

2nd Feb 2025 Committee Meeting on Zoom at 18.30



Present: Steve Cownley (M0RQD) – Chairman
Roger Wilkins (G8NHG) – Secretary
Rod Angel (G4ZUP)
Damiano Cirelli (M1NCR)
Chris Flux (G7IVF)
Mike Reaney (M0IES)

Onlookers: Bill Appleton (KF4MCG), Chris Westlotorn (M7DDY), George Powell (2E0IYO).

Apologies: Mark Mearns

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

Managers' Reports:-

Treasurer's report – Mark Mearns

Due to a unexpected situation, MM was unable to attend, but sent in a brief financial summary:-

The balance of the current account is £1646.83.

Major payments since 1st Jan are Haylands (£360) and Sydenhams (£65.88).

The next rent for Haylands is paid to 31st March.

As we know, weekly collections have been quite low, but are supplemented by MR's monthly subscription and G4FYI's online payments on weeks he attends.

The issue with the Santander account and our need to remove the previous Chairman and Treasurer from the account is still outstanding.

RW reported that the current membership remains at 69.

Webmaster's report – Steve Cownley

SC took the Committee through the website stats that show little change.

The average dwell time is now 2m 39secs, up from December's 1m 52secs.

The Club Friday morning 4m net to be added to our website.

Communications – unfilled role.

John Earley had sent an email to several members regarding a Scout Communications Badge event being held on Feb 4th in Cowes. Three Members are supporting this event in a personal capacity.

Several Club Members traveled to the mainland for an extended breakfast meeting with some of our off-Island Members. This was paid for by Bill Appleton (KF4MCG) and the Committee thank him for his generous contribution. This could be something for RadCom.

Training – Mike Reaney

David Barratt has achieved his Foundation licence, M7HSD - well done David.

There are three Intermediate candidates in training and one Full licence person being assisted.

Dave Downer will be off-line for a few weeks due to a knee operation - the Committee wishes him a speedy recovery.

MR mentioned the requirement for all Committee Members to re view the risk assessment video. SC tasked that anyone who have not yet done the refresher should do so within the week and update MR.

Compliance – Rod Angel

RA reminded the Committee that the annual Safeguarding update is due; to be arranged through John Early.

The AGM is due in April and RA reminded the Committee about the timescales and how the various Members stand regarding their tenure. It was agreed that the AGM will be on Friday April 25th. RA will re-stand for Compliance and SC will re-stand as Webmaster. RA will create a timeline plan for all the steps leading up to the AGM.

Events – Chris Flux

CF updated the Committee regarding forthcoming events.

The RSGB 80m contest series re-starts on 3rd Feb with the ssb event followed by the data event on Feb 12th.

The POTA activity was discussed again regarding a demonstration session at the Club and an off-site session at Fort Victoria in February.

Facilities – Damiano Cirelli

SC reported on progress regarding the shed; the hole has been dug and the hard core is expected to be laid on Wednesday 5th. The shed to be erected by the end of February.

RA is fabricating two support brackets for the ATU, to be installed early in February.

DC updated the Committee regarding the geosat Club project - he now has all the materials for the receive part except some cables and a tripod dish mount. Funding for the parts is coming from the recent sale of the high caliber receiver. The system is expected to receive its first signals in February.

DC has begun to plan the re-organisation of the shack pending the erection of the shed.

SC proposed that the Club buys the software to enable user profiles to be stored and recalled for the DX10 - the Committee agreed.

DC proposed that we found a way of creating local, editable, forwardable eQSL cards. SC agreed to find a way.

AOB:-

AOB carried over - e-qsl cards; RW has created a design.

SC to help load the design onto the eQSL platform on 17th Jan Club meeting. Completed

AOB carried over - *RW suggested that articles published by Members in recognised journals should be featured on the website. SC to receive appropriate information. Completed*

AOB carried over - *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. It was agreed the we should give positive consideration to adopting the Heckligton methods via an ad-hoc Committee Meeting still to be arranged.*

AOB - Bembridge Fort; this facility is now owned by an IoW interest group headed by Tim Wander. The Committee has expressed an interest in installing radio equipment at the Fort. SC visited the Fort with Tim Wander on Jan 9th to discuss the possibilities that are looking good. The Repeater Group plan is to move GB3IW from Newport Golf Club to Bembridge Fort and to move G3RQD from Sandown Airport out to Alum Bay. SC showed the Committee various coverage predictions that looked very encouraging.

Date of the next formal Committee meeting – Sunday 2nd March at 18:30 via Zoom.

Roger Wilkins, Secretary 4th Feb 2025