

NORTH EAST LONDON & ESSEX GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

Registered Charity Number: 1056280

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at **Theydon Bois Village Hall (TBVH), Coppice Row CM16 7ER** in the *The Small Hall*
(the AGM also had members attending via ZOOM)

Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 7.30pm

Minutes

The Chair, **Paul Gillett (PG)** opened the **AGM** welcoming everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Sue Hyett, John & Barbara Harrison, Chris Rodwell, Christine Hawthorne, Derek Leggetter, Sylvia Reeves
2. **Minutes of previous AGM** on *Tuesday 9th April 2024*

The Minutes were accepted as a true record.

Proposed by: Colin Savidge; **Seconded by** Graham Fennell
Carried unanimously.

3. **Matters arising from the 2024 AGM Minutes**

The Chair responded to two points raised at AoB:

- Could there be a family (household) membership to prevent two Newsletters being posted to the same address:

Response: Yes. Although a payment of £10 represents good value for money, NELE would be happy to lower the cost for a 'family' membership on application.

- Could speakers & those asking questions use a microphone please

Response: Yes. This has been implemented tonight and all previous meetings since it was highlighted.

4. **Chairman's report**

Copies were handed out at the meeting and was/is also available on the Group website.

- As well as the thorough report above the Chair gave a spirited highlight of some sections, one of which is reproduced here:

[2025 and Beyond](#)

In the coming year, the committee intend to:

- Continue our programme of monthly social meetings
- Investigate opportunities for external activities such as visits to places of interest
- Complete the accreditation of our remaining Local Observers to the National Observer standard
- Increase the size of the Observer Corps by attracting and training new Trainee Observers to the National Observer standard.
- Reduce new Associates' waiting times for the allocation of an Observer, as the result of the planned increase in the number of Observers.
- Encourage more members to take a practical role in supporting NELE, such as by joining the committee or taking over editorship of *Roadworthy*.
- Improve continuity and succession planning for committee posts.
- Encourage a greater support for Gift Aid by full members, since this gives NELE a 25% boost to their subscription from HMRC at no cost to the member.

- There were no questions.

Resolution 1: To accept the Chairman's report

Proposed by: Pete Minvalla; **Seconded by** Hayward Lai
Carried unanimously

5. **Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts.**

The Treasurer's Report for year ending 31/12/2024 was circulated at the meeting, and can be seen on the NELE website.

Graham Fennell thanked Mike Coggins (present) for his auditing of the accounts and advised that in compiling his report the overwhelming factors were openness, honesty and transparency. Comprehensive notes accompanied each entry, with Graham citing **note 8** (Group Room Hire) as the biggest saving in costs (£502) reducing our overall deficit to £46 compared with £244 in 2023.

Resolution 2: To accept the Treasurer's report and adopt the accounts.

Proposed by: Hayward Lai; **Seconded by:** Mike Smith

Carried unanimously

6. **Resolution 3:** That any monies unclaimed by Group members for over one year by the end of the AGM should be treated as a donation to Group charitable funds.

- It was explained that NELE includes this every AGM to avoid “ghost” entries in the accounts where members, for example, have moved without notifying a new address or cancelled their membership but not a standing order; it was often impossible to trace such people as banks would not provide NELE with contact details for GDPR reasons. Similarly, occasionally members have paid twice and not taken up an offer for reimbursement from the Treasurer.

Proposed by: Ken Wheeler; **Seconded** by: Charlie McGlinchey
Carried unanimously

7. **Election of officers** (*Officers must retire annually & may offer themselves for re-election*)

Standing for re-election:

- Chairman: **Paul Gillett**
- Secretary: **Mike Noel**
- Treasurer: **Graham Fennell**

Proposed by (*en bloc*): Ken Wheeler; **Seconded** by: Michael Powis
Carried unanimously

8. **Election of committee members**

Every year one-third of Committee members must retire by rotation and may offer themselves for re-election.

- **Committee Members retiring by Rotation and not standing for re-election:**
None
- **Committee Members retiring by Rotation & standing for re-election:**
Paul Heasmer
- **Committee Members not retiring and number of years remaining before retiring by rotation:**
Pete Minvalla (2) Colin Savidge (2)
- **Committee Members co-opted during the year and standing for election:**
Chris Rodwell

Proposed by (*en bloc*): Graham Fennell; **Seconded** by: Pete Minvalla
Carried unanimously

9. **Any Other Business**

- *There were no AOB points*

There followed the presentation of awards and annual trophies by the Chair:

Annual Trophies

- The *Observer of the Year Award/Trophy* went to **Iain Wyness**
- The *Walsh Trophy* (given to the member who has made a significant contribution to the group over the year) went to **Colin Savidge** for his excellent and constant monitoring and updating of the Membership database.
- The *Associate of the Year* went to **Jane Thomas**.

Three Polo Shirts (with their names on it) were given to:

- **Pete Minvalla** (National Observer)
- **Graham Fennell** (National Observer)
- **Iain Wyness** (National Observer)
.....in recognition of their above achievements.

The AGM finished at 20.10hrs