Radio Society of Great Britain
Repeater Management Committee
Minutes of Meeting 27th January 2007
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
Colin Dalziel	GM8LBC	Scotland Regional Manager/Proposals Manager
Mike Stott	G0NEE	North East England Regional Manager
Dave Dawson	G7UZN	South East England Regional Manager
Jon Lee	G4TSN	East Midlands Regional Manager
Rod Wilkinson	G3TXA	Ofcom representative

A: Apologies

None

B: Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by saying that it has been a both interesting and busy period since the last RMC meeting. There have been meeting held with Ofcom and there is news about possible reorganisation of RSGB committees that may affect the RMC. The Chairman also announced with regret that Bill Mahoney, G3TZM West Midland Regional Manager and Vice Chairman of RMC has decided to retire from the committee after 21 years.

C: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the 9 September 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

GB3NA/YR: Frequency change application proceeding.

Action G0NEE

GB3GD/IM: On going, group hope to have access to site once weather conditions improve in the spring.

Action G3VVT

GB3VI: Now being dealt with by G4TSN. This application is on hold pending publication of new guide to repeater licensing and the new guide.

Action G4TSN

GB3UI: A key fob test report was requested from the group. This has been received and has been forwarded to GM8LBC.

Action G3TZM

Matters arising – Voice Repeaters

GB3IN: There is a speaking clock voice announcement on this repeater. Voice announcements must comply with new Ofcom rules. The keeper will be made aware of the requirements

Action G4TSN

GB3CO/CQ/CI: On going

Action G4TSN

GB3CT: Application progressing.

Closed

23cm repeater for Bromley: Submitted, awaiting CAA response.

Action G7UZN

GB3HG: Repeater operational

Closed

GB3BC: Clearance granted

Closed

GB3BB: Clarification of close down operators travelling time requested from GW8ERA. Quoted times were extremely optimistic. Awaiting more realistic information/alternative closedown operators from GW8ERA. On hold.

Action GI4BWM

Matters arising – AOB

Raynet talk-through units. Short-term use is acceptable, but it is not acceptable to have repeaters reserved for the sole use of Raynet.

Closed

E: Guide to Repeater Licensing

A meeting was held at RSGB HQ on 26 January 2007 to discuss the draft Guide to Repeater Licensing. It was broadly accepted, but some amendments are required. Ofcom will implement these. A particular point was noted regarding the content of voice announcements. These should only contain information relative to the repeater such as CTCSS access tone frequency, location of repeater and callsign. Weather information, speaking clock etc are not acceptable. Ofcom also require that there is site permission in place and that the proposed keeper agrees to the site owner's terms and conditions.

F: Repeater Abuse Review

Repeater abuse is on the increase. Ofcom now wish all reports of abuse to be collated by regional managers and reported via the Ofcom representative on RMC, G3TXA. Repeater keepers are to be reminded that they are ultimately responsible for the traffic though their repeater. In cases where the keeper decides to take a repeater off air these need to be reported to Ofcom if they exceed 72 hours.

G: Key Fob Test Requirements

If an application for a 70cm repeater in a residential area is made Ofcom require tests to be performed to assess the potential inference risk to car alarm/immobiliser systems. A method of performing the tests will be devised and made available.

Action G7UZN

H: 70cm 12.5kHz frequency allocations

Wide space applications require prior approval from the Primary user. We have been informed that 430.875MHz is not available under present circumstances. The lower portion of the band is current problematical, G8DOR will produce recommendations.

Action G8DOR

I: Voice repeaters

GB3EL: Performance reduced at present, thought to be due to water in the feeder.

GB3BC: This repeater is now on air

GB3BB: On hold pending a response from the proposed keeper to an enquiry made about the travelling times of closedown operators to site.

Action GI4BWM

GB3HA: Repeater on air

GB3NF: Repeater back on air

GB3JF: Repeater closed down.

Request for new 2m unit in Corby received.

Action G4TSN

GB3BA/GN: Grampian Repeater group requested a site change. This has been cleared but has not yet taken place. The group will be give until end of March to carry out the site change.

Action GM8LBC

GB3MG: Application for new wide spilt 70cm repeater for South Wales received.

Action GI4BWM

GB3GU: New application for 70cm repeater for Guernsey. Will be processed and sent for clearance.

Action G8DOR

GB3SZ: Change of keeper application received.

Action G8DOR

GB3FI: Application for new wide split 70cm repeater in Somerset received and processed.

GB3AZ: Application for new 70cm repeater in South Gloucestershire received and processed.

GB3NT: Problems with data noise. Suspected interference from another site user or heterodyne. Possible change of frequency required.

Action G0NEE

GB3MY: Application received for new 70cm repeater in Bolton.

Action G3VVT

GB3MP: Repeater has been off air since 6th November. The keeper is to be asked what the current status of the repeater is.

Action GW7KDU

GB3TL: Application for new 70cm repeater in Spalding received, processed and cleared.

GB3NM: New 70cm repeater on air in Nottingham

Enquiry received about 70cm digital repeater for Northampton from G6NYA who would like to make a presentation to the RMC about the project.

Action G4TSN

GB3WJ: Currently off air.

Action G4TSN

GB3RC: Application for a 2m repeater in Sheffield. Currently there are no channels available for this repeater. On hold.

Action G0NEE

GB3GL: New application for 70cm wide split for Glasgow. Need to select a frequency.

Action GM8LBC

GB3DM: New 70cm wide split for Dumbarton, should be operational very shortly

GB3BE: A 12.5 kHz channel 70cm wide split repeater in Scotish Boarders due to be considered by NFAP shortly.

GB3PD: 6m Portsmouth, off air since November. Keeper will be contacted to determine current status.

Action G8DOR

GB3GX: 6m near Aberdeen, currently not operational yet.

Action GM8LBC

GB3CN: Proposed site change to the site of GB3TO (Northampton)

Action G4TSN

J: TV repeaters

Application received from Sam Hunt, M1FJB for a 2m slow scan TV repeater. The application was passed to RMC by DCC and after consideration it is thought more appropriate for DCC to deal with it.

Action G3VZV

GB3VL: Additional input frequency agreed.

GB3ZE: Barnsley 13cm TV repeater currently off air. There is a new group in the area interested in applying for a repeater.

Action G3VZV

The Yorkshire ATV group (GB3YT/YV/YX) are about to loose their site due to an increase in rental.

K: Radcom and Publicity

We need to re-establish the Radcom column as soon as possible. Some material has been received but we need more to make the column sustainable.

Action All

L: Date and time of next meeting

11:00am, 26 May 2007, Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel.