



WEST HAMPSHIRE CENTRE - FOCUS

Committee meeting held on 13 November 2024

via 'Teams platform'

- I had a technology hampered meeting with 12 committee members attending.
- The minutes were approved for the meeting held on 09 October 2024.
- **Come and Join Us – We always welcome new rally officers (please contact our Rally Secretary or any other committee member if you are interested).**

FIRE SAFETY

- A major discussion took place regarding **Fire Safety** as this had been raised at the AGM. The method used to raise the alarm in the event of a fire was the central point of discussion.
 - The present West Hant's rule is that in the event of discovering a fire we should sound a continuous blast on a car horn.
 - This was now considered to be an inappropriate method for raising the alarm for several reasons!
 - Most Cars are self-locking and need keys to access
 - Most cars require the ignition to be turned on to operate the horn
 - Many people are conditioned to ignore car alarms/horns sounding as this is often a false alarm.
 - Many members now have Motorhomes so sounding the horn when the vehicle is on fire is not practical.
 - We now have experienced Emergency Services Staff in our team, and they have recommended that we should adopt Whistles as our primary alarm/evacuation signal.

MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT

1. **We are adopting Whistles as our Primary Alarm signal.**
2. Whistles will be supplied in Rally Kits and placed with the Centre Fire Extinguishers by the Flagpole/Feather Banner.
3. **We strongly recommend / ask that all members carry whistles** and have them readily available to use in the event of a fire.
4. Whistles are inexpensive and readily available from sports shops and on-line.
5. **The Alarm Signal is Sharp Intermittent Blasts on the Whistle.**

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