



Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society

Hon. Secretary Joe Kirk G3ZDF 111 Stockbridge Road
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MINUTES

Committee Meeting Thursday 1st February 2018

HMS Collingwood

Present:	David Firth	2E0GLL	Chairman	
	Joe Kirk	G3ZDF	Secretary	
	Wally Walker	G4DIU	Area Rep Coordinator	By Skype
	Mick Puttick	G3LIK	Hon. Vice President	
	Doug Bowen	G0MIU	Commodities Manager	
	Steve Legg	M6WVV	Shack Manager	
Apologies:	Marc Litchman	G0TOC	Membership Manager	
	Adrian Mori	2E0JVM	Treasurer	
	Martin Longbottom	M0EHL	Co-opted serving member	

Tasks to be completed are underlined>

The Meeting started at 18.33

1. Chairman's opening remarks

- a. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

- a. As above.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

- a. Addition to published Minutes from Wally G4DIU
The Chairman was asked if it would be politically correct to approach Mod Navy regarding BR 4006, to ascertain if our Society is still governed by the contents of BR4006 and its rules and regulations regarding the R.N.A.R.S. being a recognised sport within the Service and for recognition of it's Society Officers and Committee members, with regard to the running of the Society business and Effects etc.
Are we still governed by the rules set out in BR4006 Change 1. ?.
The subscriptions to the Society need to be updated.
Clause 15 (life Membership) Conditions and requirements need to be brought up to date.
The conditions of membership need to be brought up to date.
A Quorum needs to be specified as an ODD number of Committee Members in excess of four, thereby negating the need for a Casting Vote. (See Society Conditions and Regulations dated 2016 - Change 7).
The jobs and responsibilities of each Committee Officer need to be formally laid down and adhered to.
It may be Political to ascertain if serving members of Society can still claim costs etc for carrying out Society business.
- b. Chairman said he believed we were no longer governed by BR4006. He was researching Joint Services Publications (JSPs) to see whether we were governed by any of them. For the moment our Constitution

belongs to us and we are governed by it until such time as we find a replacement or one is put there for us.

- c. The 2014 Constitution is the current one.
- d. Proposed and agreed that the Constitution be reviewed on an annual basis.
- e. A quorum of 5 members excluding the Chairman was agreed.
- f. Job specifications for each member of the Committee to be updated with the suggestion that they not be made too specific. (Chairman & Secretary)
- g. Ad hoc expenses can be claimed.
- h. Proposed by Doug G0MIU and seconded by Mick G3LIK and agreed unanimously.

4. Matters arising

- a. Shack Manager was asked to get estimates for the refurbishment and decoration of the Shack

Our building is no longer maintained so Steve will make arrangements for the walls to be washed down, scraped and painted. The carpet is in a poor state and he will look into the cost of recovering the floor in the HQ Shack possibly with industrial carpeting.

- b. The changes to admission to membership of the Society in accordance with the proposal accepted at the AGM for free membership for under 25s was published in Winter 2017 Newsletter. No comments were received so that will now be implemented.
- c. Ratification of social media policies The new policies were agreed and will be published on the website. Chairman said the policies were compiled from a number of sources but not the RN. However, if we come under the jurisdiction of the RN they will have to be changed to match MOD policies.

There was a question about Internet access and whether our network was linked in any way to the DefenceNet. Joe said that we paid for the broadband circuit ourselves and that it did not have any connection with the RN other than being routed over MOD property. As part of the installation we had to have it checked and approved by the communications security section in Collingwood.

5. Chairman's report

- a. Chairman reported that we had made progress with the Social Media and System policies.
- b. It was agreed that any social media channels that are branded as RNARS must come under the jurisdiction of the Committee.
- c. Secretary to write to Donald Napier G1LEV (Yahoo RNARS-2017) and David Corney G4UPT (Facebook RNARS).
- d. The next Aerial Day and Workshop clearance day will be Sunday 11 Feb.
- e. Chairman said he was reviewing the Constitution and a Members Handbook.
- f. He said he was trying to arrange regular events including short presentations on Tuesday afternoons and some field day type outside operation. A subsidised visit to Bletchley Park was also suggested. It was also suggested that we have a field day type operation in Collingwood's Sports Field.
- g. It was also suggested that we should prepare some RNARS posters and to have a small display in the Chaplaincy in Collingwood to attract attention. Steve to follow up

- h. Chairman will be writing to the Commander of Collingwood to thank him for arranging the repair of the central heating boiler.

6. Secretary's report

Sympathy cards sent to:

Silent Key Date Notified	Membership Number	Callsign	First Name	Surname	Silent Key Date
30/01/2018	0092	ZS1WA	Mickey	Warr	13 Nov 16
21/01/2018	0150	G13OBO	David	Waugh	Jan 2018
08/12/2017	0437	9M6XRO	John	PLENDERLEITH	05/12/2017
08/12/2017	0767	G4DJN	John	KERR	04/12/2017
11/12/2017	1561	VK4CU	Colin	WHALE	08/12/2017
12/10/2017	2935	G0FEO	Tony	QUY	16/07/2017

- Christmas greetings were sent to our sister societies in Europe
- Phil GILKJ has resigned as a rally representative.
- We managed to find someone to take the AR88 off our hands – one less item in the workshop.
- We need to start thinking about Collingwood Open Day. (Subsequent to meeting Saturday 2 June is on RNBT site but not Collingwood.) Recommendations and lessons from last year attached to Minutes for guidance.

7. Membership Secretary's report

- Marc said he had replied to Ken Lown's (#2008) request for reassurance about his details being divulged. He had assured him that his details would not knowingly be divulged to any third parties outside of the RNARS and that we retain his name, callsign and postal address on the Society's database in order to enable the delivery of his Newsletter
- Chairman reminded everyone that the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will soon become law (25-May-2018) and that we must comply with it. We will probably need to advise all our members why we store their details and what we use them for.
Membership Secretary to look at the implications of the GDPR and report to the next Committee.

8. Treasurer's report

- Balances are as follows;
Current Account £2,972.40
Deposit Account £11,168.61
Fixed Term Deposit £35,270.43 (fixed until Dec 2018)
As you will see still financially solvent! - nothing else to report.
Adrian 2E0JVM

9. Proposal to appoint Donald Napier GILEV as Data Comms Manager (G3ZDF)

- As reported above Secretary to send GILEV copies of relevant social media policies and get confirmation that he is in agreement with them.

10. Managers' reports

- Shack Manager
After the recent storms Steve carried out a visual check of the aerials and nothing untoward was found or noticed.
Decoration of the Shack is moving ahead.
Steve to prepare a notice to members using the HQ Shack telling them to leave the Shack as they found it.

Aerial Day to be combined with a clearout of surplus and redundant equipment.

- b. QSL Manager
Nothing to report
- c. Web Site
Nothing new to report except that a suggestion had been made to improve the access security on the site. Joe said he had approached Shine Systems to see if they could help but had not got a response.
- d. Area Rep Coordinator
Wally reported that he had emailed all the Area Reps some 18 months previously but that he still had many gaps in the coverage of rallies and events.
He also said that he had not been receiving rally reports.
Joe said he had booked a stand for Kempton Park on 15 April. There will only be 1 rally there this year.
- e. Commodities Manager
Doug reported that postage rates would have to be reviewed.
He also said he is now able to provide caps with the Society logo.
They will be added to the list of commodities.
- f. Newsletter
Joe said that he had canvassed some 350 of our members by email for articles and photos for the Newsletter and had a very good response.
With the help of other Committee members he planned to get the Spring Issue published making use of much of the material he had been sent.

11. Date of next Meeting

5th April 2018 at 19.00

The Meeting closed at 20.02.

Open Day 2017 Reviews

1. Aerial stuff
 - a. Replace/fix G5RV
 - b. Check out why the beam was giving inconsistent results
 - c. Erect Doublet
 - d. Have a selection of HF aerials in addition to the ones we have. They don't have to be high gain, simple verticals would be enough for receiving
 - e. Buy/make a set of bandpass filters so that we can operate multiple HF bays even at the cost of keeping output power lower
 - f. Install a method of sharing the various aerials between the different bays. We missed out today by not having an aerial to connect to the FT857 for digital modes
 2. PC stuff
 - a. Change the passwords on all the PCs to be the same
 - b. Make sure we have a designated person to look after the PC
 - i. Update the rnars wordpress blog which appears on the RNARS website
 - ii. Monitor Skype
 - iii. Run Echolink
 - c. Look at the possibility of having a small computer (laptop, Pi etc) to feed the main TV screen with any videos we want to show in order to free up the PC on the digital bay for use with digital modes.
 3. Find a gazebo/small tent we could erect outside the shack to have a simple station to attract passers by.
 4. Have a tent on one of the greens with a small (battery powered?) set-up running to attract attention of those who may not pass by the entrance to the shack
 5. Have multiple morse buzzers in the shack and in any outside set ups
 6. Create more periscope.tv clips
- Joe

Tony

My random thoughts and flights of fancy.

"Feeder" site on the road at the west corner of club plot.

With table (and awning) with a PSK receiver on FLdigi showing all sub-band activity with Loop antenna. so no operator needed but people to explain ask, dressed as ??)

Lots to see/hear happening on a big TV

Famous Amateur Radio Ops such as King Hussein of Jordan (If it is good enough for them...)

Follow the code, treasure hunt from feeder round the main door. Letter+code in random order.

You win if you get the order correct. (I haven't thought that through)

"Brass rubbing" of code tree, bigger than the one I showed you. Something done to remember the day and take away.

Table in the centre of the room divided into 4? Maybe themed as "It is not expensive". with a "bedroom" receive setup (tablet+SDR dongle), a minimalist TXVR (BITX40?), Simple/Stealth antenna examples.

Maybe a CB setup.

Radio Magic, communication with light/microwave, Yagi demo, bounce of moon/ionosphere.

And, and.....

Tony

Steve

Yesterday was ok, a steady flow of Radio Interested people came in but we never managed to attract the normal public. This was probably due to:

- Signage: our banner was up but there was nothing to attract them into what they see is just another building that they walk past.
- No attractions / activities outside to bring families over and in.

I overheard many people saying they thought amateur radio was dead, no one did it any more, it needs to come out of the shack so they can see it happening, maybe a operator outside next year, invite/find some lady operators to show that it is not just the elder man that does it.(It was good to see a lady come in and ask questions). I also heard some adults wanting to look in but their kids were not interested so they walked on by.

It was good to see the Sultan cadet come back in to visit, could we get some more of them or scouts involved so families can see that it is for children and young adults to?

We could run simple competitions outside or in, maybe use pmr 446 radios and get them to call other stations around Collingwood, maybe set up the cadets at different stations and they have to find them and call in to the shack, once they have found and used all the stations they can get a prize (The RN had people all over Collingwood that had to be found and then were handing out Ship Trump cards that children and adults were seeking out and collecting, this was very successful).

Some technical issues with antennas and filters but this can be addressed. Maybe a working day / BBQ /operating day or two could be arranged for a weekend so with man power we can resolve some of the issues.