

## **BEDFORD GROUP of ADVANCED DRIVERS & RIDERS**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 8pm on Tuesday 16 March 2010, Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service Training Centre, Kempston, Bedford.



### **1. Apologies for absence:**

Adrian Bailey, Susan Bailey and Janet King.

### **2. Minutes of 2009 AGM:**

Minutes of the 2009 Agreed and acceptance proposed by Keith Hooson and seconded by Sonia Banks agreed unanimously. Signed as correct.

### **3. Chairman's report:**

The Bedford Group continues to grow by attracting members who want to improve their driving skills, and that is good news for everyone who feels that we should make our roads safer and that road users should be responsible for keeping collisions down. The challenge we face is that there are still not enough tutors to be available to cope with the demand for tuition in the group, and that can be demoralising for new associates who have to wait for months to start to make their way into advanced driving. Our aim in the next year is to encourage more members to become tutors, and we will endeavour to do this from this AGM.

Meetings in 2009 have again seen many interesting subjects covered, and it is always our intention to keep this constant level of interest in the group, your help to do this is vital so any suggestions are welcome.

We lose a valued Committee member and Treasurer at this meeting, with the resignation of Adrian Bailey. Adrian has been a stalwart as Treasurer, and a constant wit at Committee meetings, even though he makes everyone feel guilty whether we purchase a large or small item. This combination of wit and wisdom will be sadly missed, but we wish him well and give him all our thanks for his tireless work for this group over the years.

Once again your hard working Committee and dedicated Officers and Tutors, make this group work. Without support from everyone involved we would not maintain the success that we have enjoyed for many years now. I hope that the future will bring more of you looking at officer roles, because any organisation needs new blood and new thinking to survive.

Once again I have enjoyed my year as your Chairman, I thank all of the team who serve you here at the Bedford Group, and most of all you the associates and members for allowing us to exist to spread the good word of better driving.

### **4. Treasurer's report:**

Please accept my apologies for not being present to make this report but a combination of complete oversight on my part and a family celebration caused me to unwittingly double book the occasion many months ago.

The group's income this year was £1141.00 and our expenditure was £998.65, giving us a 'trading' surplus of £142.35.

Once again, these circumstances were only achieved due to the continuing support of The Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, supplying accommodation for both Group and committee meetings. Equally, our thanks must also go to the St John Ambulance Service for their support in providing a venue for our Better Driving Course.

To facilitate the presentation of the BDC a second hand Dell laptop was purchased and it is intended to put it to work again, with at least one other BDC being run during the forthcoming financial year.

The Group has provided customised fleeces to all tutors in recognition of the many hours they give to the Group and their respective associates.

Otherwise it has been a very quiet year from a financial point of view.

Each year I have traditionally made a plea for assistance from the membership to help to ease the treasurer's role and this year will not be an exception! When you have taken your test, and even a re-test, please let your tutor know the date and the result and then between you please pass on this information to either the training co-ordinator or the treasurer or preferably both!!

This will be my final report as treasurer as I will not be standing for re-election. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee for their efforts and enthusiasm in making the Group the success that it is; the membership for their continuing support and each of you for attending this evening.

Thank you.

Acceptance of accounts as presented proposed by Brian Mason and seconded by Melia Taylor duly accepted unanimously.

#### **5. Secretary's report:**

I believe that we have had an active year with a very good mix of high quality speakers both external and internal concluding with an excellent turn out at our February meeting. We have had Roadscan, pity the equipment did not match up to the sales pitch, but interesting, visitors from HQ, our own demonstration drives in June followed in July by our local examiner Simon Hill. After the break we had an open meeting to discuss the theory of roadcraft, a quiz night, St. John Blue Light conference report and many of you were here last month to here the Highways Agency and East Anglia Ambulance.

Organising meetings is one of the more difficult of the committee's tasks and we hope that we will be able to continue encouraging you to come along. Bill has already mentioned the difficulty in training associates at the same speed as new members join.

Bill has also mentioned a change is necessitated due to Adrian calling it a day after a good stint at the job. Andrew is also calling it a day so you have the chance tonight to make your vote for replacements.

We were disappointed this year that we were unable to participate in RoSPA's regional meeting as for some reason we did not find out about it until during the preceding week. We as Officers were annoyed as it would have been very simple for

someone at HQ to contact us through the web or by telephone. Unfortunately RoSPA's appalling support for Groups shows its ugly head again.

We hope that we can continue to develop new members' driving to higher standard making them safer on the road.

**6. Election of Officers for 2010/11:**

**Chairman** – Bill Brady, proposed by Terry Barfoot and seconded by Andrew McGrorey

**Treasurer** – Melia Taylor proposed by Stan Jones and seconded by John Marks.

**Secretary** – Stan Jones proposed by Steve Davy seconded by Bob Jack.

**Training Officer** – No nominations therefore post remains unfilled.

There being no other nominations, all proposals agreed by the meeting unanimously

**7. Election of Committee members:**

The following existing members were willing to stand again:

Terry Barfoot, Alan Freeman and Keith Hooson

The meeting agreed these should continue as committee members. In addition Bob Bethell, Jo Lazard and Steve Davy were proposed by Bill Brady and seconded by Stan Jones for committee and agreed by meeting unanimously

**8. AOB:**

The first committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at Board Room of Fire HQ at 20:00

**9. Date of next Annual general Meeting**

15<sup>th</sup> March 2011 8.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.