



**Notes of the Midlands Regional Group Meeting
Held on: 30 November 2016
At: Sandwell Park Farm, Salter's Lane BBG**

1.	<p>Welcome, apologies and Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>Anjna Patel welcomes everyone to the meeting and introduced Rebecca Harper as the new Membership and Events Officer (contactable on rebecca.h@britishparking.co.uk). Apologies from Joanne Howell and Steve Brown</p> <p>The results of the election of new vice president were revealed and Liz Davison was appointed – Birmingham City Council. Congratulations</p> <p>Rebecca Harper spoke briefly regarding the BPA charity Marie curie that has been selected until 2019. The BPA have contributed to already raising £1,111.12.</p> <p>Signed in Attendees: Anjna Patel (Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council), Liz Davison (Birmingham City Council), Rebecca Harper (BPA), Deborah Binder (Wolverhampton City Council), Peter Brookes (Walsall M.B Council), Jaz Chahal (APCOA), Steve Cooksey (Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council), Graham Footer (DMUK), Ian Gamble (Newlyn PLC), Phil Grant (Harborough District Council), Glynnis Jeavons (Walsall M.B Council), Helen Jones (Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council), Paul Kyte (Bristow & Sutor), Graeme Middleton (Cemplas), Richard Ofield (Park Consult Limited), Harjinder Sidhu (APCOA), Natalia Silverstone (Pod-Point), Laura Smith (Rundle & Co Ltd), Jennie Timmins (Walsall M.B Council), Yvette Widdowfield (NSL Limited), Jackie Sarson (Liberty), Angela Steward (Equita)</p>
2.	<p>Updates from the DVLA Focus Group and Enforcement</p> <p>DLVA Focus Group update by Glynnis Jeavons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DVLA will continue to hold two of these focus groups a year – one in the spring and one in autumn.• The matter of DVLA Audits was brought up, of which there will be new guidance produced by February 2017. Larger authorities will be audited more, if you received a low score in the previous year, again you will be audited more but if you received a good score the previous year you will be audited less.• The next meeting will be held in March 2017.• A useful blog on digital transformation can be fore at: https://gds.blog.gov.uk/ <p>An enforcement update by Paul Kyte to be scheduled for future meetings</p>
2.	<p>BPA Updates</p> <p>Following an organisational restructure, the BPA team will be focusing on innovation and continuous improvement. This will include the introduction of dedicated account managers for each of the BPA membership groups, details of which will be circulated shortly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members are entitled to 30 minutes free legal advice. Contact bpa@jmw.co.uk for more information• POPLA appeals are currently averaging 35/65 in favour of the motorist• A list of the consultations the BPA has submitted can be found here: http://www.britishparking.co.uk/Consultations• The “Parking Bulletin” focused on a PCN pilot scheme taking place in Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. They are providing a 25% discount to motorists who lose their appeal at the Traffic Penalty Tribunal (TPT) stage of the PCN process. The scheme will be reviewed in January 2017• The BPA wants to hear from you on how membership services can be developed and improved to serve you better membership@britishparking.co.uk• Reminder about Parkex/Traffex on 4th – 6th April

	<p>If you have any questions following the BPA update or related to the BPA events offering, please email Rebecca Harper – Membership and Events Officer: rebecca.h@britishparking.co.uk</p> <p>A copy of the full update presentation is attached with these notes.</p>
3.	<p>Disabled Parking Accreditation by Graham Footer (DMUK)</p> <p>Launched in 2014, the DPA scheme is open to councils and private operators alike and aims to start a dialog with operators around their legal obligation to provide appropriate facilities for disabled people.</p> <p>Some of the DPA criteria includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible bays • Enforcement • Accessible entry and exits • Clear signage • Accessible routes • Appropriate lighting • Accessible payment machines • Concessions <p>If you would like more information on the scheme, please contact DMUK on: info@disabledmotoring.org</p> <p>This presentation is available on http://britishparking.co.uk/Meeting-Notes</p>
4.	<p>Electric and Ultra low Emission Vehicles – Prediction for market growth and use of charging points by Natalia Silverstone (Pod-Point)</p> <p>The electric vehicle market has grown at an exponential rate of 50% each year. It is predicted that 6% of all cars in the UK will be electric by 2020. Implementation of the charging infrastructure required to support these vehicles in where Pod-Point comes in.</p> <p>The benefits of providing EV charging include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling the take up of electric vehicles – drivers of electric vehicles tend to be loyal customers. If they know you offer a charge point they will keep coming back • Improve your service – brand awareness opportunity at various consumer touch points inkling the charge station itself and the app based booking system. • Create a new revenue stream – Place a tariff on your charge points • Improve sustainability – contributing to lower emissions <p>For further information, please contact Natalia on: natalia.silverstone@pod-point.com</p> <p>This presentation is available on http://britishparking.co.uk/Meeting-Notes</p>
5.	<p>Winter is coming – presentation by Graeme Middleton (Cemplas)</p> <p>Graeme presented on behalf of the BPA’s Structures and Asset Management college and discussed the importance of maintaining car park structures and surfaces, particularly during the winter months and highlighted the implications of not having a proper life care plan in place.</p> <p>This presentation is available on http://britishparking.co.uk/Meeting-Notes</p>
5.	<p>Review of the year by the BPA President</p> <p>Steve sent his apologies and will attend the next meeting</p>
6.	<p>How was 2016 for you and what’s in store for 2017 – Group discussion</p> <p>First there was some feedback on 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkex 2016 was very good. The venue was excellent – central and not in London which was seen as a bonus. Great networking opportunity. • Anjna highlighted that there had been a good level of media coverage surrounding parking. Good

	<p>or bad, there has been a clear focus around the activities of the parking industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCLGs introduction of the grace period has not been welcomed • Legislation and policy changes/ updates have not moved forward enough in 2016. Everything feels as though it has stalled. Specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy surrounding LA's and their use of AMPR – will include in the notes I send out to members that they can contact Lawline for some advice on this. ○ No update on Moving Traffic Contravention – relates to TMA part 6 <p>Looking ahead to 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given that Parkex is a joint event with Traffex this year, it was emphasised that there needs to be a clear distinction between the two. • Sticking with Parkex, it was also suggested that there is Marie Curie presence at each stand. Badges should also be larger and clearer. • How will leaving the EU impact the industry? Will we honour blue badges from EU countries? • Further tightening of budgets for LA's. Without further grants, how will they keep up with the digital age?
AOB	<p>From Liz Davison, Birmingham City Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am reviewing and re-drafting the Birmingham Parking Policy. I would appreciate if it could be raised and to ascertain if anyone else is doing, done or about to do their parking policy in the hope that we can share some good practise, maybe even organise a meeting/workshop to discuss; 2. I am doing the same with the SPD – Car Parking Guidelines and Car Park Design Standards – so the same would be appreciated; 3. As part of the Parking Policy review we are developing a revised parking scheme consultation approach. Therefore we would also appreciate information on LAs approach to consultations of parking schemes. <p>If you have any information to offer up to Liz on the points raised above, please email Rebecca Harper at: rebecca.h@britishparking.co.uk who will be more than happy to pass this onto Liz.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed.</p>