



# HUNTINGDONSHIRE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF AN AGM HELD AT BUCKDEN VILLAGE HALL – ON 12 MAR 2020

Present: Steve G1KWF (President)  
 Mervyn G4KLE (Chairman)  
 David M0VTG (Secretary)  
 Malcolm M0OLG (Events Coordinator)  
 Julie M1JUL (Repeater Keeper)  
 David M0SKT  
 Richard 2E0FRQ  
 Angela M3FTV (Librarian)  
 Andy G6OHM (Member 3)  
 Alan M0FDA (Repeater Engineer)  
 Simon M0ILR (Examinations Secretary)  
 Plus 28 members

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.45 hrs.

		Action																										
ITEM 1.	<p><u>Welcome And Apologies For Absence.</u></p> <p>The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting especially as the Covid-19 was causing, quite understandably, some to stay away. He went on to asking if there were any additional apologies to pass on. Apologies were received from:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Sid M0SRS</td> <td>John G4KJJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paul G8TQI</td> <td>Clive G3NKQ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John G8JKR</td> <td>John M0IWR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigel G6LSB</td> <td>Phil G7KJW</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stig G1MVF</td> <td>Dougie 2E1IGI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gareth M5KVK</td> <td>Tina M3CMW</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter 2E0PRP</td> <td>Hugh G6CTP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chris G4UXV</td> <td>Colin G3LWJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David G8BKG</td> <td>Amanda M6BJD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter G4LHI</td> <td>Jackie SWL1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Derek M0DRK</td> <td>Stuart 2E0TMC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David M0PYC</td> <td>David G7DIU</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dave G4ETG</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Sid M0SRS	John G4KJJ	Paul G8TQI	Clive G3NKQ	John G8JKR	John M0IWR	Nigel G6LSB	Phil G7KJW	Stig G1MVF	Dougie 2E1IGI	Gareth M5KVK	Tina M3CMW	Peter 2E0PRP	Hugh G6CTP	Chris G4UXV	Colin G3LWJ	David G8BKG	Amanda M6BJD	Peter G4LHI	Jackie SWL1	Derek M0DRK	Stuart 2E0TMC	David M0PYC	David G7DIU	Dave G4ETG		
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ITEM 2.	<p><u>Minutes of the Previous AGM</u></p> <p>The Secretary summarized the minutes of the AGM on 16 Mar 2019. The minutes had been published on the Society's website shortly after that meeting. It was pointed out that Peter's 2E1CUK callsign had been incorrectly recorded as 2E0CUK. Otherwise Richard proposed</p>																											

<p>ITEM 3.</p>	<p>that the minutes be accepted and were seconded by Peter 2E1CUK and carried unanimously by the membership.</p> <p><u>Chairman's Report</u></p> <p>The Chairman listed the Special Events and mentioned that a greater number of society members had taken part or visited than previously. Railways on the Air and Jamboree on the Air as the Nene Valley Railway authorities had shown a lack of enthusiasm and a shortage of scouts had reduced the efficacy of the later event. We were unable to support the Buckden Village Fete also but hope to do so again this year if it should go ahead.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Malcolm M0OLG for organizing a number of fantastic talks and events again this year and went on to list them all.</p> <p>He also gave a big thank you to Julie M1JUL and Alan M0FDA for keeping the repeater active they were given a round of applause. The various society nets were listed and the controllers thanked for their efforts also.</p> <p>Nigel G6LSB had been the treasurer for 11 years and was standing down. The Chairman asked for a vote of thanks for him and wished him well for the future.</p> <p>A number of newly licenced amateurs had joined our ranks and were one of whom now held a full licence. Formal training courses were now underway with the first foundation course being held in early January. In addition to the Buckden Village Hall examination venue, Fenstanton Church Centre was now registered with the RSGB.</p> <p>Jim McCulloch G0IUM (not a club member) had become a silent key and the Chairman was disposing of his equipment on behalf of his wife.</p> <p>The 2019 Rally was again a success attracting praise from both stall holders and public for its organization.</p> <p>He thanked our librarians Angela M3FTV and Andy G6OHM and also Richard 2E0FRQ for helping so many of our members in erecting antennas after a busy day job.</p> <p>Finally, he thanked all the members who supported the Society and for their courtesy with visitors.</p> <p>[Secretary's Note. A copy of the Chairman's Report is available for viewing from the Secretary if required].</p>	
<p>ITEM 4.</p>	<p><u>Secretary's Report.</u></p> <p>The Secretary reported that the membership had increased again in the last year and was now at 81 members.</p>	

	<p>On the training front Simon M0ILR had done a sterling job as exams secretary and had supervised the first on-line foundation examination in January where all three candidates passed. The Secretary, in his capacity as Lead Instructor wished to thank Simon M0ILR and David M0SKT, Richard 2E0FRQ, Mervyn G4KLE, Malcolm M0OLG, and Andy G6OHM for volunteering to assist in the training.</p> <p>ITEM 5. <u>Treasurer's Report.</u></p> <p>In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman read a report provided by him. The Society was in a financially healthy position and recommended that the membership fee remain the same at £10.00 (£15.00 family membership). Angela M3FTV proposed and Clive 2E0OZX seconded and the matter carried.</p> <p>An independent Audit was due this year and would be arranged to coincide with the handover to a new Treasurer.</p> <p>[Secretary's Note: Both the audit and the handover have been delayed because of the outbreak of Covid-19].</p> <p>Funds had benefited from the sale of equipment donated by Gerald's G3AAZ estate and John G4KJJ.</p> <p>The Treasurer had thanked Malcolm M0OLG for another successful rally and those members who had assisted him as this provided the Society with the greatest share of income.</p> <p>Buckden Village Hall had increased the monthly rental by 5%; this related to the 2% in line with RPI and a one-off 3% for added security and amounted to £3.89 per week.</p> <p>The Treasurer went on to say that it had been a great pleasure and honour to have been the treasurer for 11 years but that his move (Cornwall) meant he was no longer able to continue.</p>	
ITEM 6.	<p><u>Repeater Keeper's Report</u></p> <p>The Repeater Keeper reported that the repeater continued to be used by a high number of users both by society members and a number of users passing through the coverage area. There had been a couple of operation hiccups, however.</p> <p>In April (2019) a strong data signal was observed on the input frequency and after considerable work had been traced to a crane in the Hemingfords. Software had been developed to mitigate the effects. This entailed disabling the 1750Hz tone access option but in turn this led to missing 'K's on occasion. Further work was done to mitigate this effect but there was still a reduced number of cases. Unfortunately, both short range devices (ISM data) and amateurs are secondary users of these frequencies and OFCOM were powerless to assist.</p> <p>A recently fitted back up battery was able to backfeed the output of the</p>	

	<p>power supply causing the protection circuit to fire which blew the output fuse of the PSU. An alternative power supply which had build in diode protection enabled the back-up battery to be connected directly to the power rails. The new PSU also had a fail alarm circuit and the control unit was now able detect when the repeater was operating on battery power. Some months later it was discovered that the new PSU, a switched mode system, was considerably more efficient (consuming 1.5 units per day as opposed to 2 units per day) than the old linear unit when the 6 monthly bill arrived.</p> <p>In early March the NOV had been renewed prior to handing over to a new repeater keeper as she (Julie M1JUL) was standing down. The repeater engineer (Alan M0FDA) was also handing over responsibility. Both thanked everyone for their support and wished the new incumbents every success for the future.</p>	
ITEM 7.	<p><u>Registered Agenda Items</u></p> <p>No agenda items had been received form members.</p>	
ITEM 8.	<p><u>President's Report and Election of Chairman</u></p> <p>The President Steve G1KWF wished to thank all members for their support during the last year. He went on to explain that the Chairman was due for election and called for nominations. Mervyn G4KLE had indicated that he was willing to continue if no one else wished to take over. There being no other volunteers the President called for a proposer and seconder to re-elect Mervyn. Richard 2E0FRQ and John M0JWS proposed and seconded and the membership carried the proposal. He then handed proceedings back to the Chairman.</p>	
ITEM 9.	<p><u>Election of Committee</u></p> <p>The Chairman displayed a chart showing those committee members currently in post and those who wished to resign. The outcome was as follows:</p> <p><u>Secretary:</u> David M0VTG. Proposed by Malcolm M0OLG, seconded by David M0SKT and carried.</p> <p><u>Treasurer:</u> Malcolm M0OLG. Proposed by Mervyn G4KLE, seconded by Julie M1JUL and carried.</p> <p><u>Repeater Keeper:</u> Andy G6OHM. Proposed by Mick M0IXL, seconded by John M0JWS and carried.</p> <p><u>Repeater Engineer:</u> Richard 2E0FRQ. Proposed by Peter 2E1CUK, seconded by Angela M3FTV and carried.</p> <p><u>Publicity:</u> David M0SKT. Proposed by Andy G6OHM, seconded by Richard 2E0FRQ and carried.</p>	

	<p><u>New Member:</u> Marc M0IMG. Proposed by Clive 2E0OZX, seconded by Julie M1JUL and carried.</p>	
	<p><u>New Member:</u> Ken M7ABW. Proposed by Andy G6OHM, seconded by Mick M0IXL and carried.</p>	
ITEM 10.	<p><u>Award of President's Trophy.</u> The ballot for the winner of the President's Trophy revealed that, in recognition and appreciation for all his hard work in steering the repeater through some difficult times over nearly 20 years, Alan M0FDA had emerged as the Winner. The President presented him with the Trophy to great applause from the members.</p>	
ITEM 11.	<p><u>Any Other Business.</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked Si M7TEM for his work on the Society's Facebook page.</p>	

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:44 hrs

David J Howlett  
M0VTG  
Honorary Secretary

7 April 2020