

27th Aug 2024 Committee Meeting on Zoom at 18.30



Present: Steve Cownley (M0RQD) – Chair
Mark Mearns (M0LXQ) - Treasurer
Roger Wilkins (G8NHG) – Secretary
Rod Angel (G4ZUP)
Chris Flux (G7IVF)
Damiano Cirelli (M1NCR)
Mike Reaney (M0IES)

Apologies: none

Onlookers: John Navin (M7OPD), Bill Appleton (KF4MCG), Joylon Menhinick (G6TRE), Chris Westlotorn (M7DDY), Bob Koscinski (KO4DXQ),

- Minutes of the last meeting; previously circulated with no comments, accepted as true.
- Matters arising: none

Managers' Reports:-

Treasurer's report – Mark Mearns

MM reported that we have £3231.50 in the Santander current account.

Warren Payne won the pump-up mast auction and has paid.

DC has been reimbursed for various items he purchased for the Club.

The Committee agreed with John Navin's proposal that he be reimbursed for his work installing the new HF vertical with some of the materials currently on the shack roof.

The situation with Santander remains unhelpful; MM can only get into the account by pretending to be SC and the two people we wanted removed from accessing the account are still there. It was re-agreed that we should proceed with opening a NatWest account. RW is to approach Mark Grant who works for NatWest to see if he could lubricate our application.

RW reported after the meeting that the current membership stands at 57.

Webmaster's report – Steve Cownley

SC took the Committee through the website stats, the headline figures being 228 browsers in the last month with an average dwell time of 3m 16secs.

Communications – unfilled role.

SC still to contact Jolyon Menhinick (G6RTE) to see if his circumstances have eased sufficiently for him to re-consider a partial role in communications.

Joly has been to sea and is still to be approached.

RA has written a piece for RadCom re our contribution at the Cowes Enterprise College Science Fair and the BBQ held for the Newbury Radio Club IOTA squad.

SC reported that the Club details remain incorrect at the RSGB [subsequently corrected].

Training – Mike Reaney

MR reported that they have one foundation candidate and one intermediate candidates in training..

Compliance – Rod Angel

Lizzie Clothier, the Club's safeguarding officer, has not renewed her membership and remains out of contact. A good-bye letter to be sent to LC and a welcome letter to be sent to Linda Wilkins who has agreed to become our Safeguarding Officer,

Events – Chris Flux

The IoW JOTA event has been cancelled.

The Bembridge Lifeboat day was postponed due to a poor weather forecast.

CF took the Committee through the calendar of forthcoming events:-

- The next RSGB 80m contest series begins in September where we will use CW and Data as well as SSB. The first round dates are SSB on Sept 2nd, CW on Sept 11th and DATA on 26th Sept.
- ROTA - 28th/29th Sept, the Club to participate as last year. CF to liaise with the railway people.
- The RSGB HF SSB Field Day contest is running from 13:00 on Sat 7th to 13:00 the following day.

CF agreed to create a spreadsheet of possible/probable events to go on the website.

Facilities – Damiano Cirelli

The second HF station is now assembled and ready for use.

DC has acquired the nanoVNA and some tools for the shack as previously agreed.

DC agreed to recommend a shed, 5 headphones and 1 headset for purchase by SC on the Club card. DC noted that we already have 3 sets of headphones.

AOB:-

The IoW Aviation Museum at Sandown Airport has agreed to give the Club a talk on Black Knight and the Prospero satellite on Oct 11th in return for a talk from us.

The Sandown repeater is progressing well. SC reported that all the parts have been assembled and the antenna will be ready by Sept 6th. The repeater should be in-service during the following week.

We have had an offer of a talk re HF DXing by Tom Morgan, ZS1AFS who will be visiting the Club on Sept 20th - offer accepted.

eQSL cards were previously discussed and it was agreed to progress a design. RW still to assemble a set of criteria.

There has been a proposal to run a monthly Saturday HF net to replace the previous poorly attended Wednesday shack night. Actual details to be agreed after discussions with the Membership.

RW suggested that articles published by Members in recognised journals should be featured on the website.

- ◆◆◆◆ The previous minutes under the Facilities section included "SC still has to contact Haylands management to clarify our tenure". This meeting has now taken place and reported informally. However its outcome was not discussed at this Committee Meeting. The following is a brief summary of that meeting with Haylands as reported by SC:-

Following the meeting with Nicola from Haylands the following was agreed.

While the club pays rent, it is in fact for the shack and not the hall. Haylands are happy that we can continue to use the hall provided that there are no bookings for it, with no extra charge and the understanding that we will need to vacate the hall if there is a booking.

They also acknowledge that they haven't increased the rent and there are no immediate plans to do so due to the state of the building. However, they are looking at cladding the building which may also provide the opportunity to upgrade the internals, although there are no issues with that currently. It has also been agreed that we can put a shed or storage container outside the shack.

Date of the next formal Committee meeting – Monday 30th September at 18:30 via Zoom.

Roger Wilkins, Secretary 30th Aug 2024