



Radio Society of Great Britain
Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee
Minutes of 24th May 2014 Meeting
Held at the Hilton Metropole Hotel, Birmingham

Present

John McCullagh	GI4BWM	ETCC Chairman
Colin Dalziel	GM8LBC	Scotland Regional Manager/Proposals Manager
Noel Matthews	G8GTZ	TV Manager
Dave Dawson	G7UZN	South East England Regional Manager
Mark Lewis	GW7KDU	Wales Regional Manager/Secretary
Bob Wilkinson	G3VVT	North England Regional Manager
Steve Morton	G8SFR	Data Comms Manager

Apologies

Jon Lee	G4TSN	Midlands Regional Manager
Stewart Bryant	G3YSX	RSGB Board Liaison member
Andrew Barrett	G8DOR	Vice Chair/South West England Regional Manager

Visitors

Denis Stanton	G0OLX	Repeater keeper GB7NS & GB3NS
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1: Chairman's opening remarks

GI4BWM opened the meeting by welcoming all to the meeting and saying that the committee will now probably only meet in person once a year with all others being held virtually via Skype.

2: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of 25th January 2014 were formally accepted subject to some minor changes and will be published on UK repeaters website.

Action GW7KDU

3: Matters arising

Matters arising – Previous minutes

PU spectrum release in 2.3GHz band.

Closed

GB3IV, GB3DK:

Closed

GB3GB: Application to change dual mode (DMR).

Closed

Matters arising – NoV Renewals

The renewal procedure is mostly complete apart from a few still outstanding. These mostly related to repeaters in the PSSR Band.

Action GI4BWM

Matters arising – Outstanding vetting list

A significant number of 70cm applications were cleared just before the renewals process started. Applications for 23cm repeaters are still not progressing past the primary user. Unfortunately 70cm applications are starting to build up once more.

Action GI4BWM

GB7YD-A & GB7HD-A hold pending discussions with the PU. This is still the case and is on-going.

Action G3VVT

GB7LH: Application for a site near Heathrow Airport. This is on-going.

Action G7UZN

Unassigned E1 applications on the vetting website. This is on-going.

Action All

Matters arising – Policy issues & decisions required

CTCSS tones

CTCSS tones outside the normal “A to H” tones may be allocated by ETCC members processing applications if there is a technical requirement.

Closed

Motorola DMR Colour Codes

Use of Motorola Colour codes on DMR repeaters. The online E1 form now provides applicants with the ability to choose a colour code when submitting their application.

Closed

GB7AA

Application for a 70cm DMR repeater (GB7AA) on the same site as existing 70cm D-Star (GB7AD) and analogue (GB3AZ) repeaters.

Closed

Bulletin board

Suggestion for a bulletin board specifically for UK based repeater to be established. To be discussed later in the meeting.

Closed

Matters arising – Regional and Special interest reports

Wales and the Marches

GB3SP: Interference reported by a user.

Closed

Data modes

Old packet NoVs: On-going and is on the agenda for the next Ofcom meeting.

Action GI4BWM

Matters arising – AOB

Code of Conduct and Ethics

RSGB requires all members of its committees to agree to a code of conduct and ethics.

Closed

G00LX/GB7NS

G00LX, the keeper of GB7NS has offered to demonstrate DMR repeaters to the ETCC.

Closed

4: RSGB/Ofcom Forum meetings update

GI4BWM reported on the recent Ofcom RSGB Forum held in the middle of March. The renewal of Repeater NoVs had just begun at that time and as Beacon NoVs were also being renewed it was agreed that to help in managing the significant numbers involved that the expiry dates of Repeaters will be 31 March 2017 and for Beacons it will be 30 April 2017.

On the MoD Spectrum Release Programme it was confirmed that amateurs will have to vacate the spectrum between 2350-2390 MHz and that above 3410 MHz, on a 12 month notice. This would have implications for a number of repeaters.

Ofcom confirmed that as previously proposed by the RSGB they had requested a meeting between Ofcom, RSGB and the CAA to discuss issues on 23cm frequency clearances.

The next meeting is scheduled for 12 June.

5: Data Protection

A data protection statement will be provided on the UK Repeater website that an applicant must accept before completing an E1 application for a new repeater or changes to an existing unit.

6: Bulletin Board on UK Repeater website

A bulletin board is to be provided on the [UK Repeater website](#). It will be restricted to repeater keepers only in the first instance.

Action GM8LBC

7: Regional/Specialist reports

Data Comms

Should DMR repeaters be allocated callsigns to differentiate them from other digital mode repeaters? This may be possible if a suitable callsign series is available.

Action GI4BWM and G8SFR

TV Repeaters

G8GTZ gave a presentation of the state of the ATV repeater network in the UK. The following is a summary of his report.

Currently there are 32 TV units operational with 3 non-operational and in 6 in vetting. The PSSR changes do affect a number of TV units and ETCC will need to co-ordinate changes with Ofcom and affected groups. Delays are still occurring in gaining NoVs for 1.3 GHz units and ETCC has requested a meeting with CAA to understand the issues involved. 3 NoVs have been received for the new 3.4 GHz band and a general policy of digital only for repeater outputs has been adopted but it is believed it is too early to adopt a similar policy for inputs as it would disenfranchise too many ATV operators.

North of England and IOM

GB3US is still not operational. Awaiting rebuilding of the equipment housing premises.
GB7MA is not operational awaiting relocation.

GB7DM. DMR repeater on 2m channel RV53 proposed for the Liverpool area. Concern was raised regarding the use of RV53 due to local/semi local repeaters on adjacent channels. Decision was that it was inadvisable to use this channel due to possible adjacent repeater user problems.

Query received regarding the defunct repeater callsign GB3MC used with a 23cm repeater in the Bolton area. No longer licensed, currently with Ofcom for a second NoV to be issued.

South East England

GB3NX: Back on air

GB3LW: Frequency change to wide split but has subsequently become non-operational.

GB3JC: On air operating on low power. Application received to increase power. This will not be approved on the basis that it was only intended as a fill in repeater and there is already adequate repeater coverage in the area.

Scotland

GB3ED is currently off air due to asbestos contamination on site.

GB3KA keeper is looking for a new site for the repeater.

Perth repeaters GB3PU and GB3PR off air that the moment.

GB7DE is currently off air for a refurbishment.

8: DMR presentation and discussion

Denis G0OLX gave the meeting a very informative presentation and demonstration of DMR.

9: AOB

Items that are in vetting and awaiting a response from an applicant. If no response is received within three months of information being requested by an ETCC committee member the application will be removed from the vetting system.

Emission codes reference. This is to be provided on the vetting website.

Action GM8LBC

10: Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be via Skype, date to be decided.