

Secretary's Report – AGM 13 October 2020

This years AGM marks my sixth as Secretary of the group; the AGM presents an opportunity to reflect on the last 12 months, as you have heard from Roger, it paints a positive picture and I feel we can really be proud of the work we are doing. Credit must go to our observer team for the excellent results they are producing.

We currently have 168 Full Members and 44 Associate Members. The committee has been in touch with the majority of members over the last few weeks to update you on our current activities – it has been nice to speak with members again whilst we cannot see you face to face.

Our social events were once again very well supported throughout 2019. Whilst we only managed one event in 2020 prior to lockdown, we have hosted three online webinars since lockdown and plan to hold a Driving After Lockdown webinar for members within the next month. We hosted a similar webinar for the East Midlands U3A last month, with over 60 attendees and nearly 20 taster drive requests across the region. We are looking to do more of these online presentations over the coming months. My thanks go to Peta Steadman Bee who organises many of our external presentations and is continuing to work hard behind the scenes to either move these online or rearrange them for next year.

We hope to be able to hold the AGM in person today, however, as time passed it became apparent that would not be possible. In September 2020, the Committee agreed a change to the charity constitution to enable us to explicitly hold an AGM online. This followed guidance issued by IAM RoadSmart in collaboration with a charity lawyer. We felt it was important to do this to comply with our requirements to hold an AGM within 18 months of the previous one and also to share the work we have done and finances with members. This change was accepted by the Charities Commission.

Whether you support IAM RoadSmart because you are a car enthusiast, want to be a better driver or just enjoy driving generally, it is important to remember the charities aims and objectives of reducing road deaths and injuries through improving driving and riding standards. We can all be proud to support IAM RoadSmart and that our membership fee goes towards that aim. I certainly believe we are helping to achieve our objectives in Lincolnshire. We are also doing it whilst enjoying our input which I think is important.

I thoroughly enjoy representing you and IAM RoadSmart in Lincolnshire. In the current climate, your membership with us is as important as ever and allows us to continue the great work we are doing. Finally, it should be remembered that word of mouth and recommendation of members is one of the most successful ways of spreading our road safety message – I would encourage all of you to continue to promote our courses and taster drive to as many people as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ashley Behan Secretary