



Radio Society of Great Britain
Repeater Management Committee
Minutes of Meeting 20th May 2006
Held At Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel

Present

John McCullagh	GI4BWM	RMC Chairman
Andrew Barrett	G8DOR	South & South West England Regional Manager
Mark Lewis	GW7KDU	Wales Regional Manager/Secretary
Bill Mahoney	G3TZM	West Midlands Regional Manager
Graham Shirville	G3VZV	TV Repeater Co-ordinator
Bob Wilkinson	G3VVT	North West England Regional Manager
Colin Thomas	G3PSM	RSGB Board Member/Spectrum Director
Rod Wilkinson	G3TXA	Ofcom representative

A: Apologies

Colin Dalziel	GM8LBC	Scotland Regional Manager/Proposals Manager
Mike Stott	G0NEE	North East England Regional Manager

B: Chairman's opening remarks

It has been an extremely busy period since the last meeting. Discussions with MOD and Ofcom have taken place and there is hope that the situation with 70cm will be resolved shortly.

C: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the 14 January 2006 meeting were approved subject to some minor corrections. Copies to be sent to HQ and GM8LBC for RMCweb.

Action GW7KDU

D: Matters arising

Matters arising – Previous minutes

A number of Internet linked simplex gateways have been joined together to form duplex repeaters on 70cm. These require review. To be discussed with Ofcom. It was decided to re-visit this at a latter date, as there are other issues that must take priority.

Closed

Matters arising – Voice repeaters

GB3DC: Repeater cleared, NoV issued.

Closed

GB3IN: Repeater cleared, NoV issued.

Closed

GB3IP: Back on air using a temporary mast. Coverage may be excessive.

Action G3TZM

GB3NF: Repeater off-air, second NoV issued. A new application has been received from another group. The predicted coverage is large and may cause co-channel interference with GB3NW. For this reason it will be suggested that a lower power level be applied for together with the use of a cardioid antenna.

Action G3TZM

GB3OK: Frequency change approved, power increase was not granted. requested to RV57. Power increase also requested. It was decided that these should proceed.

Closed

Matters arising – AOB

Several applications have been received for the South East England RMC manager post. The applicants will be invited to the next meeting.

Action Chairman

E: Voice Repeaters

GB3NA/YR: Keeper has requested a site and frequency change. Contact keeper to tell him to proceed with site change application but frequency change not possible due to lack of available channels.

Action G0NEE

GB3GD: Working with very restricted coverage due to damaged antennas. New antennas ready to be installed.

GB3IW: 70cm frequency change required

Action G8DOR

GB3EA: 70cm site change application submitted. Callsign change also requested

Action G8DOR

Expression of interest in 6m repeater for IOW received

Action G8DOR

GB3SH: Change of keeper has been approved.

GB3VI: Application for 6m repeater for Nottingham. Will be processed and if satisfactory will be forwarded for clearance.

Action G3TZM

GB3EF: Site change requested.

Action Chairman

A request for a 2m repeater has been received for East Anglia. There are no spare frequencies available at the moment.

GB3CB: the coverage of this repeater dropped dramatically recently. The maintainer was contacted and normal coverage was reinstated. A comprehensive report was sent to the Regional Manager. The group have indicated that they wish to return to dual-aerial working at the earliest opportunity.

Action G3TZM

GB3NM: a new repeater group has been formed with a view to resurrecting the Nottingham 70cms repeater as soon as the embargo is lifted. They are to share the site with GB3NF.

Action G3TZM

GB3ZI: The Stafford repeater is to be resurrected on lifting of the embargo on 70cms. A draft application has been submitted. Further communication with the group will be made shortly to ensure that all requisite paperwork is in place to enable the application to be processed as soon as the go-ahead is given.

Action G3TZM

Solihull 70cms repeater: prior to the embargo, there were moves afoot to install a repeater in the Solihull area to give coverage on the eastern side of Birmingham which is not currently covered by GB3CB. A suitable site has been chosen, equipment is available and a draft application is awaited.

Action G3TZM

F: TV Repeaters

GB3IV: Enquiry received about possibility of commencing digital operation.

G: Internet gateways

Gateway applications processed for the following repeaters

GB3SW
GB3RB
GB3EF
GB3VE
GB3DC

H: Ofcom Liaison

Details of the existing 70cm installations submitted to Ofcom. Awaiting further news on the opening of 70cm band for new applications.

We need to enquire with Ofcom why unattended Internet linking operation is still not permitted for repeaters despite a report a few years ago stating that there had been very little abuse of the system.

Action Chairman

I: AOB

The RMC slide presentation was delivered at the Stratford upon Avon Radio Society on 13th March. Another delivery is to be made this coming Monday at Stourbridge Amateur Radio Society. Two more sessions are in the pipeline – one at the South Derbyshire and Woulds Radio Group and at Tamworth. Dates are yet to be decided.

Steve White, the editor of the RSGB Yearbook has asked that the RMC update the repeater section of the book.

Action All

Repeater Specification: G3TZM has reworked this. The document requires review.

Action G8DOR

The keeper of GB3BS has complained about the lack of feedback to his report of abuse on the repeater.

Action G8DOR

J: Date and time of next meeting

11:00am, 9 September 2006, Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel.