

**MINUTES OF SOUTHERN BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. AMBERLEY WORKING MUSEUM, WEST SUSSEX. THURSDAY 14 JUNE 2007**



**1. Welcome.**

The Chairman BG, welcomed the Institute's Vice President (Steve Spender) and 22 members and guests to the AGM.

**2. Apologies**

Received from Nia Griffiths and Graham Hodgson, both of whom sent good wishes to the meeting.

**3. Minutes of 2006 Annual General Meeting**

Circulated. **Proposed by Peter Fisher, Seconded Grahame Bath** they are accepted as a true record. Agreed unanimously

**4. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising that were not covered in the agenda.

**5. Vice President's Address**

Steve Spender thanked the Committee for inviting him to attend in his role as Vice President adding that he would have attended in any event as a Southern Branch Member. He also congratulated the Branch on the success of the recent 'Fact or Friction' Seminar which he attended and found it to be the usual high quality and excellent value for money. Southern's seminars were now an established part of the Institute's high profile events which was appreciated by Council.

SS made a presentation updating the Branch on Council's objectives for the Institute to address declining membership, especially in the younger age ranges. The Institute had had their licence renewed for the creation of Incorporated engineers and had also received a licence to create 'Chartered' status in which activity Southern Members featured highly. SS also cited the relationship with 'Highways' where there was a regular section allocated for IHIE news and publicity. These aspects coupled with active recruiting campaigns and events would hopefully lead to increased membership and vitality for the organisation.

BG thanked SS for the presentation.

**6. Chairman's Report**

(a) Chairman reported the following activities since the last AGM:-

**20 September 2006** – Seminar at Winchester 'Sustain and Gain – Go for Green' which was postponed from May attracted 53 delegates and, though low numbers attended the topic and organisation of the event was to our usual high standard. Despite low numbers, the event did not run at a financial loss.

**23 and 24 October 2006** – Two separate visits to the Highways Agency Regional Control Centre, Godstone. A total of 10 members and guests.

**25 October 2006** – Technical presentation 'Not Just Traffic signals – but also.....' from Siemens Traffic Controls Limited at Surrey CC NMIC, Leatherhead. A total of 25 members and guests.

**24 November 2005** – Wine & Wisdom. Annual charity fund raising event with 12 teams participating. A total revenue of £750 was donated to DebRA, a children's charity, the presentation taking place during the May 2007 seminar. Delegates – 96

**7 December 2006** – Just Another Day. An impactful Health & Safety presentation by Steven St. John of Ringway Limited at Midhurst, West Sussex – 15 delegates

**17 January 2007** – 'Chapter 8' 2006 edition update presentation by Branch Secretary to 85 delegates at Midhurst, West Sussex.

**28 February 2007** – 'Stepped concrete Barrier' Presentation by Dr. Bryan McGee of Britpave on the specification and installation of concrete barriers on Motorways and High Speed Dual Carriageways at Midhurst, West Sussex. - Delegates 18

**22 March 2007** – ‘Trackjet’ Technical Presentation and site demonstration by Ringway Specialists Treatments at their Dunsfold Aerodrome Centre, Surrey. Delegates - 25

**26 April 2007** – Presentation by Perseus Global on the Riegl Laser Scanner at Midhurst, West Sussex. Delegates – 20

**17 May 2007** – Winchester Seminar, ‘Fact or Friction’. Skid Resistance. Reverted to a low price of £50 to assist member attendance which produced over 90 delegates attending. A very successful event. Balance sheet not yet completed, but a very slight loss anticipated, however the objective of providing an educational but interesting seminar was achieved.

(b) The Chairman closed his report by thanking the Branch Committee for their efforts in arranging the number of attractive, professional and at times entertaining events on behalf of the Branch members. He also thanked The Stilwell Partnership for their continued sponsorship of the Branch and its activities.

(c) The Chairman concluded his report by thanking our Co-opted Committee Member, Peter Etheridge for his active and valuable support to the Branch over the previous several years both with regular events and more importantly the annual seminars. It was the unanimous wish of the Committee and supported by Council that Peter should be installed as an Honorary Fellow. The Vice President presented Peter with the Certificate of Fellowship together with a personal gift from the Committee. Peter suitably replied.

## 5. Treasurers Report

(a) On behalf of the Treasurer, Tony Suter presented the audited report which showed a healthy balance in the Seminar Account which, in turn, supported the Ordinary Account.

(b) Overall the Branch is self sufficient with adequate funds to underwrite the costs incurred in arranging events, such as refreshments, room charges and occasional speaker expenses, but we needed to maintain a watch on expenditure if revenue from Seminars reduced or the event yielded an operating loss..

(d) **Proposed by Grahame Bath, Seconded Gerald Cole** that the report be accepted. Agreed unanimously

## 6. Appointment of Auditors

Both auditors had indicated their willingness to remain in place and it was therefore **Proposed by Claire Read, Seconded Tony Suter** that they be re-appointed. Agreed unanimously.

## 7. Elections to Committee

Following his appointment as Honorary Fellow, PE was unanimously elected to serve on the Branch Committee.

## 8. Any Other Business

There was no other business. BG stood down as Branch Chairman and handed to Alison Coffey the incoming Branch Chairman, wishing her well for the future.

**Meeting closed and was followed by a Presentation by Ian Dussek OBE, with his Colleague Robin Wilson on the origin and work of the Honorable Company of Pavors, especially in maintaining the Highways Exhibition at the Amberley Museum.**