



**Minutes of the 2011 AGM of the Transport Economists Group held  
on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 at 5:17pm**

**Present:** Julie Mills (Chair)  
Gregory Marchant (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)  
Dick Dunmore (Secretary & Webmaster)  
Laurie Baker  
Jillian Beardwood  
John Cartledge  
Peter Gordon

**1. Apologies for absence**

Julie Mills and Dick Dunmore announced that apologies for absence had been received from Alan Bailes, Jeremy Drew, Gerard Whelan, William Wingate and Tom Worsley.

**2. Minutes of the 2010 AGM held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

These were reviewed and no corrections or matters arising identified.

Julie Mills proposed and Gregory Marchant seconded acceptance of the Minutes.

ACCEPTED

**3. Chair's Report**

Julie Mills presented her report for 2010-2011.

All the regular meetings had been held at the Arup Headquarters in Fitzroy Street. Attendance had ranged from 16 to 46 with an average of 25. The programme had dealt with bus, cycle and rail as well as concessionary fares, low emission vehicles and workplace parking levies.

The Group has run a half-day seminar on "Transport – the route to recovery?" attended by 50 participants. This had been successful in terms of the quality of the discussion. It is the Committee's intention to continue to hold special seminars in the future.

The Journal, edited by Peter Gordon, is now published in full colour.

With their permission, speakers' presentations continue to be distributed to Members after each meeting.

Julie thanked the retiring Committee for their work.

Laurie Baker, who had joined the Committee in 1991 and became chair in 2007, will stand down at the end of the 2010/11 year. Julie thanked him for his twenty years of sterling service and wished him well in his retirement.

Rebecca Graham had resigned as administrative assistant and been replaced by Melanie Buchan. Julie thanked Rebecca for her work in recent years and welcomed Melanie into her new role.

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

Laurie Baker proposed and Dick Dunmore seconded acceptance of the Report.

ACCEPTED

#### **4 Treasurer's Report and Accounts**

Gregory Marchant presented his report and the audited accounts for financial year 2010.

Membership had declined slightly since the previous year and subscription income was down significantly. There was little scope to obtain good interest rates on the reserves. Nonetheless, there had been an overall surplus of £1,070 for 2010.

In recognition of Arup's continuing generosity, £200 had been donated to their chosen charity "Ovagifts".

Rebecca Graham had resigned as administrative assistant and been replaced by Melanie Buchan. Gregory thanked Rebecca for her excellent hard work, and thanked Peter Gordon for his assistance during the transition.

The seminar on 4 March 2011 had made a financial loss, but this was consistent with the Committee's policy of turning some surplus to Members while reserves were more than adequate. The seminar will be reported in the 2011 accounts.

Subject to correction of the date of the previous year to 2009, Julie Mills proposed and Jillian Beardwood seconded acceptance of the Report and Accounts.

ACCEPTED

#### **5 Appointment of auditors**

Gregory Marchant reported that he had invited Stephen Bennett to continue as auditor and Stephen had expressed willingness.

Julie Mills proposed and Gillian Beardwood seconded acceptance of the motion.

ACCEPTED

## 6 Election of the Committee

Julie Mills reported that Laurie Baker had announced his intention to stand down from the Committee but all the other existing members had offered themselves for re-election. The Committee offering itself for re-election or election therefore consisted of:

Jeremy Drew	Dick Dunmore	Peter Gordon	Gregory Marchant
Julie Mills	Gerard Whelan	William Wingate	Tom Worsley

Laurie Baker proposed and John Cartledge seconded the re-election of the existing Committee members.

ACCEPTED

Dick Dunmore reported that the new Committee would elect Committee members to specific posts at the next Committee meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

## 7 Any other business

### *Publicising the Group's meetings*

Dick Dunmore noted that the issue of the publicising the Group's meetings had been raised as an Agenda item.

Laurie Baker proposed and Gregory Marchant seconded the proposal that the subject would be discussed by the newly-elected Committee on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

ACCEPTED

### *Debates*

John Cartledge drew attention to the use of the word "debates" in the final paragraph of the Chair's report for 2010. He suggested that we currently only have "Questions and Answers" and that there is not enough debating. Some speakers are contentious but are not challenged. He asked that the Committee consider debates proper, suggesting as illustrative topics:

- "Is more transport a good or an evil?"
- "Are our railways safer than they need to be?"

Julie Mills thanked him for his suggestion, and agreed that the subject would be discussed by the newly-elected Committee on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 5:37pm.