



**Radio Society of Great Britain**  
**Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011**  
**Held At Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel**

**Present**

John McCullagh	GI4BWM	ETCC Chairman
Andrew Barrett	G8DOR	Vice Chair/South West England Regional Manager
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
Darren Storer	G7LWT	UKIT Representative

**Via VoIP**

Steve Morton	G8SFR	Data Comms Manager
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**1: Apologies**

Jon Lee	G4TSN	Midlands Regional Manager
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**2: Chairman's opening remarks**

GI4BWM opened the meeting by welcoming all present and announcing apologies from G4TSN.

**3: Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2011 were formally accepted subject to some minor changes and will be published on UK repeaters website.

**Action GW7KDU**

**4: Matters arising**

*Matters arising – Previous minutes*

Ofcom: Abuse complaints policy: There is a particular concern about the level of abuse currently being suffered by GB3DY. Still on-going.

**Action Ofcom**

East Midlands: GB3EM has not been operational for a very long time. On going

**Action G4TSN & GI4BWM**

GB7IR: This repeater is no longer required so a second NoV will be issued.

**Action GI4BWM & Ofcom**

GB7IP: It has not been possible to contact the keeper of the repeater and the ETCC believe that the equipment for this repeater is no longer available. Efforts will be made to confirm this.

**Action GI4BWM & G4TSN**

GB7IQ: The keeper has informed the ETCC that this repeater is expected to be operational "soon" so he will be given a further six months. If after that period it is still not on air a second NoV will be requested.

**Action GI4BWM**

GB3LP: The repeater continues to suffer from poor sensitivity.

GB7SH is still not in service. It is hoped it will be on air in the near future.

**Action G3VVT**

Paper detailing how bands/modes (TV, Voice, Digital, Analogue, Packet etc) are typically used. The paper is being updated with the results of an audit that have been performed of traffic in the IO83 area. On-going.

**Action G7LWT and G7OCD**

Primary Users: 9 and 13cm bands. On-going.

**Action GI4BWM**

Report from G8SFR re work on restarting UHF clearances: Identification of 70cm repeaters and nodes that are no longer in operation as this will further reduce the current noise floor figures. On-going.

**Action All**

G4HPE HF Gateway extension of experiment: A six month extension to the original NoV has been granted. A proper gateway NoV is now required.

**Action GI4BWM & G8SFR**

Preparation of a D-Star Users Guide: The guides are currently on the UK IT website. They need to be moved to the ETCC UK Repeaters site. On-going.

**Action G7LWT & GM8LBC**

G8DZJ and UK FM Group Western/DV coverage in the Potteries and M6 corridor. There is still interest in this. G7LWT and GM8LBC are continuing to research the possibilities.

**Action G7LWT & GM8LBC**

GB3MC/GB3MY: These are still not on air. There has been adequate time for these repeaters to be brought into service; second NoVs to be issued without further delay.

**Action GI4BWM & G3VVT**

GB3LG still not operational. The keeper is to be given a further six months to bring it into service.

**Action GM8LBC**

70cm DV unit in the St Austell area: This application is currently on hold due to the Primary User not processing applications for the band at present. A proposal has been made to convert GB3HB to dual mode (using the callsign GB7MC) until the original application clears. MIDNS the proposed keeper of GB7MC will take over from G3IVG as keeper of GB3HB. We are currently awaiting the change of keeper form.

**Action G8DOR**

GB3PL: Back on air.

**Closed**

GB3GD & GB3IM-S: Working well using temporary antennas

**Closed**

GB3NY: Off air: It is believed that the site has been lost. It has not been possible to contact the keeper via email so a letter will be sent giving him six months to restore the repeater to service or a second NoV will be issued.

**Action G3VVT**

There is an outstanding information request for the Herne Bay repeater GB7IC site changes. Keeper has been asked to clarify. Still on-going.

**Action G7UZN**

### *Matters arising – Agenda points from GI4BWM*

Ofcom meeting: To be covered later in this meeting.

### *Matters arising – Exception reports from the Regions*

GB3NU: Application for dual mode received. On-going.

**Action G7UZN**

GB7HX and GB7HU: Both repeaters are on air but HX is in need of optimisation. Assistance is being provided.

**Action G7LWT**

## **5: Agenda points from GI4BWM**

RSGB/Ofcom forum meeting

This was held on 6 July and covered a wide range of topics most of which were unrelated to repeaters and data modes.

There was some discussion about the 2012 Olympics and the impact that it is likely to have on the repeater network. The current proposals would leave 1.6MHz split repeaters unaffected but there may be problem for up to three wide split units.

The Memorandum of Understanding was discussed and a proposal for RSGB to take over the issuing of NoVs was covered.

A further meeting is to be held shortly.

## **6: Exception reports from the Regions**

### *Scotland*

GB3GN/GB3NG linking: Ofcom have agreed to this project to link these repeaters.

### *South & SW England*

Enquiry received about converting GB3IE (Plymouth) to dual mode on a temporary basis from G7DQC. This can proceed.

**Action G8DOR**

### *SE England*

GB3MH: Recently cleared new application. Repeater is on the air keeper will be contacted to ensure that the closedown list is still valid.

**Action G7UZN**

GB3NX: Site change 70cm over 2km. E1 form received. Will be added to the on hold queue.

**Action G7UZN**

GB3EL: Currently undergoing bench test.

**Action G7UZN**

### ***Data***

GB7NI: On going, RF and data halves complete but not integrated together yet.

G7LWT informed the meeting that digital activity has tailed off due to clearance problems on 70cm and lack of spectrum on 2m.

GB7ML: There is an outstanding task to liaise with the keeper to get site access to install the equipment.

**Action G7LWT**

Several D-Star nodes in Scotland are now either off the air or have lost gateway access. This has caused a lot of consternation for the locals, who have attempted to string together a series of simplex nodes to provide network access.

As from April this year all new applications for Simplex Internet Gateways on all bands are having CTCSS applied to the applications. In the case of renewals as they come in the applicant is advised that CTCSS is now being added. This is in line with the NoV conditions which state:

Where a CTCSS tone is specified (on a port-by-port basis) the use of that tone on the gateway receiver is mandatory. Where a tone is not specified, use of CTCSS is optional, but may become mandatory at a later date.

**Action G8SFR**

### ***TV Repeaters***

GB3TX: Reported to be off air. The Chairman will investigate.

**Action GI4BWM**

GB3FT, GB3DT and GB3TT: All reported to be off air. Further enquiries will be made.

**Action G3VZV**

### ***Wales & Marches***

GB3GS: Application from G1MAW for 2m analogue repeater in Shropshire declined due to lack of spectrum.

GB7GX and GB7GT: Applications for two 70cm DV repeaters in Shropshire received from G1MAW. Both applications are incomplete and the proposed keeper has been asked to supply the necessary information. He has yet to do so. As no applications are being processed for this band by the Primary User both will be placed on hold once they are complete.

GB7RB: Bridgend. Site lost before the repeater could be installed and brought into service.

### ***Midlands***

Outstanding applications

GB3DS: 70cm site change, Worksop. Less than 2km.

GB7EN: 70cm Digital, Wellingborough

GB7DC: 70cm Digital, Derby

GB7CH: 70cm Digital, Lough

New application for 6m repeater for Derbyshire received late August.

Non-operational units

GB3CN: 23cm Northampton

GB3DS: 70cm Worksop (awaiting site change of less than 2km)

GB3EM: 70cm Waltham. Long term off air, no response from the keeper.

GB3SO: 70cm Boston. Loss of site.

### *North of England*

GB3HF: Work in progress.

## **7: Any other relevant business**

### **Change of keeper procedure**

When an E4 (change of keeper) is received both parties (outgoing and incoming keepers) must be contacted to ensure that both agree to the change. The new keeper must also supply a copy of his licence. Once these details are confirmed the form can be sent on to GI4BWM who will forward them Ofcom so that the relevant NoV and second NoV can be issued.

There may also be a need to update the closedown operators list.

### **IARU Region 1 22nd General Conference**

The following points were noted from the Final Plenary

10m Repeaters: Two additional channels allocated for repeaters.

New band plans for 4m and 6m

Two additional 2m repeater channels allocated.

CTCSS is to be mandatory for all analogue repeaters from 2014. 67Hz added to the list of tones.

New interim band plan for 1298 to 1300MHz, to include new high speed 150kHz channels.

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

The date for the next meeting has not been set but it is expected to be in early 2012. The venue will be Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel.

**Action GI4BWM**