

Wessex Association of Driving Instructors

Minutes of the July meeting
Held on 13th July 2026 at West Wilts Conservative Club

Members present:

Dave Chance, Sandra Belton, Bridget Hollister, Geoff Harvey, Mike Donnally, Andrew Holmes, Justin Snell-McLellan, Charlie Johnston-Osgood, Neil Crook, Matt Czerwinski.

Apologies:

Kate Andrews

Guests:

Justin introduced Danni Coleman, who gave a brief background, including that she is no longer franchised to 'Drive' and is now independent. After we all introduced ourselves to Danni, she became a full member during the meeting. Danni will let Mike Palmer have her details in order to be included on the Wessex website.

Minutes of the Last Business Meeting:

These were read by the secretary.

Matters arising:

The 2026 DIA Conference. The two locations were mentioned and our obvious choice is, assuming we attend, the Reading meeting on December 11th. Seven member expressed positive interest and two will consider. Therefore discussion on accommodation became relevant, with several hotels being close enough to be of interest. The conference venue, whilst obviously convenient appeared to initially quote £383pppn. Bridget, fancying a swanky hotel with a pool and gym, had done her homework and she and others got this down to a basic £99 not including breakfast. Several positive expressions of interest were made. Bridget therefore asked interested members to book both the conference and accommodation and to advise her once done.

The ADINJC Conference was also discussed, but no expressions of interest in attending were made.

Sandra advised that Geoff Storey has recently suffered a serious health problem and had decided to retire with immediate effect. She proposed that our next social meeting should be a retirement gathering for Geoff, which was agreed and donations were made toward a suitable present. Sandra was confident that Geoff will be well enough to attend.

Bridget Produced a Plan of the Longfield Roundabout which she has received from the Council. However, there is some doubt that once finished it will be exactly as it appears on that map.

There were the usual 'unstructured' exchanges which could not be captured for these minutes, so if I have missed anything of note, I apologise.

Next Meeting:

Social. Thursday 13th August 7.30pm Red Admiral, Hilperton. (Geoff's retirement do).

Business. Monday 14th September 7.30pm, West Wilts Cons Club,

Meeting closed 9.06pm