

## **Minutes of the 2005 AGM of the Transport Economists Group held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2005 at 5:00pm**

**Present:** Roger Mackett (Chair)  
Don Box (Vice-Chair)  
Dick Dunmore (Secretary)  
Gregory Marchant (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)  
Laurie Baker (Journal Editor)  
Chris Castles  
Tom Cohen  
Francesca Medda  
David van Rest

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

Dick Dunmore announced that apologies for absence had been received from Robert Cochrane and Julie Bertolini.

### **2. Minutes of the 2004 AGM held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2004**

These were reviewed and no corrections or matters arising identified.

Chris Castles proposed and Don Box seconded acceptance of the Minutes.

ACCEPTED

### **3. Chair's Report**

Roger Mackett presented his report. Greater use of e-mail and provision of PowerPoint reports had improved levels of service to members. Attendance had averaged 35, up from 28 during 2003/4, and reached 60 with the talk by Roger Ford. Roger is standing down as Chair and Emily Bulman, Webmaster, is standing down from the Committee.

The report was reviewed and no corrections or matters arising were identified.

Don Box proposed and Gregory Marchant seconded acceptance of the Report and thanks to Roger for his service as Chair.

ACCEPTED

### **4 Treasurer's Report**

Gregory Marchant presented his report and the audited accounts for financial year 2004. The apparent rise in the costs of Meetings, from £255 in 2003 to £536 in 2004, reflected crediting of an unused provision from 2002 rather than any material rise in costs. A surplus of £598 had been aided by strong recruitment, with membership at around 150 by year end. He noted that expenditure was largely fixed and that the key was to maintain subscription income to create a surplus. He aims to build a surplus equivalent to at least 2 years' turnover and accordingly there had been a small rise in subscription rates for 2005.

Looking forward, the cost of meetings was likely to fall, depending on factors such as expenditure on drinks, but the key issue continued to be to have access to accommodation at below market rates. Chris Castles commented that this was an issue for other professional bodies, and that the International Consulting Economists' Association resolved this by charging £10 for attendance. He also commented on the value of a large e-mail distribution list to boost attendance, although it was noted that this was more practicable when there was no need to avoid free-riding attendance by non-members.

Don Box asked about the costs of the website, which are around £63 a year and recorded under administration.

Dick Dunmore sought and obtained confirmation that Gregory say no immediate threats to the finances during 2005.

Laurie Baker proposed and David van Rest seconded acceptance of the Report.

ACCEPTED

## **5 Election of the Committee**

Dick Dunmore reported that Emily Bulman and Roger Mackett wished to stand down and that Jillian Beardwood, Tom Cohen and Francesca Medda had volunteered to join the Committee. The Committee offering itself for election or re-election therefore consisted of:

Laurie Baker  
Jillian Beardwood  
Don Box  
Robert Cochrane  
Tom Cohen

Dick Dunmore  
Peter Gordon  
Martin Lawrence  
Gregory Marchant  
Francesca Medda

David van Rest proposed and Chris Castles seconded the election of all the above to the Committee.

ACCEPTED

Dick Dunmore reported that the Committee would elect Committee members to specific posts at the next Committee meeting on 4 April 2005.

## **6 Appointment of auditors**

Gregory Marchant recommended the re-appointment of Graham Carson who was willing to continue.

Laurie Baker proposed and Don Box seconded the re-appointment of Graham Carson.

ACCEPTED

**7 Any other business**

Dick Dunmore read the contents of a short report on publicity provided by Robert Cochrane, which were duly noted.

Laurie Baker reported that Emily Bulman had submitted a short report as Webmaster and that this would be printed in the Journal with the Chair's Report and the Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts. Dick Dunmore reported that he was currently acting as Webmaster under Emily's supervision and would continue to do so until a Webmaster was appointed.

Laurie Baker proposed and Gregory Marchant seconded a vote of thanks to Emily.  
ACCEPTED

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 5:30pm.