



Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society
Hon. Secretary Joe Kirk BSc MBCS C1TP G3ZDF 111 Stockbridge Road
Chichester, West Sussex PO19 8QR

MINUTES

Committee Meeting Thursday 9th July 2015

HMS Collingwood

Present:	Doug Hotchkiss	G4BEQ	Chairman	
	Joe Kirk	G3ZDF	Secretary	
	Dave Lacey	G4JBE		By Skype
	Wally Walker	G4DIU	Membership Secretary	By Skype
	Mick Puttick	G3LIK	Hon. Vice President	
	Nigel Auckland	M0NAF		
	Simon Tribe	G0IEY		
	Julia Tribe	G0IUY		
	Bill Mahoney	G3TZM		By Skype
	Adrian Mori	M0JVM	Treasurer	
	Doug Bowen	G0MIU		
Apologies:	Al Terry	G4PZV		

1. Chairman's opening remarks

The Meeting started at 19.25 and the Chairman welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies for absence

- As above.

3. Minutes of the last two meetings

- Replace para 4(e) with:

Following the discussion at our last Meeting Bill TZM reported that he had investigated an alternative venue for holding our AGM. He said his old school held their annual dinner this year at the Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club and stated that it was good. This could also serve as an AGM venue for the RNARS. Literally round the corner is the Dolphin pub opposite Portsmouth Cathedral which has good food and may serve as a potential venue for the social attached to the AGM. There are lots of hotels and B&B's in the Portsmouth area. Attached are more details of the club.

- Proposed by Nigel, seconded by Bill and agreed unanimously.

4. Matters arising

- 4 (b) Wally to report on progress with the booklet on the history of the Society

Wally said the history was up to date as far as possible. He had received Doug BEQ's notes about his time on the Committee. He said that Joe had asked on the Yahoo group for dits about the move to Collingwood and he would wait for a couple of weeks to see what came in before wrapping up the history..

- b. 4(e) Joe to redesign Application Form to include Rally name **DONE**
- c. 5(d) All members of the Committee to suggest appropriate wording for a get well card To be covered in the Chairman's report
- d. 9(e) Bill G3TZM to prepare and distribute a press release on our activities for Open Day **DONE**

5. Chairman's Report

- a. Referring to his request for suggested wording for a Society Get Well card Doug said he had received just a single suggestion, from Dave. He wanted the wording because the card had to cover a range of situations including where the recipient's illness was not likely to get better and the standard Get Well wording would be inappropriate. Doug said he was very disappointed at the poor response he had received and that it had made him question his role as Chairman. A lot of work had gone into building up the Committee and making the Society suitable for the 21st century. He said that if he did not get support from Committee members in the future when he asked for responses he would have no hesitation in standing down.
- b. Doug said that we had arranged to present Certificates of Appreciation to the two serving members allocated to us for Collingwood Open Day but in the event just one of the recipients had turned up. The second certificate would be presented at a later date..

6. Secretary's Report

- a. The Icom Marketing Manager Ian Lockyer visited the HQ Shack in order to compile a press release about GB7RN.
Joe G3ZDF

7. Membership Secretary's Report

- a. Wally said that things were ticking over at the moment, subs continued to dribble in

8. Treasurer's Report

- a. Adrian reported that he had renewed the insurance for the shack. There had been a small increase in the premium. He needed to review the assets covered by the insurance and would do that with the Shack Manager.
- b. Current account has £3,000, Savings account £16,451.70 and the Fixed interest £34,145.65. The fixed interest was due to mature on 9 December..

9. Open Day

- a. Chairman reported that externally the Open Day had gone very well. There had been a good response from people around the world but and it was very big but there were very few people helping out on the day. He thanked everyone who had helped and said that we needed to get more helpers next year.
- b. We had a single RNARS visitor and he said this was a poor show from the membership given how many live within travelling distance of Collingwood.

- c. Nigel said that things had been better than last year but that we must ensure we stick to what had been scheduled. HF conditions had been particularly poor. He said we needed to get more publicity earlier and that the Stan Matthews our ex-officio had done a very good job. It was suggested that we needed to get a couple of A boards in order to guide people towards the Shack and to erect a display between the two main masts.
- d. Simon said that we needed some more flexibility when filming on the main parade ground. He pointed out that while we had limitations placed on us there were other photographers who were allowed to get much closer to the action who were not even wearing the high-visibility jackets we had to wear.

10. AGM

- a. Chairman said that the programme for the AGM was as follows
 - i. 11.30 Up Spirits in the HQ Shack
 - ii. 12.00 Lunch in the WO & Senior Rates mess
 - iii. 13.00 Presentation on D-STAR by Dave Williams G8PUO
 - iv. 14.00 AGM and presentation of awards followed by afternoon tea and prize draw
- b. Security for the AGM seemed excessive and Doug was in contact with the appropriate people to see if we could have a security regime similar to that used for other events where lists of attendees were given to the Main Gate personnel. Notwithstanding, anyone coming to the AGM needs to let Mick G3LIK know in ample time.
- c. The Chairman asked how many of the present officers and Committee were prepared to offer themselves for re-election. Bill TZM said he would not be offering himself but everyone else said they would be prepared to continue.
- d. The Chairman said this would be his last year in the office and that we needed to identify someone as his replacement. He felt that some of the key attributes needed were:
 - i. Ability to approach senior management, to talk to them and to negotiate with them
 - ii. Experience of and knowledge of the Society
 - iii. Ability to ensure that everyone operated within the Constitution
 - iv. Act as a point of reference
 - v. Some experience of management
 - vi. Ability to plan for the future
 - vii. Impartial
 - viii. Approachable
 - ix. Consistent
 - x. Respect of those that appointed him.
- e. Ideally we need someone to volunteer before Doug steps down so they can shadow him and gradually assume the office over the next year.
- f. The Secretary said that Diana had asked if the AGM could be streamed live over the Internet since we were able to do it for Open Day. There

was a discussion about streaming in contrast to recording the meeting. It was agreed unanimously that we should video the meeting and offer it later for viewing to members through restricted access. Diana had also asked if the Society could produce a video showing all aspects of the working of the HQ Shack. This was agreed. ATV group to produce video of the HQ Shack.

11. Increase Newsletter to 4 issues per year(GM6HGW)

- a. Colin has proposed increasing the number of newsletter to 4 a year as he is now well served with content.
- b. Doug B is happy to handle the additional issue. He had also calculated that we could produce the 4th issue within the current subscription rates.
- c. It was suggested that we could restrict each issue to 36 pages to reduce the possibility of problems with postage. It was also suggested that we could use matt instead of coated paper.
- d. The proposal was agreed unanimously by the Committee.

12. Purchase of a VHF/UHF handheld transceiver with D-Star functionality for HQ Shack.(M0NAF)

- a. Nigel proposed the Society purchase the handheld for use in and around the HQ Shack. The VHF bay has only the one fixed transmitter. If we are on VHF then the shack cannot use D-Star: if D-Star is in use then VHF is not available. For £400 we can purchase an ID-51E with SD card pre-programmed with all UK repeaters. I ask the committee to authorise this purchase please. We need to be able to use the D-Star repeater to its full capability for the members, and need to VHF available at the same time.
- b. The security of the handheld was raised and Nigel said it would be locked in the cupboard when the shack was not manned.
- c. There was a wide ranging discussion about the rig and the Chairman asked the committee to vote for or against the proposal. The Committee voted 5 in favour of the proposal and 3 against. Bill TZM abstained. The Chairman said as the proposal had been carried the rig could be bought.

13. Managers' Reports

a. Shack Manager

- i. Since my last report a lot of time was taken up with getting the ATV section working to full efficiency for Open day, and making sure the D-Star repeater was also 100%. Despite the effort there were still a few problems ATV wise on Open Day that will need to be addressed for next year.
- ii. Since Open Day a brand new automatic A.T.U. has been purchased and fitted. This tunes to between less than 1:1.1 and less than 1:1.7 on the entire range from 20M to 10M. Instructions have been posted on how to use it, and I have added my mobile number for an emergency.
- iii. The Beam antenna has been checked for resonance and found to be good, However, the G5RV when checked was found to be

not working!! When it was taken down there were broken connections on the central isolator where the ladder line should have been connected. With help from Simon tribe (thank you Simon) all the connections have now been both crimped AND soldered. It is hoped that this will last a little longer than in the past. However, the antenna is of poor quality and a better one may well need to be purchased. We are lucky that no damage was done to any of the transmitters by this fault. The G5RV is now resonant on 10M to 80M.

- iv. This shows the benefit of at least annual maintenance.
- v. It is now time to start on the carpentry work in the shack, and this may well necessitate the shack being closed for at least one week. Examinations in the shack have helped to delay this work.
- vi. There is a problem with one of the shack's Yaesu FT-1000's in as much as the drive for the tuning dial is very stiff. I have had a look at to get to the part will involve a lot of dismantling. I am happy to have another look with Simon, using his greater experience, but would ask that if we both feel it would not be good for us to tackle the job I can send it to Yaesu in Winchester and get it repaired, and maybe serviced and re-aligned at the same time.

Nigel Auckland, M0NAF Shack Manager

It was agreed by the Committee that the FT1000 should be returned to Yaesu for repair.

- vii. Joe added to Nigel's report by saying that we now had JT9 and JT65 in the digital bay.

b. QSL Manager

No report

c. Data. Comms. Manager's Report Report for the RNARS Committee Meeting to be held on 9th July 2015.

All is quiet - the Yahoo group membership remains stable with 159 members.

A suggestion:

As the RNARS has the facilities, the abilities and the personnel to film and stream an event such as the recent Collingwood Open Day, does the committee not think that it might be a good idea that the AGM should be filmed and streamed ??

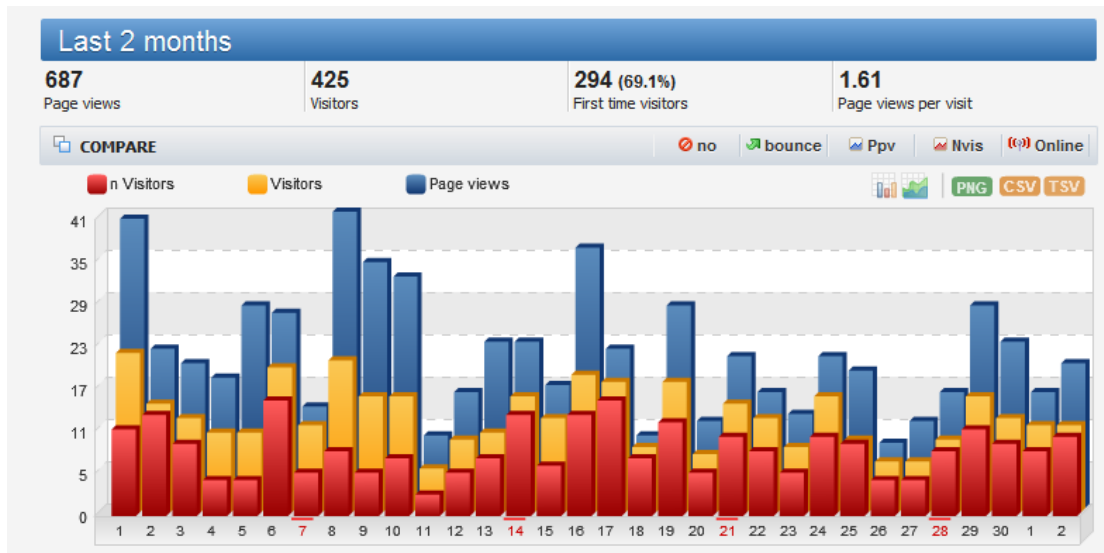
It would be of interest to the many members who are "on line" and perhaps encourage more folk to make the journey south [especially if there was also a "documentary" showing all aspects of the facilities now available in the HQ Shack].

73, Diana

~~~~~G0RNO/3926~~~~~

**d. Web Site**

The rolling news continues to be updated most days. Otherwise all quiet.



.Joe G3ZDF

e. **Area Rep Co-ordinator**

Wally said we were currently present at approximately 2 rallies a month.

f. **Newsletter Editor**

Nothing to report regarding the newsletter.  
Colin GM6HGW

g. **Commodities Manager**

Nothing to report.

h. **Almoner's Report**

Julia reported that she had sent 4 condolences cards and 4 Get Well cards including 1 of the new design.

**14. Other items**

**15. Date of next Meeting**

10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month

The Meeting closed at 20.45.