have proved popular with a 10% discount offered on the course fee. Our current members are our best advocates to recruit new associates

Our observers are the lifeblood of the group and without their efforts, there would be no group. We thank them sincerely for the gift of their time and expertise. We currently have 11 active observers; of these 5 are Locally Qualified and 3 Nationally Qualified. We have lost two observers due to retirement and relocation so we are looking to recruit trainee observers from within our membership. Three of our members are currently undertaking their Local Observer qualification. This qualification is accredited by the independent awards body Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI). This entails being evaluated by a group Local Observer Assessor and being recommended to IMI. Geoff reflected on his tenure as Secretary over the last 6789 days since the group was formed in 2003. He thanked both Phil Jones and Mike Price for their service as Chairman and in Mike's case continuing Treasurer. He stated that has been a privilege to work with so many good people over the years including serving five Chairmen, four Treasurer, and numerous committee members.

5. Treasurer's Report & adoption of accounts

Mike Price had produced the Group's Audited Balance Sheet for 2021 a copy of which was available on the website before the AGM and copies were available at the AGM. Summaries were displayed for scrutiny. This had been audited by one of our members, Pauline Page-Jones, and was presented by Mike who asked for any queries or questions on these accounts.

Mike was thanked by Geoff Smith for his work over the last year as our Treasurer and for the clarity of the group's accounts. This was unanimously supported by the meeting.

The following resolutions were then put before the meeting:

Resolution: That the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 be approved.

Proposed by Phil Jones, seconded by Paul Wilson, and unanimously accepted.

Resolution:

That the Committee is authorized to change the subscription rate for 2023 if it is deemed necessary but subject to the increase not exceeding £2 per annum.

Proposed by Anne Harling-Bowen, seconded by Ann Jones, and unanimously accepted.

6. Election of Officers

Phil Jones handed over the meeting to the Secretary to conduct the election for Chairman.

Chairman

Phil Jones is standing down after three years as our Chairman.

We have received a nomination before the meeting for **Michael Hughes** as Chairman.

Nominated by Phil Jones and seconded by Geoff Smith

On a show of hands, **Michael** was unanimously elected as Chairman.

The meeting was then handed back to Phil who chaired the rest of the AGM.

Vice-Chairman

The Vice-Chairman role was vacant and no nominations had been received.

Richard Lawson offered to stand as Vice-Chairman and this offer was proposed by Phil Jones and seconded by Mike Price. On a show of hands, **Richard** was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

Secretary

Geoff Smith is standing down after eighteen years as our Secretary.

We have received a nomination before the meeting for **Jim Campbell** as Secretary.

Nominated by Geoff Smith and seconded by Phil Jones.

On a show of hands, **Jim** was unanimously elected as Secretary.

Treasurer

Mike Price has offered to stand for re-election as Treasurer and no other nominations had been received.

On a show of hands, **Mike Price** was unanimously re-elected as our Treasurer to serve for another year and was thanked for his hard work in maintaining the group's finances over the last year.

7. Election of Committee

Under group rules, one-third of our committee, excluding the 4 officers, stands down each year. As one committee member resigned in 2020 only one member needs to stand down. However, two have stood down although they have only served for two years. This year **Chris Brown** and **Mandy Giordano** are offering to stand for re-election for a further three years.

On a show of hands, **Chris Brown** was unanimously elected to our committee for a further three years. On a show of hands, **Mandy Giordano** was unanimously elected to our committee for a further three years.

Phil Jones has agreed to return to the committee and seeks election.

On a show of hands, Phil was unanimously elected to our committee for a further three years.

Geoff Smith has agreed to return to the committee and seeks election.

On a show of hands, Geoff was unanimously elected to our committee for a further three years

This leaves vacancies for one more person on the current committee which includes the four officers and eight other places.

We had received no other nominations before the AGM and following an appeal to the meeting no other offer was forthcoming

Consequently, we currently have a committee vacancy that is available to any member who wishes to offer their services. Anyone interested should initially make contact with the group secretary.

Committee Member List 2022

	Name	Elected	Until	Years Left
1	Chris Brown	2022	2025	3
2	Mandy Giordano	2022	2025	3
3	Phil Jones	2022	2025	3
4	Geoff Smith	2022	2025	3
5	Colin Barnett	2021	2024	2
6	Humphrey Morgan	2021	2024	2
7	Paul Wilson	2021	2024	2
8	Vacant			

8. Any other Business

Phil Jones had approached IAM RoadSmart to advise them that Geoff was resigning as secretary. They had sent a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his work and commitment as the secretary of MWAM since its formation in 2003. Phil presented this to Geoff and he was also presented with a glass-mounted clock from all the members of MWAM.