

2nd Mar 2025 Committee Meeting on Zoom at 18.30



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

Onlookers: George Powell (2E0IYO), Jolyon Menhinick (G6RTE)

Apologies: Mike Reaney (M0IES)

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

Managers' Reports:-

Treasurer's report – Mark Mearns

MM reported that the shed has cost £610 so far with some minor expenditure still to be made. The costs have been carried by the recent sale of a receiver from which there is still £329 in surplus.

There is £1120 in the cash account, excluding the £329.

The AGM is scheduled for April 25th and the accounts need to be made up and next years budget needs to be assembled. SC offered to find someone to audit the accounts.

The committee agreed to build next years budget at an afternoon session at the shack, Friday 28th March starting at 15:00.

RW reported that the current membership remains at 61. This figure is corrected as a result of comparisons of the various lists of members in preparation for the AGM.

Webmaster's report – Steve Cownley

SC took the Committee through the website stats showing a dip in the number of users, which is in line with last February's stats.

The average dwell time is now 2m 33secs, little changed from January's 2m 39secs.

The domain needs to be renewed shortly and after a bit of discussion, it was agreed to stay with the current supplier.

Further tweaks to the website are planned and it was decided to add a brief summary plus photos of each Friday evening's activity.

Communications – unfilled role.

SC has been invited to join a show on Vectis Radio to talk about the Club.

This will take place on Friday March 28th starting at 18:00. Excellent publicity for the Club.

Training – Mike Reaney

MR had sent in a brief report:-

Dave Downer progressing well & considering some at home training.

3 Intermediate candidates ready for Dave's return + 1 possible future person with interest.

1 Foundation candidate when he confirms availability.

1 self training candidate for Full licence in contact with training members.

All but 1 committee member have informed me by email that they have refreshed themselves with Rod's excellent video on risk assessment.

Compliance – Rod Angel

The AGM is scheduled for Friday 25th of April.

RA showed the Committee a time plan for the AGM preparation and will circulate the plan to Committee Members.

After some discussion, the Committee agreed to send out all the AGM obligatory communications by e-mail instead of by 1st class post. The Membership will be advised in advance of the change.

Events – Chris Flux

CF reported that 2 logs were submitted to the RSGB regarding the 80m ssb contest on the 3rd of February - the big one was rejected, so we are not well placed. The second round is on 27th March.

Marconi Day is on Saturday April 26th and the Needles Park has agreed for us to set up a station either outside, or inside if the weather is poor. It was agreed that the base risk register covers this event.

Facilities – Damiano Cirelli

The shed now has a base and walls, but no roof yet. It is expected to be completed on March 5th. However, some additional work is required to anchor the shed down to its base, secure the earth sidewalls and obtain a couple of pallets as flooring. RA will up-issue the plan [now done].

DC reported that he has found a buyer for the AOR Spectrum display box for £500.

The Club has a Kenwood TS2000 radio with an intermittent fault, The plan is for DC to fix the radio and put it up for sale at about £600.

The Committee agreed to sell the 2 axis beam rotator.

DC has purchased the software that enables DX10 users to save their profiles.

AOB:-

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 carried over - 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 6th April at 18:30 via Zoom.

Roger Wilkins, Secretary 3rd Mar 2025