



Radio Society of Great Britain
Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee
Minutes of Meeting 29th September 2007
Held At Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel

Present

| | | |
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| John McCullagh | GI4BWM | ETCC Chairman |
| Iain Phillips | G0RDI | ETCC Vice Chairman |
| Andrew Barrett | G8DOR | South & South West England Regional Manager |
| Steve Morton | G8SFR | Internet Gateway Manager |
| Mike Stott | G0NEE | North East England Regional Manager |
| Jon Lee | G4TSN | East Midlands Regional Manager |
| Bob Wilkinson | G3VVT | North West England Regional Manager |
| Dave Dawson | G7UZN | South East England Regional Manager |
| Mark Gregory | G4LCH | West Midlands Regional Manager |
| Colin Dalziel | GM8LBC | Scotland Regional Manager/Proposals Manager |
| Mark Lewis | GW7KDU | Wales Regional Manager/Secretary |
| Rod Wilkinson | G3TXA | Ofcom representative |
| Colin Thomas | G3PSM | RSGB Board Member/Spectrum Director |

Apologies

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| Graham Shirville | G3VZV | TV Repeater Co-ordinator |
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1: Visitors

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| Don Turner | G4TKR | General Manager Icom UK Ltd |
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2: Chairman's opening remarks

The first meeting of the Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee was opened by the Chairman who gave the members a chance to introduce themselves. GI4BWM also announced that the meeting would be joined by a visitor, Don Turner G4TKR, General Manager Icom UK Ltd who would be making a presentation on D-Star.

3: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the 26 May 2007 meeting were approved subject to some minor corrections. Copies to be sent to HQ and GM8LBC for UKrepeaters.net.

Action GW7KDU

4: Matters arising

Matters arising – Previous minutes

GB3IN: Ongoing.

Closed

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| GB3CO/CQ/CI: On going | Closed |
| 23cm repeater for Bromley (GB3BK): NoV has been issued, currently awaiting some hardware, expected on air shortly. | Closed |
| GB3BB: Application submitted for clearance | Closed |
| Key fob test requirements – a standard test needs to be defined | Action G3TXA |
| 2m unit for Corby. | Closed |
| GB3BA/GN: Now operational. | Closed |
| GB3MG: Repeater on air. | Closed |
| GB3NT: Efforts are being made to quantify the problem, with particular focus on mapping the area affected. A report should be available for the next ETCC meeting | Action G0NEE |
| Northampton 70cm digital repeater: More information was requested but to date nothing has been supplied. | Closed |
| GB3WJ: Keeper will be contacted for update | Action G4TSN |
| GB3GL: Repeater on air | Closed |
| GB3PD | Closed |
| GB3CN: Nothing more heard | Closed |
| Unattended gateways: A trial continues and a few more a have been approved. When operators apply for unattended operation they much supply details of the required number of closedown personnel. Bands that are currently acceptable for unattended operation are 2m and 70cm.. | Action G3TXA |
| GB3EL: Back on air | Closed |
| GB3YL: Back on air | Closed |
| GB3BC: Some abuse continues. Monitoring will continue as far as possible. | Action GW7KDU |
| GB3RC: No frequencies available. | Closed |
| GB3AL: Repeater abuse being monitored. Site change is unlikely for the foreseeable future. | Action G8DOR |

Salisbury 2m proposal received, application cleared, callsign GB3JB

Closed

GB3MI

Closed

GB3BS: Awaiting advice from the PU about acceptable wide-space channel.

Action G8DOR

GB3SV: Stourport-on-Severn, new application

Closed

5: Procedures and Processes

Consideration was given to combining the application processes for voice/TV repeaters and data communications. Both procedures will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

We have been advised that NFAP is no longer part of the clearance process for repeaters and data nodes.

6: Internet gateways

Interest in simplex gateways is dropping. Applications and utilization is dropping but there is still a steady stream to deal with. Gateway NoVs re renewed annually.

Action G8SFR

7: Datacommunications

There is very little interest in left in the packet network. Remaining activity centres around APRS and DX Cluster.

8: Voice Repeaters

2m application for SE Scotland received in an area already well served. Proposed coverage overlaps with other repeaters in the area but does provide a useful purpose. Application should be submitted for clearance.

Action GM8LBC

GM7SVK has made enquiries about using EchoIRLP to a repeater. It is not obvious what the benefits will be. A full proposal will be requested so that it can be further considered.

Action GM8LBC

GB3MY: Fully operational

GB3MI: Proposed relocation of repeater appears to have been cancelled by the keeper G0TOG.

GB3GD & GB3IM are currently working on west antenna. Coverage to the NW coast of England is poor but it is good on east coast of Northern Ireland.

GB3MP: Problems with a defective rx antenna. Group are waiting until riggers are visiting the site for other maintenance work so that the problem can be rectified in a cost effective way.

GB3MR & GB3MN: Site problems resulting in lengthy periods of the repeaters being off air have been experienced. It is believed that the problems have now been resolved.

GB3MC: Application received from G4YYB to re-establish a 23cm repeater near Bolton. Application is to be submitted for clearance.

Action G3VVT

D-Star for Warrington: Enquiry received about the possibility of establishing a D-Star repeater in the Warrington area on 2m. There are currently no channels available in the area.

2m repeater for Hinkley (East Midlands) proposed. The coverage is in the shadow of that provided by GB3CF. A similar application was rejected recently. This proposal should not be allowed to go ahead due to the amount of overlapping coverage.

Action G4TSN

Application received for 2m repeater for the Staffordshire Moorland. No channel currently available and there will be duplicate coverage.

Action G4LCH

GB3NM: Requested received to link repeater to Echolink. Application form and permission from the repeater keeper are required.

Action G0RDI

GB3HA: Currently running on low power due to lack of cavities.

GB3EL: Repeater suffering with feeder problems.

GB3WS: Logic repaired

GB3ES: Repeater back on air but there is a threat of losing the site. This will affect 2m, 6m and 70cm repeaters.

GB3YL: Back on air.

GB3LW: Reports of abuse continue to be received.

GB3WL: Repeater still off air, due to site problems. It has now been off air for nine months. The keeper will be reminded of need to get the repeater back on air in a reasonable time.

Action G7UZN

GB3FI: The group have enquired about the possibility of establishing two linked repeaters (quasi sync) in non overlapping areas. The group have been asked for more details and to produce a proposal. Their response is awaited

Action G8DOR

Enquiries received about the possibility of installing a 70cm repeater for Basingstoke.

Action G8DOR

Expression of interest in 10m repeater on IOW has been received. A proposal will be requested.

Action G8DOR

GB3IC: Currently on low power due to feeder problems.

GB3BM: Several frequencies were under consideration for this new proposal including RV57 (145.7125 MHz)

GB3EC: There seemed to be little traffic on this repeater with a possibility that it may close down, if so its channel could be reused by GB3BM.

GB3DX: Possible change of frequency to RV52 if GB3EC closes down.

Voice announcements: Ofcom requires that these should be pertinent to the operation of the repeater, and requested that keepers be reminded that "broadcasts" were unacceptable.

9: TV Repeaters

No news to report.

10: Publicity

Usual request for material.

11: D-Star Presentation

Don Turner G4TKR, General Manager Icom UK Ltd gave a presentation about D-Star and Icom's involvement. The chairman thanked Don for attending the meeting and for making the presentation.

12: AOB

None

13: Date and time of next meeting

11:00am, 26 January 2008, Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel.