



Radio Society of Great Britain
Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee
Minutes of 18th July 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
Len Paget	GM0ONX	Board Member
Ian Suart	GM4AUP	RSGB OAS representative

Apologies

Stewart Bryant	G3YSX	Board Member
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1: Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all and reflecting on the current situation in the country and how Covid-19 has led indirectly to a large increasing in traffic through repeaters and gateways. The ETCC have processed an exceptional number of new applications and RSGB HQ report that a large amount of new licences have been issued.

2: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of 21st March 2020 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 November 2019 were published [here](#).

Closed

Matters arising – Regional/Specialist reports.

South East England

GB3PS: Long-term off air. Ongoing discussions with the keeper.

Closed

Northern Ireland

GB3PK: Long-term off air. Unit currently on test, should re-enter service shortly

Closed

4: Regional/Specialist reports

Wales & The Marches

- GB7SA: Site change application received to co-site with GB3WG. This will not work as currently proposed. Keepers of both repeaters have been contacted and asked to liaise with each other to find a workable solution.

Action GW7KDU

North of England

- GB7KL: Has yet to come into service despite the NoV being granted in August 2017. It has not been possible to contact the keeper.

Action G3VVT

- GB3MX: New application for a 2m repeater. There are technical problems with the proposal. Attempts have been made to contact the applicant without success so far.

Action G3VVT

- GB3BY: New 70cm application. Is going to use the channel pair currently allocated to GB7FO, which will then be given a new channel.

Action G3VVT

Northern Ireland

- Mostly quiet, reports of abuse in the Belfast area. Ofcom is aware.

Scotland

- GB7EC: New 70cm proposal for a high site on the east coast of Scotland.

South East of England

- Nothing unusual to report. Renewals have eased off. There are several long-term off-air repeaters.

South West of England

- Exeter Club secretary has been in contact with a complaint about the performance/coverage of the local 70cm DMR repeater. The club will be invited to apply for an additional DMR repeater for the area.

Action G8DOR

East Midlands.

- Renewals up to date
- GB3SV: Repeater has recently moved. It is on the same channel pair as GB3VM and since the move there have been co-channel problems. Discussions have been taking place with the keeper of GB3VM who has offered to reduce the coverage of VM.

Action G4TSN & GW7KDU

- On-going abuse issues in the Nottingham area.

Data Modes

- New gateways and packet stations
Gateways: 35, Packet: 15
- A paper has been received from Mark David, G4MEM entitled "Establishing a LoRa APRS Node in the 430-440MHz". Further discussions will be held with the author and also the RSGB VHF Manager.

Action G8SFR

Television

- No new applications received.
- There are few long-term off-air repeaters.
- There are reports of interference to the 2m TV talk back channel in the Taunton area that seems to be coming from the South Wales area and is related to Hubnet.

Report Via RSGB HQ

- GB3NB: Users in Lowestoft are complaining about interference being caused by GB7YL. The keeper of GB7YL will be contacted.

Action G7UZN

5: Personal license re-validation

G8SFR raised the issue that users of the Ofcom licensing website that are having problems updating the issue date when they renew their license (needs to be done every 5 years or sooner). It is necessary to make a small amendment (e.g. add an extra space to an address line) to force the issue date to be updated. Please can this be raised with Ofcom at the next liaison meeting?

Action G8DOR

6: RF Linking and Gateway NoV conditions.

G8DOR pointed out that Ofcom NoV conditions permit unattended operation of Gateways but not RF links. The committee agreed that this should be harmonised to allow unattended operation for both. Ofcom are to be contacted to clarify this. G8SFR to compare the NoV wording for both types and will report back.

Action G8DOR & G8SFR

7: UKRepeater and VMS website updates.

GM8LBC reported that most of the updates have been made but there are some minor niggles. Please can the committee provide feedback so that any issues can be fixed asap.

Action All

8: AOB

- GM8LBC: Renewals, these are now 75% complete.
- G7UZN: From the last meeting, what are we going to do about 70cm 7.6MHz split repeaters that are still operating at 25k0? A list will be prepared and the keepers contacted.

- G3VVT: Voice idents, what is permitted? Answer: only information pertinent to the operation of the repeater.
- GM4AUP: Nothing to report from OAS.

9: Date of next meeting

The next meeting is proposed for 21st November 2020 at 14:00 to be held via Skype.

Provisional