

HUNTINGDONSHIRE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

MINUTES OF AN AGM HELD AT BUCKDEN VILLAGE HALL – ON 10 MAR 2022

Present: Steve G1KWF (President)
Mervyn G4KLE (Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer)
David M0SKT (Publicity)
Andy G6OHM (Repeater Keeper)
Richard M0OFF (Repeater Engineer)
Malcolm M0OLG (Rally Organizer)
David M0VTG (Training/Equipment)
Angela M3FTV (Librarian)
Michelle (G0JIW)

Plus 16 members at Buckden Village Halls and 13 attended via Zoom (**38 Members in total**)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19:45 hrs

Action

ITEM 1. Welcome And Apologies for Absence.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting and asking if there were any additional apologies to pass on. Apologies were received from:

Dave G4ETG (Membership Secretary)
Paul G8TQI
Dale G5DKT
Paul 2E0KOA
Peter G4LHI

ITEM 2. Minutes of the Previous AGM

The Chairman summarized the minutes of the AGM on 12 Mar 2020. The minutes had been published on the Society's website shortly after that meeting. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Gareth (M5KVK) seconded by John (M0JWS) and carried unanimously by the membership.

ITEM 3a. Chairman's Report

These past two years since we have had to cope with Covid-19 have been difficult for all of us. But we have kept our lines of communications open and a special thanks must go to our **Net Controllers** who have been keeping us all connected through the whole of the Covid-19 period. Especially thanks to Chris G4UXV (Monday – Saturday, 10:00 and 14:30) and Alan M0FDA (Sunday's) plus those who have jumped in at short notice to assist.

It was a painful and sad time for many of us as we lost friends, particularly for those who have serious illness within the family or

suffered bereavement over the past 2 years. We especially remember those members who we have lost during Covid-19.

- Alan Steadman M5AEE
- Stig Rasmuyssen G1MVF
- Phil Towell G0AYX
- Chris Price 2E0DCA/A
- Joe Wells G0IWB

Also, to those who have been ill and not been able to join us on the Nets, David G7DIU and Geoff G6NBM

My past six years as chairman of the Huntingdonshire Amateur Radio Society committee has been a tremendous experience for me, working with a very enthusiastic committee and I thank them for their continued hard work on your behalf, also the club having achieved 90 paid-up members even through Covid-19, plus assisting with the planning of our club Rallies at Ernulf Academy thru the years and especially last year. I have met many interesting people and attended a wide range of functions and events, be it physical meetings and Special event stations BC (Before Covid-19) and then keeping our connections with virtual Zoom meetings and Special events Calls from home QTH.

In the 6 years as Chairman (not counting Covid lockdowns) I have only missed one Thursday Club meeting, have attended 7 funerals, visited 6 members in hospital (Peter G4LHI, Geoff G6NBM, Phil G7KJW and Phil G0AYX to name a few). I have collected and sold SK equipment for 5 Radio Hams, notably Stig G1MVF, Tony G8BVJ, James G0IUM, and with a team of 4, we dismantled the radio shack of Gerald G3AAZ and sold his equipment for the family, I also downsized and sold radio equipment for John G4KJJ.

We had yet another successful Rally at the Ernulf Academy last year with us being one of the few and only the second rally to take place after Covid. Another thanks to all those who came and helped make the rally a success and help with the organisation and marshalling as we didn't have the assistance of the Air Cadets. Thank you Malcolm M0OLG (Rally Coordinator) for helping it run smoothly.

As some of you may be aware, we had an incident at the Rally where a couple fell off some Garden Seats that were the property of the Academy. Through our Club RSGB insurance, (Aviva the RSGB Policy holders) have disputed the claim on our behalf and informed the claimant that they must contact the Academy – I received an email from our insurers this week that the case is closed, and no payments made.

We started our physical meeting back at Buckden Village Halls in October last year with concurrent Zoom meetings hosted by David M0VTG, then in January we decided to only physical meeting on the **2nd Thursday of the Month**, our meetings on the 4th Thursday of the Month would be a full **Club Zoom Meeting**. Details were advertised on the Web Site and on the club Net and of course we followed Government restrictions. We understand that some people do not want to meet in person and others do not like Zoom, but it was a way to keep us connected as well as through the Web Site.

You are aware that at this AGM there are several major posts on the committee that are up for election, these being.

- Chairman
- Secretary
- President

They will follow the Reports by the current committee members. Finally, thanks to all the members who have supported the Society and for their courtesy and help with visitors and those new to amateur radio.

ITEM 3b. Secretary's Report.

The Chairman took over the Secretaries position in October last year as Mish G0JIW changed jobs and took on additional tasks within her organisation.

ITEM 4. Treasurer's Report.

The Society is in good financial shape. And copies of the Account statement were distributed at the meeting.

An internal audit was carried out on 12 February 2022 by Dave G4ETG, and everything found to be in good order.

Agenda item #6 which is on the GB3OV upgrade proposal will have financial implication.

We received informed by Buckden Village Halls that the current hire rates will increase by 12% on 1st April 2022, this will take our current monthly payment from £41:63 to £46.63 per session. In discussion with the committee, it is recommended by most of the committee that fees should rise from £10 per annum to £12 pa for individual membership and from £15 pa to £16 pa for Family membership.

A discussion took place on the increase and a Vote was taken by the membership at the meeting and on Zoom. It was accepted with one against. proposed by Trevor (G8VTC) seconded by Clive (G3NKQ) – Fee increase Carried.

Membership Subs will start to be collected by the Membership Secretary (and Treasurer) when the Mem Sec arrives back from Holiday and details sent out on how to pay (Cheques, BACS, etc)

ITEM 5. Amendment to Constitution.

The Chairman outlined the changes in the constitution on the splitting of the Secretaries roles into Society Secretary and Membership Secretary:

Society Secretary who will be responsible for:

- (1) Keeping the minutes of all meetings of the

- Society.
- (2) Keep a record of all members attending Society meetings
 - (3) Ensuring that all correspondence is correctly handled.

Membership Secretary who will be responsible for:

- (1) Maintaining a master roll of all members.
- (2) Collecting subscriptions assisted by the Treasurer

This was met with general agreement and a proposal passed by the meeting.

ITEM 6. Repeater Manager and Engineers Report on GB3OV Upgrade

The meeting was handed over to Richard (M0OFF) and Andy (G6OHM) informed the meeting that GB3OV is working very well with a few minor problems that were rectified very quickly, they then went on to present the state of the site at GB3OV and work that has been carried out in phase one of the proposed renovation.

It was to be in three phased:

- (1) Security and safety of the Repeater Site.
- (2) Purchase of non-proprietary equipment to replace current setup.
- (3) Refurbishment of the Mast/Tower and antenna.

This was followed by photos of the site taken during the last visit in February 2022. Items highlighted were the electrics, earthing and security of repeater equipment room. These were actioned and substantial work carried out to rectify these. To make the site electrically safe. More work to follow.

Richard outlined the proposed equipment, it is a Non-Propriety Repeater, designed by Amateurs for Amateurs, it will be Fusion compatible but **NOT** Fusion Enabled, until Hunts ARS Members authorise it. Some initial research has been undertaken by Richard and Andy, presented to the Committee and is being presented to the Members for Twin Yaesu DR-2XE – VHF/UHF Repeaters at a cost of £2500:00.

In-depth discussion took place on the use and installation of any new equipment, Steve G1KWF referred to the work carried out by Alan M0FDA on the digital filtering installed to overcome the interference encountered over the years, John G4NPH made reference to the increased interference he is able to hear on the input of GB3OV from his QTH at Haddenham, coming from the North.

Steve G1KWF proposed that we vote the money (£2500:00) for the committee to use on this specific project, but more research must be carried out by the working group plus advisors. Once details are

finalised the group can come back and call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to present their finding. A vote took place, all in agreement with three abstentions. Seconded by Christian G5DOC.

ITEM 7. Registered Agenda Items

One item sent in by a member:

Gil - M7GGB – To compile a History of Hunts ARS and GB3OV, he has volunteered to be the point of contact for items for the historical collection.

ITEM 8/9. President's Report and Election of Chairman

Presentation of the **Presidents Trophy** to be awarded this year to **Chris G4UXV** for his continuous work in running the GB3OV Nets as the Controller throughout Covid-19 and beyond. Unanimously carried.

Chairman. Steve proposed **Richard M0OFF** as the new chairman. There being no other nominations. The proposal was carried

Secretary. The President stated that **Shaun 2E0FFK** was willing to undertake the duties of Society Secretary. There being no other nominations. The proposal was carried.

Treasurer. **Mervyn G4KLE** indicated that he was willing to continue as treasurer and, there being no other nominations. The proposal was carried

Election Of Members to The Committee 2022

Rest of the committee were re-elected as follows:

Membership Secretary: **Dave (G4ETG)**
Publicity: **David (M0SKT)**
Rally Co-ordinator: **Malcolm (M0OLG)**
Repeater Keeper: **Andy (G6OHM)**
Repeater Engineer: **Richard (M0OFF)**
Training/Equipment: **David (M0VTG)**
Librarian: **Angela (M3FTV)**
Co-Opted: **Michelle (Mish) (G0JIW)**

This was met with general agreement and the proposal was carried.

Simon M0ILR was stepping down from the committee, we thank him for his contribution over the last 3 years as the Exams Secretary.

ITEM 10. Election of New Society President

Steve G1KWF was standing down as Club President after his 5 years in the post, in his 20 years within this area he has been on the Hunts

ARS Committee for 19 years. He is now retiring from the committee.

There was only one nomination to take up the non-Executive appointment of Hunts ARS President, this was **David (M0VTG)**

This was met with general agreement and the proposal was carried

ITEM 11. Any Other Business.

An item was raised about the recording of GB3OV by John G4NPH, the Chairman informed the meeting that it was being recorded because of a problem with keyers and operators on the air. A suggestion was that we should record the Input, the Chairman/Repeater Engineer replied and will report back.

There being no further business the NEW Chairman (M0OFF) closed the meeting at 21:20 hrs

Mervyn S Foster

G4KLE

Minute Taker.

10 March 2022