

28th Oct 2024 Committee Meeting on Zoom at 18.30



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

Apologies: Chris Flux (G7IVF)
Onlookers: Bill Appleton (KF4MCG), George Powell (2E0IYO)

- Minutes of the last meeting; previously circulated, accepted as true.
- Matters arising: none

Managers' Reports:-

Treasurer's report – Mark Mearns

MM reported that there have been no big changes to our finances and we have £2898.11 in the Santander current account.

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. The Committee agreed that MM would open a Club account with Lloyds and close the Santander account.

[RW reported after the meeting that the current membership stands at 58.]

Webmaster's report – Steve Cownley

SC took the Committee through the website stats that remain fairly static. The average dwell time is now 2m 33secs, up from last months 2m 4secs.

Communications – unfilled role.

RA submitted two pieces to RadCom re our contribution at the Cowes Enterprise College Science Fair and the BBQ held for the Newbury Radio Club IOTA squad. RadCom published the piece about Cowes Enterprise College in the latest RadCom.

Training – Mike Reaney

MR reported that Mark Lockwood has passed his Foundation and has embarked on the Intermediate level. His call sign is M7HHN.

Mark Grant (M7GGI) is continuing with his Intermediate level learning.

Compliance – Rod Angel

Nothing to report.

Events – Chris Flux

The IoW JOTA event went ahead supported by Club Members.

CF sent in a list of events for consideration by the Committee. It will be posted on the website.

SC reported a conversation with the Lizard Radio Club who are organising a special events activity marking the 150th anniversary of Marconi's first radio link between Alum Bay and The Lizard (23rd Jan 2025). The Committee agreed to take part in the event and will reserve a special events call sign with Ofcom. Further discussions with the Lizard Club to be held.

Facilities – Damiano Cirelli

DC has identified a 7' x 5' shed with base so that SC could place the order and arrange delivery. The site requires further preparation and SC has arranged for two contractors to offer quotations for clearing and prepping the site. .

DC had previously pointed out that the Club has a number of PSU's too feeble to drive a transceiver, so surplus to requirement. The Committee agreed to an offer from John Navin (2E0OPD) who has yet to collect them.

After some discussion, the Committee agreed to purchase an additional auto ATU for use with the HF vertical. The CG3000 was purchased during the meeting.

AOB:-

AOB carried over - *Haylands* - a recent email (19th Sept) from Jo Freeman, the Accounts Officer at Haylands has changed our understanding of our tenure. We pay for one meeting in the Club shack and get the free use of the main hall. Any further meetings at the shack must be paid for. Our occasional presence beyond Friday evenings does not constitute a meeting, but that leaves a grey area. SC to further clarify.

AOB carried over - *e-qsl cards*; RW had agreed to generate a spec of a Club eQSL card to allow Club Members to offer designs. There being so little interest from the Members, RW has created a design.

DC has also created a design for the recent JOTA.

SC to demonstrate how the card design(s) are loaded onto the eQSL platform.

AOB carried over - *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. No interest from the Members.*

AOB carried over - *RW suggested that articles published by Members in recognised journals should be featured on the website.*

The Committee had agreed to start a Club project that would build and operate a station capable of using the QO-100 geostationary satellite. There was a kick-off meeting at the Club on the 25th to outline the requirements. RA demonstrated the downlink using the on-line Goonhilly SDR. Further meetings to be held.

The Heckington Initiative - published in the Nov 2024 RadCom, it describes how the Heckington & District Radio Group successfully met the challenge of attracting younger members. The article had been previously circulated to the Committee and a discussion was held regarding its key points. It was agreed that we should give positive consideration to adopting the Heckington methods via an ad-hoc Committee Meeting.

A Christmas lunch menu from The Bargeman's Rest had been circulated to the Committee. It was agreed that we should book for 28 people for a Club Christmas lunch on Saturday 14th Dec. The Club would pay the £10/head deposit required to secure the booking. RW and SC to organise. The menu and options booking form to be circulated, to be completed by 16th Nov.

The recent JOTA at Corf Camp reminded the Committee of an earlier plan to permanently install aerials at Corf Camp. Tim Fallick (G4FYI) to be approached regarding the proposal.

Additional financial support for the GB3IOW Group was proposed in recognition of the Sandown Repeater extension. It was agreed that the Club should donate £300 per year to the Repeater Group. MM to organise.

Date of the next formal Committee meeting – Sunday 24th November at 18:30 via Zoom.

Roger Wilkins, Secretary 2nd Oct 2024