



MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 21ST NOVEMBER 2017

Minutes of meeting held at Bedford Athletic Stadium at 20:00 at which there were 14 members present. Chairman Andrew McGrorey (AM) presided with Secretary Stan Jones (SJ).

1. AM introduced himself and SJ and members were welcomed and thanked for attending. AM advised that the meeting had been called by the committee at its last meeting. There is concern about the lack of numbers attending the meetings and lack of members' involvement. Also RoSPA are introducing a new relationship with its groups. For these reasons the group is at a watershed.
2. AM said the aims for tonight's meeting was for a discussion on the way forward. It would appear that some other local groups ceased having regular meetings some time ago, and also for the members to understand implications of affiliation with RoSPA or not.

Andrew McGrorey then handed over to Stan Jones who gave more detailed information.

FIRSTLY MEETINGS

- In view of the lack of attendees at the bi monthly meetings the committee decided at its last meeting to cease them. No ongoing bookings have been made for the room. The room will be booked for the AGM on Tuesday 15th May
- Social meetings may be arranged or speakers welcomed on an ad hoc basis.
- Not just lack of attendees at the meetings but also the lack of any members prepared to help manage the group by joining its committee.
- Before deciding how the group should plan for the future the members must become involved otherwise it will cease to exist.
- Two Officers are resigning at the next AGM and SJ had been wanting to finish for some time but will continue for the moment.
- All these points must be addressed before any other decisions can be made regarding the Group's future.

SECONDLY RoSPA AFFILIATION

- The Group has been linked to RoSPA since its inauguration in 1996.
- RoSPA are now formalising its relationship with Groups by affiliation. I have just received the affiliation application form which has to be submitted by 1st April, i.e. before our next AGM hence this meeting was called.
- I have not studied the final application but understand from draft copies that we as a Group would qualify for affiliation with little change. Our procedures and Tutor qualifications comply.

- We would need to accept RoSPA's constitution but although much longer than ours the meanings are not too dissimilar to our current one which was provided originally by RoSPA anyway.
- We do not have to affiliate but can operate as an advanced driver group independently. Associates can still apply to take the RoSPA test.
- Downside is we would need to advertise and have our own insurance. We would no longer receive enquiries through RoSPA

WHAT NEXT

- Firstly we have to ensure that there will be sufficient members involved in committee
- If this is the case we then have to decide whether to affiliate with RoSPA or go on our own.
- If we cease as a Group our funds must be returned to RoSPA. If we remain as a Group either independently or with RoSPA we retain our funds.
- If we decide to go independent then a new constitution will need to be written. Insurance will need to be arranged and other administrative needs dealt with.
- If we decide to affiliate with RoSPA that is somewhat easier, but will need to complete the application form over the next few months.
- There are optional changes that could be made to our constitution regarding Officers and meetings.
- We will have to provide training to ADIs.
- Currently we have four Officers who must be full members of RoSPA. Only three Officers are required by RoSPA but only the chairman and one other committee member must be full RoSPA members. This means neither the Secretary nor Treasurer need be full members which is good for the future. We have a Training Officer which I suggest should be retained and of course must be a full member.
- The committee must consist of three Officers and at least two others. Quorum for meetings is three, one of whom must be Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer plus two others (currently five).

Andrew McGrorey then invited questions and discussions.

Clive Croot asked about finance and if we have good funds, he was assured we have very good funds. Are there any financial implications affiliating with RoSPA? SJ advised there are none.

Tony Glasson asked if there were job descriptions of the Officer's Rolls. AM, SJ and Richard Hales (Treasurer) gave brief details of their responsibilities.

SJ said that most activities were arranging and supporting meetings and committee meetings. Carrying out requests from committee as necessary. Meetings as the EGM has a workload as will affiliation with RoSPA but these are rare tasks. There are quiet periods.

RH explained he is the first point of contact with new members and he maintains the master membership list. Annually requests renewals of Group membership. Pays any expenditure and produces year end accounts. Martin Kidds asked if members' numbers fluctuate, it is considered that they remain fairly steady year on year. Ian Wade advised we send out over 40 e-mails and post 20 newsletters.

AM Represents the group and maintains a contact with like parties eg. Road Victims Trust.

Alan Freeman advised his webmaster duty and knowledge of HTML needed.

Rosemary Whittington confirmed her previous conversation with SJ that she would like to join the committee.

David Worgan also expressed he would like to join and would be prepared to be Treasurer after the AGM provided the group stays with RoSPA.

Ian Wade commented on the size of RoSPA and its lack of publicity. He enquired of the size of the Advanced Driving section. SJ responded that it is a small department but twice what it was a few years ago. AM also explained about its commercial fleet driver training and the publicity that Roadsmart appear to achieve over and above RoSPA.

Tony Glasson questioned the ability of the Group to deal with an influx of new members. SJ advised that we have suitably qualified Advanced Tutors/Diplomas to train and appoint new Tutors. No new publicity should be planned until new Tutors are appointed. Then the committee can consider how to proceed. In the past we have used the Better Driving Course.

Proposal from Tony Glasson that the Group stays with RoSPA, seconded by David Worgan and unanimously agreed.

Proposal from Martin Kidds that the committee be authorised to make necessary changes to the constitution to enable affiliation without the need to call another EGM, seconded by Clive Croot and unanimously agreed.

Tony Glasson and Clive Croot agreed to join the committee.

Martin Kidds said how important it is to have a good webmaster who keeps the web updated.

SJ advised that committee meetings are held 6 times a year but the days can be changed to suit the overall committee.

The Chairman thank all for attending and for their support and input. Meeting closed at 21:12