

## **Minutes from the 2009 SARG AGM – held 21<sup>st</sup> April at the St John HQ, Bramford**

**Present:** - G7CIY, G1YFF, M0MUD, G1ZAF, G7DNT, M0JAY, G1GCV, M3PUY, M1ACB, G8BHC, G4YUG, G4LRB, G0TMX, G7LNU, 2E0VAN, M1DGY, M1TES, G4BAV, 2E0TYL, M3VDO, M0SUF, M1NIZ, 2E0BCM, M0MJH, M3FDQ, G6OHM, M0TVT, G0DCA, M6KLF, M3BDQ, G7SDC, 2E1FZH, M0PDA, G7OCD, 2E0MBF, G7DWN, 2E0BBM, G7OOW, G0FEA, M0ZPU, G0KBM, G0MGN, G8XOR, G6PDE, G8VZZ

**Apologies:** - G8BLS, G8CJL, M0NOZ, M0SRS, G7OPO, 2E0AXE, G0YAP, M3SAD, G4GGC, G7SMW, G1YRE

### **Welcome and Introductions:-**

People started arriving around 7pm for this years SARG AGM. Keith – G0FEA had activated the Special Call-sign of GB2SJA for talk-in to the new location. As it was a nice evening, most people met outside the building and had a chat.

Around 7.25pm, Keith – G7CIY asked for people to make their way into the meeting room and I think it's fair to say that we were all extremely pleased and surprised to see the large number of people present. It was quite literally standing room only!

Dave – G8XOR opened the meeting at 7:30pm and welcomed everybody. He then went through the domestic arrangements for the venue. There then followed a round the room introduction from everyone giving their name, call-sign and QTH.

### **Minutes and Matters arising from the last meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008:-**

The minutes of last years meeting had been emailed out to the previous attendees but as we had a lot of new faces, G7CIY proceeded to read the main points. As there were no corrections or amendments, these were duly signed by G8XOR.

Proposed by M0MJH, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M0MUD and carried by all.

The outstanding actions from last year were:

Internet Linking – To go ahead on a trial basis using GB3IH. G7DNT nominated as Project Leader. This is still ongoing, G7DNT will give an overview of what is planned at this meeting (see later) and more will be done once agreed with the NOV holder for GB3IH (see later).

Norman – G7OPO to find contact details for a donation to Ipswich Hospital Radio. This was STILL ongoing and no update was provided at the meeting. Pat suggested that we could perhaps donate to the Hospital Transport service instead as he had cause to use them recently. **AP** – G8VZZ to find contact information.

SARG to progress GB3EZ application – Completed

Noted that a superb engineering job had been done on GB3EZ and congratulations on the team led by G1YFF.

M0MUD to act as Project Lead on a possible 10m Repeater. Ongoing – M0MUD will give an update as part of this meeting. It was noted that equipment for the new repeater

could be easily sourced (G1YFF). Next steps to find suitable locations and do some on-air tests – possibly regular evening slots?

Low audio reports on GB3PO – Still ongoing, although a possible solution would be updating the radios for GB3EA (see later) and replacing the GB3PO sets.

Investigation of possible new GB3PO and GB3IH repeater sites – closed for the moment. We don't believe that the hospital site will be closed for some time yet, but we will revisit this when the time arrives.

Investigation of night-time de-sense of GB3EA. Closed – Problem was due to aircraft warning lights which have been replaced by the Site owner's maintenance contractor.

G7CIY to seek a new venue for the 2009 AGM – Done – we're here!

### **Chairman's Report:-**

This has been in my opinion an outstanding year in terms of what has been achieved by the Group.

My sincere thanks must go to everybody who has worked so hard to achieve five working repeaters under the control of the Group.

Special thanks must go to Jake G1YFF for his outstanding development of GB3EZ which has a coverage area well in excess of that predicted and a receive sensitivity second to none also for the replacement unit for GB3EF.

Alan G8CJL, Keith G7CIY, Pat G8VZZ and Keith G0FEA must also receive a special mention for their work for the Group.

Over the past year contributions to the Group exceeded expectations with donations being received from areas well outside our normal domain. Having started as a small Team concentrating on just two repeaters in Ipswich (GB3PO & GB3IH) the administration has not kept pace with this growth and I offer my apologies to anyone who feels that we have ignored them or not kept them fully informed of developments. Acknowledgement of donations is an area which is being addressed and I ask that people making donations provide Pat G8VZZ with contact details so that a formal "Thank You" can be sent. We need to look at how we distribute general information on what is going on and formal notification of the AGM so that it is received in particular by those who have donated and also the wider Amateur community. Keith G0FEA is looking at providing a better website to cover this aspect of publicity for the five repeaters.

We do not run the Group in a very formal manner and anybody who attends the AGM or makes a donation to the Group is considered to be part of the Group for the next year. They are at liberty to make suggestions on how we can improve either the repeaters in general or the way we operate. This may mean that the person making the suggestion may be tasked to either take onboard a project to investigate a possible solution and put their findings to members for discussion and/or approval at either the next AGM or via email to arrive at a consensus.

An initial visit has been made by Chris G6PDE and me to the Maternity Block at Ipswich so that he can access what is required to mount a TV repeater in the cabinets housing PO & IH. This is a result of work by Jason G7OCD in developing an analogue in, digital out 23cms TV repeater.

Finally very many thanks to Keith G0FEA and St. John Ambulance Suffolk for providing to-nights venue.

## Treasurer's Report:-

### Balance sheet as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Bank Statements	<u>28<sup>th</sup> February 2008</u>	<u>28<sup>th</sup> February 2009</u>
Current Account	-£226-89	£457-14
Premium Account	£1056-78	£816-35
Cash in treasurers hands	£60-00	£0-00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£889-89</b>	<b>£1273-49</b>

### Income

Loan from Pat Marks (treasurer to save bank charges) £250-00		
Subscriptions/donations (See separate list)	£190-00	£555-00
Bank interest	£14-99	£9-57
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>£814-57</b>

### Expenditure to 28<sup>th</sup> Febuary 2009

#### Cheque

100135 to Alan Dorling Inv No. 13 insurance GB3EZ	£12-04
100136 to Dave Sparrow aerial rigger exp Wickhambrook and postage	£69-58
Overdraft charges	£9-35

#### Cash Payments

To Alan Dorling Inv No. 12 insurance GB3EF/GB3IH/GB3PO/GB3EA	£44-90
To Anne Keen AGM hall and refreshments	£24-68
To Dave Sparrow for key cutting access to Wickhambrook	£103-00
To Pat Marks re-payment of loan	£167-50

**Total Expenditure** **£431-09**

**Profit /Loss** **£383-48**

Note Pat marks still owed £82.50 on his loan of £250-00

Accounts prepared by and signed by Pat Marks G8VZZ

The accounts were approved as an accurate statement by G0MGN, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2E0BCM and carried by all.

### **Auditors Statement: -**

I have checked the accounts and find that they represent a true picture of the funds held by South Anglia repeater group. This year they show a healthy profit due in part to a lower level of spending on large projects but also a much higher level of donations from users of the repeaters (people who forgot last year making up for it this year ) we thank all our user for their donations and encourage them to continue to support the group.

Signed – Russell Keen G7OOW

### **Nominations and Election of Officers:-**

The outgoing officers indicated that they were willing to stand for a further year and there were no other nominations from the floor. The officers for 2009 are:-

Chairman – Dave Sparrow – G8XOR

Secretary – Keith Gaunt – G7CIY

Treasurer – Pat Marks – G8VZZ

Auditor – Russell Keen – G7OOW

The above was proposed by G0KBM, 2<sup>nd</sup> M3VDO and carried by all

**Repeater Keeper** – G8XOR reported at this meeting due to health reasons the existing NOV holder Alan Dorling – G8CJL, felt that he was unable to remain the repeater keeper. Prior to the meeting, the committee met to discuss a proposal to put to the floor which was that G1YFF become the keeper for GB3EA and GB3EZ and that G7CIY become the keeper for GB3IH, GB3PO and GB3EF. (\*Subject to G8CJL's approval)

This was proposed by G7OOW, 2<sup>nd</sup> G1ZAF and carried by all.

Following on from this to recognise the 25 years or more work that Alan has done for the Repeater Group, G7CIY proposed the creation of President. This was 2<sup>nd</sup> by G8VZZ and carried by all. G8XOR said that he would try and find some gift that could be presented to Alan (AP).

Representative for the West of the Region – As the SARG repeaters cover a much wider area than before it was felt that we were lacking in representation towards the West of the region. Terry – G0TMX said that he would happily take on this responsibility. (Many thanks from the SARG)

So the additional positions within SARG are:

President – Alan Dorling – G8CJL

GB3PO, GB3IH & GB3EF \*

Repeater Keeper – Keith Gaunt – G7CIY

GB3EA & GB3EZ\*

Repeater Keeper – Jake Bevan – G1YFF

Technical Consultant – G1YFF

Western Rep – Terry Beddington – G0TMX

10m Repeater Leader – Bob - M0MUD

TV Repeater – Chris Irish – G6PDE

Jason Flynn – G7OCD

Internet Linking – Keith Handscombe – G7DNT

Web Master – Keith Hotchkiss – G0FEA

G8XOR raised the question as to whether our name – currently **South Anglia Repeater Group** was still appropriate as we have expanded our coverage. He said that we would like to keep the same initials and proposed **Suffolk Amateur Repeater Group**.

After some discussion, it was felt that our existing name was fine so a change was not required.

We now came to the point in the evening for the presentations and there was a change in the running order due to various things. The content of the presentations are attached as additions to these minutes.

First on was Keith – G7DNT with a talk on Internet Linking followed by Bob M0MUD with an update on the 10m Repeater and then Jake – G1YFF with a Technical Update on the repeaters and finally Chris and Jason doing a double-act on the new TV repeater.

Bob – we liked your slide presentation – especially the bottom! Does Tash know!

During Jake's talk he put forward a couple of proposals to the floor:-

Should we investigate the possibility of Digital Access (D-Star) on GB3EA?

Prop M0SUF, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2E0BCM and carried by all that we go ahead. (AP)

Should we add 1750Hz tone access to GB3EA to open the repeater to a wider audience?

Jake confirmed that the CTCSS access would be more sensitive than the tone access.

Prop G8VZZ, 2<sup>nd</sup> M3VDO and carried by all. (AP)

Bob asked about the possibility of linking some of the repeaters together. Jake said that he would look into it and Jason said that he might have some kit available to achieve this (AP).

A vote of thanks was proposed by G7CIY for the excellent work undertaken by G1YFF and the team.

#### **Date and venue of next meeting:-**

There being no other business, the meeting was formally closed at around 9:45 where refreshments were provided. Many thanks were noted to G0FEA for tonight's venue which was provided Free of Charge by the kind donation of [St John Ambulance](#).

There was some discussion as to next year's venue and to be as fair as we can it was decided that Stowmarket would be a central as we could get. SARG will find a venue and let everyone know. (AP) The date will be approximately the same time next year.

Keith Gaunt – G7CIY

SARG Secretary

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009

## **Outstanding Actions as at 21<sup>st</sup> April 2009**

Keith – G7DNT to continue his work and liaise with SARG on GB3IH Internet Linking

Pat – G8VZZ to investigate the possibility of getting a donation to Ipswich Hospital Transport Service

Bob – M0MUD to continue work on the 10m Repeater and perhaps arrange for some path testing with local amateurs

SARG to carry on with investigation of low audio on GB3PO

Dave – G8XOR to find a suitable gift for Alan – G8CJL

SARG to investigate 1750Hz and Digital Access to GB3EA

Jake – G1YFF and Jason G7OCD – to investigate possible linking of repeaters

SARG to arrange date and venue for next year

Keith – G0FEA to include contact points on the Web Site for SARG officers and positions.