

ROAD HAULAGE ASSOCIATION LTD

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MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE RHA'S LIVESTOCK & MILK  
HAULIERS GROUP TO BE HELD OLD ENGLAND HOTEL WINDERMERE 13TH  
MARCH 2015 PM

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**Present:**

List Appendix 1

**In Attendance:**

R Engley  
J Semple  
S Biddle

RHA  
RHA  
RHA

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**2293. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Ian Murrie, Ronald Davidson

**2294. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and circulated under reference RHA/LS&M/2167 were agreed as a true record and were signed off by the Chairman. It was stressed that this meeting was an open meeting to all members plus invitees specifically to discuss the ongoing driver shortage and possible solutions within the LS&M sectors.

**2295. MATTERS ARISING**

Member registered the fact that washouts were still an issue and requested that the RHA follow-up and try to pressurise abattoirs – RHA to request a meeting with BMPA

## **2296. UPDATE ON CURRENT ISSUES – LIVESTOCK**

After debating it was decided that the RHA on behalf of the livestock sector would write to the Chief Veterinary Officer highlighting the concerns of group members and report back at the next meeting.

Brief debate ensued around what a standard wash facility would look like

EU Food and Veterinary Office FVO are keen to standardise livestock competency training across Europe – RHA members believe we already have this as part of the periodic training requirements for drivers – it just needs to be certificated. We need to press DEFRA for some understanding of where they stand on this issue. Currently Europe fails to recognise the UK scheme.

Concern voiced by limited members over the standard and ability of some inspectors for inspecting for Type 1 & 2 Authorisations.

Some member confirmed they may well opt for use of domestic driving hours now the 100km rule has been introduced for short journeys as a possible means of extending driver hours availability – members should note if considering this option that when mixed driving takes place once in scope driving is undertaken drivers cannot revert back to domestic hours for the remainder of the week.

Would consideration be given to the licencing of markets as collection centres; an issue for DEFRA to answer – but progress is unexpected.

The question was raised in connection with the legality of fully enclosed livestock vehicles and whether or not they met the existing specification requirements.

It was asked what the industry could expect to see from Europe on livestock haulage over the next 5 years, based on the past 3 / 4 years progress it is not anticipated much will change.

Group members were advised the RHA would investigate the possibility of establishing a Primary Authority Partnership with Staffordshire CC. the benefits being one interpretation of the rules across England – RHA to report back on progress at the next meeting.

## **2297. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Members again voiced their concern that the new tractor weights and speeds would be abused by farmers, it was recommended that members report any individuals they believed to be breaking the rules – they were also advised of the further weight increase proposal following the 2016 harvest for operators voluntarily undertaking annual brake testing...

**2298. BENEVOLENT FUND**

The Chairman again reminded the group of the good work conducted by the Benevolent Fund and asked that they support the fund whenever and whenever possible, particularly at the upcoming Agricon auction and raffle.

**2299. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 05 August 15 at the premises of APHA, Woodham Lane, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB.

**2300. CONFIDENTIALITY**

The Chairman reminded members that the proceedings and minutes of the meeting were confidential and that permission should be sought before making any disclosures.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_