



**Radio Society of Great Britain**  
**Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2009**  
**Held At Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel**

**Present**

John McCullagh	GI4BWM	ETCC Chairman
Iain Philipps	G0RDI	ETCC Vice Chairman
Graham Shirville	G3VZV	TV Repeater Co-ordinator
Colin Dalziel	GM8LBC	Scotland Regional Manager/Proposals Manager
Dave Dawson	G7UZN	South East England Regional Manager
Mark Lewis	GW7KDU	Wales Regional Manager/Secretary
Bob Wilkinson	G3VVT	North England Regional Manager
Rod Wilkinson	G3TXA	Ofcom representative
Dave Wilson	M0OBW	RSGB Board Member for Convention, Emerging Technology (ETCC)
Jon Lee	G4TSN	Midlands Regional Manager
Steve Morton	G8SFR	Internet Gateway Manager

**Apologies**

Andrew Barrett	G8DOR	South West England Regional Manager
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**1: Chairman's opening remarks**

The meeting was opened as usual by the Chairman who welcomed all present.

**2: Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of 14 March 2009 meeting were approved. They have already been published on [ukrepeaters.net](http://ukrepeaters.net) after circulation around the committee via email.

**3: Matters arising**

*Matters arising – Previous minutes*

Insurance for repeater equipment. No change in the situation at present. Enquiries about third party insurance should be sent to Carlos Eavis G0AKI at RSGB HQ.

**Closed**

GB3GX: To be discussed later in the meeting.

South Yorkshire D-Star proposals: NoVs have been issued. The committee expressed thanks to Darren G7LWT for his assistance in resolving this issue.

**Closed**

Repeater status on ETCC website: This is working well, thanks for GM8LBC and G7UZN for their work.

**Closed**

GB3NL & GB3LV

**Closed**

Banstead 4m Store and Forward unit

**Closed**

GB3MC and Proposed GB3ML: Still nothing heard from the keeper. Keeper will be contacted one last time for an update on both, if nothing heard a second NoV will be issued for GB3MC and the proposal for GB3ML withdrawn.

**Action G3VVT**

UHF repeater GB3MF near Macclesfield. Awaiting approach from possible new keeper.

**Action G3VVT**

GB3BW, 23cm Weston-super-Mare: Correspondence continuing. An E5 needs to be generated G8DOR will contact G4SZM about this. RSGB microwave manager is also assisting with this proposal.

**Action G8DOR**

G7PFT proposed analogue and digital bridge: This proposal requires further development before it can be considered as a serious project.

**Closed**

#### *Matters arising – Agenda items raised by GORDI*

- a) Out of area linking to GB3FJ proposal from MOKSP: nothing received.

**Closed**

- b) Crawley ARG proposals for digital to analogue bridge: the idea has now been dropped. The group now wish to have one 70cm analogue repeater.

**Closed**

#### *Matters arising – Agenda items raised by G7UZN*

- a) GB3EL: on air with a curfew. There are some problems with the receiver.

**Closed**

#### *Matters arising – Regional reports*

23cm GMSK repeater for Glasgow: no frequencies have been found so far. An E5 form will be submitted.

**Action GM8LBC**

#### *From G4TSN*

GB3NM: QRM from low powered devices. Problem no longer exists.

**Closed**

New proposal for a 2m repeater in the East Midlands area.

**Closed**

Application for new 70cm repeater GB3NP in Northampton received. Repeater is on the air. **Closed**

GB3BM Group for a 70cm GMSK repeater proposal: repeater is on air. **Closed**

GB3CO: The group hope to have this repeater on air shortly. **Action G4TSN**

***From G8DOR***

Proposal for a 2m repeater (GB3MU) on Guernsey: there is an outstanding query with this. **Action G8DOR**

GB3WA, closed down without warning, second NoV requested and issued. Group states that co-sited GB3WX has an uncertain future. **Closed**

***From GW7KDU***

GB3KD: Keeper advised. **Closed**

GB3BC: **Closed**

GB3CW: Frequency change applied for and processed. **Closed**

***From G7UZN***

GB3HW on air and working well

GB3LR: Repeater still off air. **Action G7UZN**

GB7ML: All necessary permissions have been granted. Site access is currently a problem. **Action G0RDI and G7UZN**

***From G3VVT***

GB7LF a new DV node for Lancaster proposal: repeater is now on air in standalone mode. **Closed**

2m repeater in S Yorkshire enquiry: nothing further heard. **Closed**

GB3YW abuse: the repeater was taken off air for some maintenance. Since returning to service no further problems have been encountered. **Closed**

***From G0RDI***

GB7NM site change: keeper was advised to contact G3VVT, nothing further heard. **Closed**

## *Matters arising – AOB*

- a) Tagging of emails from ukrepeaters website to committee members. Changes have been made.

**Closed**

- b) Clearance date is shown on lists of cleared repeaters.

**Closed**

## **4: Agenda items raised by GI4BWM**

- a. ETCC attendance at the National Hamfest Newark 2/3 October.

The committee has been asked by RSGB HQ to staff an ETCC stand at the forth coming Hamfest on 2/3 October. GI4BWM, G0RDI, G7UZN and GW7KDU volunteered their services.

- b. GB3WX 10m to 6m crossband proposal from G3ZXX

G3ZXX has submitted a proposal to convert GB3WX into a 10m/6m crossband repeater. After a discussion of the proposal it was decided to allow it to proceed on the basis of 25w ERP. Suggested frequencies are 29.210MHz and 50.520MHz. The keeper is required to submit quarterly reports that must include activity logs.

**Action G8DOR**

- c. 23cm repeater frequencies and GMSK.

Frequencies suggested by the RSGB Microwave manager will be used on a trial basis for future 23cm GMSK applications. An E5 will be submitted prior to the E1 to ensure the frequencies are acceptable.

- d. Licensed but long term non-operational repeaters.

The new repeater status page on the UK repeaters website allows the easy identification of repeaters that are off air or have failed to be put on air since the NoV was issued. Ofcom want the ETCC to manage off air repeaters by contacting keepers for updates on the status and the likelihood of the repeater returning to service. Repeater that go off air will be given 6 months to return to service and newly licensed repeaters will have 3 months to come on air. Second NoV's may be issued after 1 month and 1 day for failure to comply with these requirements. Exceptions will be made in certain circumstances with agreement of Ofcom & ETCC.

- e. D-Star and GMSK connectivity/ETCC responsibility

The ETCC are only concerned about the "RF" side of any GMSK/D-Star repeater. We are not interested in the Internet connectivity of these repeaters.

- f. Parameters for licensing simplex D-Star/GMSK DV gateways.

These will use band segments that are currently allocated for digital or data modes. The ETCC see no difficulties in licensing them and they will be treated as any other type of gateway. Nodes on 2m/70cms can use existing packet frequencies and unattended operation on 70cm will be permitted subject to the usual clearance. Initial approaches will be welcomed using an applicants own callsign but 3<sup>rd</sup> party traffic will not be permitted.

## 5: Agenda items raised by G3VZV

G3VZV raised the issue of interference from 2.4GHz license free devices such as Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. The committee discussed abandoning the use of this part of the spectrum because of these devices. It was decided that for the time being no action is needed.

## 6: Agenda items raised by G7UZN

- a. Abuse in London.

The ETCC need to reinforce what Ofcom's responsibilities are.

- a. E5 form and Primary User

When frequencies are recommended by a primary user these should be given to the applicant to check locally before the E1 is submitted. This will ensure that co-channels issues are avoided.

## 7: Agenda items raised by G8SFR

- a. The primary user of one of the amateur bands is about to move office location and this may have an impact on processing times for applications.
- b. G8SFR may be moving to France to live, but hopes to continue work for the ETCC by correspondence.

## 8: Regional Reports

GB3NP, wide split 70cm repeater, Northampton is on air.

GB3BM, 2m analogue for Birmingham, NoV issued 9 June.

GB3MD, site change proposal, NoV issued 9 August.

Application received for a 4m store and forward unit from G7AJP

**Action G4TSN**

Application received for a site change for GB3CN. The keeper has also expressed an interest in changing to dual mode.

**Action G4TSN**

GB3TO NoV issued for dual mode operation

GB7DB: Newly licensed (in March 2009), the keeper wishes to apply for a site change due to alleged interference. Further investigations are necessary. G0RDI will offer assistance to the group.

**Action G4TSN and G0RDI**

GB3CO: Currently off air

GB3LJ: Currently off air

GB3IM: Isle of Man linking project. Progressing well.

GB3YM: Abuse problems, no further reports.

Proposal for a 2m D-Star repeater for Durham received.

**Action G3VVT**

Enquires have been received for repeaters in Scarborough and the Middlesbrough DV repeaters. Coverage predictions from the Scarborough site have proved 70cm is not useable and further investigations are ongoing.

**Action G3VVT**

GB3TW: Keeper reports interference with mixing from 603kHz local BBC MW TX.

**Action G3VVT**

GB3AT: Application for 23cm TV repeater received.

**Action G3VZV**

GB3ES: Back on air

Hastings 70cm repeater (GB3HE) is causing key fob problems. Keeper would like to change to wide split.

**Action G7UZN**

GORDI reports that two amateurs are requesting NoVs for APRS packet nodes. Due to problems with potential co-channel interference these will not be processed.

GB3AB and GB3BA to be second NoVed.

GB3GX to be second NoVed.

Enquiries have been made about improving 2m coverage in the Aberdeen/Inverness area.

GB3ET: Site change application. G8DOR declared an interest in this application

**Action G8DOR**

GB3BS: Site change application

**Action G8DOR**

Application received for a 70cm repeater in the Chepstow/Gloucester area.

**Action G8DOR**

## **9: AOB**

From GORDI

There are several problems with co-channel interference with Simplex/IRLP gateways in Buckinghamshire involving three stations. With the help of a frequency change and advice from Ofcom the situation seems to have been resolved. However, Ofcom will consider enforcement action if necessary.

## **10: Date and time of next meeting**

10:30am, 28 November 2009, Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel.