



Little Owl Farm, Halebourne Lane, Chobham, Surrey GU24 8SL

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Members Meeting

Wednesday 9 June 2021 at 10:30 - Via ZOOM

Present

Stephen Telling	UKCOA Chairman
Amy Baker-McCormack	Leoline Travel
Richard Bamber	Anthony's Travel
Andrew Bassom	Golden Tours
Jim Baxter	London Pullman
Peter Bibby	Bibby's of Ingleton
Peter Bradley	Managing Director – UKCOA
Jamie Brown	Princess Coaches
Alan Cooper	Coopers Tours
Blaine Betts	Coopers Tours
Darren Curd	Wrightsure
Judy Dale	Royale European
Peter Evans	MET Coaches
Paul Flisher	Ready Tours Ltd
Charlotte Griffiths	South Mimms Travel
Nathan Hadley	Prospect Coaches
Tina Hailstone	Hailstone Travel
Paul Harnden	Chauffer Hire Coaches
Julie Hartley	Irizar
Gemma Hoare	Bluebird Coaches
Mel Holley	ITT Hub
Iilir Hoxha	Big Ben Coaches
David Hull	Wrightsure
Ian Jones	Backhouse Jones
Laura Li	Membership and Administration Officer -UKCOA
Anthony Marett	Marett's Chariots
Rob Marriott	Bayliss Executive Travel
Richard Matthews	Princess Coaches
Chris Mobbs	Dawson Group Bus and Coach
Darren Nash	Falcon Coaches (Hertfordshire)
Andy Palmer	A Palmer Associates
Sanjay Patel	Mazza Coaches
Mark Peace	Cheney Coaches

Sarah Reilly	Bliss Travel
Peter Rice	Southgate and Finchley Coaches
Elaine Scrivens	Southgate and Finchley Coaches
Val Sheppard-Evans	Longmynd Travel
Stephen Spiller	Centurion Travel
Ceri Taylor	Applegates Coaches
Richard Telling	Falcon Travel (Surrey)
Ivan Thomas	Edward Thomas and Son
Jackie Thomas	Edward Thomas and Son
Robert Whelan	Corbel of London
Simon Wood	Alexander Dennis
Kevin Wilde	Mitcham Belle
Andy Wing	Golden Boy Coaches

1. Apologies for Absence

These were received from:

Mark Ballam	Alexander Dennis
David Blake	Blakes Coaches
Andrew Blundell	Irizar
Peter Brown	Princess Coaches
Del Haggarty	DH Team Ltd
Terry McIntyre	Golden Boy Coaches

2. Minutes of last meeting 26 May 2021, and any Matters Arising

Minutes agreed with no amendments. No matters arising.

3. Dates and Topics

Peter Bradley suggested moving meetings back to every month now things are getting busier. **Julie Hartley** thought monthly meetings would be fine, but frequency should be reviewed if we go into lockdown again. If you have any concerns, please let Peter know. **Stephen Telling** stated that as well as the AGM there would be one other annual meeting where we would all come together, not just in London, perhaps in the Midlands.

Sarah Bell, Traffic Commissioner for London and the South East will speak at the July meeting on a number of topics including s19 and 22. Please let Peter know if there is anything else you would like her to talk about. Future suggested topics are DVSA on earned recognition and HMRC about employment law. Please let Peter know if you have any other suggestions.

Andrew Blundell from Irizar was unable to present today due to illness. We hope to see him in the autumn.

Ian Jones from Backhouse Jones mentioned that Sarah Bell was a guest on his firm's podcast Women Torque Back and very forthcoming about her life as a Traffic Commissioner. If you would like to have a listen, the [podcast](#) is just under an hour long.

Stephen Telling encouraged everyone to attend if possible. Sarah's presentation will be relevant for everybody (not just London operators) and will give a flavour of how you can initiate a conversation with the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

Ian also put forward **Julia Davies**, the Brand Manager at Backhouse Jones to talk about marketing. He will send a short video to give an idea of the presentation to Peter.

4. **Membership and Industry Partners**

- Membership Drive

Stephen Telling was pleased to announce **Peter Evans from MET** has joined us as a new member.

5. **Operational and Compliance update**

Peter Bradley will send out details of how to access the Backhouse Jones Backup website and how it works by the end of the month. Please contact Peter, **Stephen Telling or Laura Li** with any queries.

Ian Jones explained that access to the website starts at £75 a month (up to 10 vehicles) and gives you access to compliance and HR advice 24/7. Even if you are not subscribed to the website and you need help give **Backhouse Jones** a call anyway to see if they can help.

6. **ITT Hub – Tomorrow's Transport Today – 30 June and 1 July – Farnborough International Exhibition and Conference Centre**

Stephen Telling thanked **Paul Sainthouse from Dawson Rentals** and **Mark Griffin of Binswood Media**. Paul has lent us a brand-new coach, fitted out with the UKCOA logo, which will be the centrepiece of the show.

Peter Bradley stated that this will probably be the only big transport event this year. It will give an insight into what is coming in terms of future technology and will be a great networking opportunity. You can also meet Peter who will be there both days and **Laura Li** who will be there on 30 June. **Backhouse Jones** and **Wrightsure** both have stands.

Peter encouraged everyone to attend and will send out the exhibition details again.

7. **Nationwide Coach Campaign**

In **Mark Anderson's** absence **Stephen Telling** reported that this was discussed at yesterday's Board Meeting. There was still concern that the campaign focuses solely on the tourism and leisure sectors.

There was a broad range of views amongst the membership:

- The membership fee (minimum £950) is good value;
- The membership fee is a waste of money;
- A national campaign could be too complicated;
- Local advertising works well - no benefit from national exposure;
- Don't want to fund something that will benefit brokers;
- Concern around the differing subscription amounts and levels of coverage.

Candice Mason will be invited to a Special Board Meeting where the Board will represent the membership properly and see where we can influence the campaign. If you have any other points please contact **Peter Bradley or Laura Li**.

8. **Coach event for the NHS**

Andy Palmer reported that he wrote to his contact at Epsom and St Helier NHS trust and will follow up at the weekend if he hasn't heard back by then. Details of the proposal were also sent to **Anthony Marett's** local MP, Duncan Baker, who is a colleague of the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock. Andy is setting up a meeting with Duncan Baker and Anthony to discuss possible ways forward.

9. **PSVAR update from DfT / Independent Schools' Bursars Association**

Peter Bradley reported that he had literally just received an email inviting him to a meeting with the DfT on Monday morning. They are also meeting separately with CPT and RHA. **Stephen Telling** was concerned that we convince the government and DfT that we are willing to comply with rules that make sense given that the regulations are now 20 years old and coming up for review.

Peter Evans asked if a letter could be drafted to go to all schools to explain that rates need to go up due to the combined effects of the pandemic, the extension of ULEZ to the M25 and Euro 6 requirements. Stephen Telling said a letter could be drafted to go from individual operators rather than UKCOA.

10. **Any Other Business**

The Board received a presentation from **Andrew Day from Wrightsure** about bonded holidays. Please let **Peter Bradley** know if you would like a seminar on the new idea Wrightsure has to help this situation. Peter will send a note out in the next few days. We want to represent you so please do reply, even if it is no.

The DfT will also be meeting with CPT and RHA. It sends a powerful message to have three similar (but not identical) views being put forward.

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

- Wednesday 14 July 2021 at 10:30 - Presentation by **Sarah Bell, Traffic Commissioner for London and the South East**