

Wessex Association of Driving Instructors

Minutes of the September 2023 Meeting

Held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 8:00pm at The Lamb Inn

Members present: Mike Palmer, Geoff Harvey, Dave Chance, Sandra Belton, Donna Williams, Andrew Holmes

Apologies: Pam West, Bridgit Hollister, Kate Andrews, Nicky Corke, Geoff Storey

Website Registration: If you have not done so, please use the following link to register on the website: <https://wessexdrivingschools.com/membership-join/membership-registration/>

Last Meeting

Minutes taken as read.

Matters arising:

Testi App:

Testi App does auto-book – One of Geoff's pupils auto-booked from Trowbridge to Chippenham!

Insurance:

Correction from Geoff: Insurance companies are NOT stopping fully comp holders from driving other cars third party.

Agenda for this meeting:

- Update on Trowbridge Test Availability
- Thoughts on a wider WhatsApp Group for Trowbridge Test Swapping
- Pedestrian priorities at junctions
- Learner Relay Donation in memory of Lou Walsh
- DVSA top 10 faults on test
- AOB

Trowbridge Test Availability

Mike spoke to Andy a to ask him if he had any influence on getting some predictability on when tests are made available at Trowbridge. He had a discussion with deployment. This is how it works: In the first week of each month, they open three months ahead. For example, this week they will open December in Trowbridge. They are slightly behind due to annual leave, etc. So in fact this week, they will be opening November and December. Begin checking Wednesday afternoon. Tests will be put on the latter part of the week. Then in the

first week of October, they will be putting on January, so begin checking from the first Wednesday of October. There was no indication that he could change things, but hopefully this information will help.

Alternatively, we could do what Geoff does and phone the DVSA to ask for new test bookings to be put on hold until tests are released. This usually works.

Trowbridge Test Swapping WhatsApp Group

The idea was to create a WhatsApp group wider than the Wessex group to include as many instructors as possible that use Trowbridge, to be used for swapping test.

A few concerns were raised:

1. Not sure about opening what could be regarded as an association benefit to a wider audience.
2. Data protection concerns of sharing pupil's details with other instructors.

Also, it was pointed out that the test swapping works fine at the moment with the Wessex WhatsApp group, so maybe we don't have a problem,

Conclusion: Let's not do it.

Pedestrian priorities at junctions

Just a bit of info as to how Alison interpreted this with one of my pupils. My pupil stopped to let pedestrians pass as how was exiting a mini roundabout (near Asda). Other cars were then held up blocking the roundabout. Alison gave him a minor and said that he should only stop for pedestrians when emerging onto a roundabout.

Learner Relay Donation in memory of Lou Walsh

Agreed that £50 would be a reasonable donation from the Association – Sandra to speak to Nicky on how to do this.

DVSA top 10 faults on test

Latest info from DVSA:

1. Not making effective observations at junctions.
2. Not using mirrors correctly when changing direction.
3. Not moving off safely.
4. Incorrect positioning when turning right at junctions.
5. Not having proper control of the steering.
6. Not responding appropriately to traffic lights.
7. Not responding correctly to traffic signs.
8. Poor positioning on the road during normal driving.
9. Not responding correctly to road markings.
10. Not keeping control of the vehicle during reverse parking.

Example of a steering fault – leaving it too late to turn around a parked car.

AOB:

Christmas Meal – 2nd December 8pm at the Milk Churn. Sandra to pay £100 deposit.

Geoff asked Is anyone using “Webinar - Using the multi-user theory test tool”? Answer: No.

DIA Conference: We forgot to discuss this and its next month! Those going please make arrangements with each other via WhatsApp or another means.

Meal at Water Meadow on Thursday 19th October at 7:30pm – Bridget to book

Water Meadow,
Verbena Court,
Melksham
SN12 7GG

<https://www.watermeadowpubmelksham.co.uk/>

Next meeting: Tuesday 7th November at 8pm at

The Lamb Inn,
127 Mortimer Street
Trowbridge
BA14 8BN

<https://www.lambinntrowbridge.co.uk/>

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

SIGNED.....

DATE.....