

Minutes of WAVCA Members' Meeting
Held at the Forest of Arden Hotel, Meriden
on Thursday 19th April 2018 commencing at 9.30

Members Present:

Allied Mobility – Peter Facenna
Automotive Group - Phil Hind
Bristol Street Versa Mobility - Joanne Ellison
Brook Miller – David Knight
Brotherwood Automobility - Rod Brotherwood; John Daniel
Cartwright Conversions – Charles Pugh
Gowrings Mobility - Nigel Brice (Chair)
Lewis Reed - Ian Newton
Sirus Automotive – Simon Pearson

Linda Ling – WAVCA

1 Welcome

2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Davy Donnell, Peter Scullion and David Knights. There was no representative present from Alfred Bekker or Lateral.

3 Minutes of last meeting having been circulated were signed off as a true record of the previous meeting. JO/RB

4 Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda

There were no Matters Arising that would not be covered.

5 Financial Report

JE reported first the first time as Treasurer.

There were 7 converters still owing membership fees. JE reminded Members that Membership would be rescinded if fees were not paid within 30 days of invoice as previously agreed.

JE issued schedule of current position which showed £7,000 worth of overdue invoices unpaid from 2017.

It was agreed that Linda should add a code to statements sent to Jo so the type of invoice. LL

The RDE Testing account would be isolated and circulated.

LL/JE

For next meeting JE will provide a budget.

JE

6 Tech WG Report

DV reported on the work of the Tech WG. The last meeting tidied up the position of current work items. One open item is the Tech WG procedure.

The WG has also spent time completing the PAS Review to draft stage for circulation with the BSI Steering Group.

The website is overdue for an and this will be completed in May.

ISO10542 – DIS just out for consultation. To be circulated to Members for response. NB asked about worst case – DV advised head back restraints in all WAVs. This is still currently informative and we must be vigilant in future that this must not become normative from informative.

There was 1 Norman available. Peter Cullingham at VCA was asking for funding from VCA. It was noted that the ex-STATUS testing equipment was now at VOSC at Wolverhampton University. Deniz is now a consultant there. IN had tried to set up a visit from Tech WG but they cancelled at last minute.

PAS report

Linda reported there were now 100 PAS Accreditations.

VY asked again about delays at VCA. DV advised a good tip that if you request provisional PAS, sometimes VCA just ends up completing the Accreditation.

7 IVA & Type Approval update

Linda reported current situation as follows:

RDE – we are still waiting to see the ratified document from the European Commission.

WLTP – the UK Government consultation was closed and we were waiting for the outcome. In the meantime it was noted that converters had had to make difficult commercial decision regarding the ordering of base vehicles with no guidance from a finalised outcome. New WLTP compliant base vehicles will be available from September. IH advises all Members not to underestimate the amount of work for extending TAs to include WLTP. **ACTION ALL**

JE asked about N1 vehicles converting to an M1 vehicle. No-one had the answer. LL suggested she would forward a question to DfT for clarification. **ACTION JE/LL**

There was an IVA Trade User Group today so LL was unable to attend. Jamie Bowden from GM was attending for WAVCA. Thanks to GM.

8 Report from Motability

DD & LL had visited Motability and seen Damian and Scott.

Damian had introduced discussions by talking about the Association and the PAS Scheme being independent of Motability and always good if the Association could stand on its own feet. We had not previously advised him we would be asking for more support for the Association and it was felt that somehow this had got back to him. It was regrettable that this position made it impossible to negotiate any further support from them for on-going expenses. They would still consider supporting projects however.

We have opportunity for feed-back regarding the suggested extended test-drive/trials to be run by Proximo. Members suggested the following issues at the meeting:

- Model out of date
- Inexperienced drivers who won't know paperwork
- Safety – assessment of suitability – heavy wheelchairs –
- Motability assessment.
- New ball game – uninitiated customers
- Have they really got the volume of vehicles to prevent a bottleneck in the supply chain – cause frustration and delays with the customer.
- How many extended test drives would the customer get is a small way didn't work.
- Changes to specification of demo vehicle
- Blind test WAVs not anonymised
- Lack of impartiality of self-employed drivers

In principle the WAVCA counter-offer would be to offer extended demonstrations with funding from MO and if insurance could be covered.

It was agreed that more information on termination data would be useful. By converter by reason. Perhaps this could be openly discussed.

It was also noted that there was now a lack of opportunity for people to see a wide range of WAVs anywhere now there is no Mobility Roadshow. Perhaps MO could extend the space to converters, especially in the light of people being easily able to see standard cars at a venue nearby their home.

MO were currently looking at improving the overall comfort and standard of WAV to increase customer satisfaction. An initial list of options was discussed, and LL would circulate a note from Scott to all Members for individual feedback.

8 AOB

The burgeoning expenses on Allied for the homologation and technical support of IH were shared with Members. It was decided that the Board would continue to discuss this at the meeting following the Members' meeting.

9 Date of next Meeting

The next WAVCA meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th July at Forest of Arden Hotel, commencing at 9.30am.

Subsequent meeting had been booked as follows:

18th September 2018. 4th December 2018. 22nd January 2019 WAVCA AGM.