



Radio Society of Great Britain
Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee
Minutes of 21th March 2020 Virtual Meeting
held via Skype.

Present

Andrew Barrett	G8DOR	ETCC Chair/South West England Regional Manager
John McCullagh	GI4BWM	Northern Ireland Regional Manager
Colin Dalziel	GM8LBC	Scotland Regional Manager/ETCC Webmaster
Dave Dawson	G7UZN	South East England Regional Manager
Mark Lewis	GW7KDU	Wales Regional Manager/Secretary
Steve Morton	G8SFR	Data Comms Manager
Noel Matthews	G8GTZ	TV Manager/Vice-Chairman
Bob Wilkinson	G3VVT	North England Regional Manager
Jon Lee	G4TSN	Midlands Regional Manager
Stewart Bryant	G3YSX	Board Member
Len Paget	GM0ONX	Board Member

Apologies

None received.

1: Chairman's opening remarks

Andrew G8DOR welcomed everyone to the meeting which is being held virtually due to the current situation in the country.

2: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of 4th November 2019 were formally accepted. These are to be published on the [UK Repeater Website](#).

Action GW7KDU

3: Matters arising

Matters arising – Minutes of last meeting

Minutes for March 2019 were published [here](#).

Closed

Outstanding matters arising – Regional/Specialist reports.

North of England

GB7YD (-A /DD, -A, -B, -C) & GB3HF:

Closed

GB7YD: To be relocated to a new site in Barnsley

Closed

Matters arising – Regional/Specialist reports.

South West England

GB3TD: Request to change to a reversed 7.6MHz split. This was unsuccessful and have reverted back to a standard 1.6MHz split.

Closed

Television

No new applications in the system at present.

GB3ET: Keeper has requested privacy on the coverage map.

Closed

Matters arising – Progress with repeater renewals

GM8LBC to send out an update via email to the rest of the committee.

Closed

Matters arising – 12.5kHz on UHF repeaters.

Details of the change to 70cm RU channels was published in Radcom and on UK Repeaters website.

Closed

Matters arising – Loss of bandwidth on 23cm

Loss of bandwidth on 23cm due to issues such as radar/Galileo paper for the committee

Closed

Matters arising – GB3KA & GB7KR proposal

GB3KA & GB7KR proposal were submitted and processed.

Closed

4: Regional/Specialist reports

North of England

GB7KL: Onsite but not on air yet.

No action required

Midlands

Four applications currently in vetting, nothing to unusual report on these

No action required

South West England

Nothing to report apart from a steady stream of renewals.

South East England

GB3PS: long term off air

Action G7UZN

Wales/Marches

GB3BG keeper is not interested in applying to renew his NoV.

No action required

Northern Ireland

GB3PK: Long-term off air.

GI4BWM

Scotland

Mostly quiet with renewals going to plan

No action required

Data modes

Renewals only.

Television

Renewals only.

5: Progress with current renewals

Colin GM8LBC gave a summary of the latest round of renewals....

“The current round of repeater renewals runs from 1st May 2019 to 30th April 2022. This covers some 631 repeater NoV’s but excludes Gateways/Packet which work to a 12-month renewal timetable.

The opportunity to set longer licence periods has been created to assist agents to smooth out the large renewal numbers occurring in the first 3 months of 2020. Some have taken advantage of this.

A means of inviting Keepers to renew from 50 days prior to expiry is available, and can be accessed from the “Renewal Invitation Management [2020]” page in the VMS.

Already we are 437 into the renewals round and 194 remain (as of 18th March)

The following so far have not renewed and have been marked as illegal/defunct: Therefore, we say farewell to two TV Repeaters, GB3CZ and GB3TB and voice repeaters GB3BG, GB3RA, GB3TO, GB3NU, GB7EK and GB7FW. After a 1-month period they will be deleted from the database, removed from occupancy maps and free up the callsigns on availability lists.”

6: Ofcom delays

Delays at Ofcom were discussed.

7: Two Metre Band plan

A paper was circulated to the committee to consider the expansion of 2 metre channels for DV simplex gateways with the addition of two channels at (144.8750 and 144.8875 MHz). The paper would be forwarded to the VHF manager and Spectrum Forum by the ETCC Chairman.

8: AOB

The 7.6MHz split RU channels were raised, as they have for some time been issued on a 12.5kHz raster, but a number of legacy repeaters are still operating to the 25kHz standard, meaning their adjacent channels cannot be used in the area.

All new NoVs are issued with 8k0 bandwidth instead of 16k0, but this may not be adhered to by the keepers and some renewals still state 16k0.

It was felt that this should be monitored more closely and keepers of legacy repeaters invited to change.

9: Date of next meeting

The next meeting is proposed for 18 July 2020 to be held via Skype.