

**ESSEX REPEATER GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF THE 2007 AGM**



Date: 18th October 2007, 2000Hrs  
Venue: Danbury Village Hall

Those Present: 2006/2007 Committee comprising:-

Chairman:	Mike Wheaton G4ZPE
Hon. Secretary:	Murray Niman G6JYB
Hon. Treasurer:	Clive Ward G1EUC
Trevor Downey M0TDA	

Plus the following ERG members:-

Martyn Medcalf G1EFL, Peter Franklin G1FOA, David Davis G3SVI, Anthony Jermyn M3KPQ, John Slade G0IJN, Richard Burt G1YKZ, Dick House G0ULU, Don Kees M0DKS, Alan Radley G0TTM, Laurie White G0JAO, Leslie Radley G4JDS, Clive King 2E0TTT, Graham Leggett G7JYD, Anthony Martin M1FDE, Sonia Mison M0TUL, Adam Housden M0GWS, Bob Cheverall M0DTA, Pat Higham G8JLM, Pat Honeywell G7FCJ, Trevor Hawkins M5AKA

- and visitors Myra Davis 2E0MYR and John Bowen G8DET

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Committee members: Roy Knight 2E0KWG, Keith Wainwright G1NHW;  
Auditor: Tony Day G6OXQ  
Chris Chapman G0IPU, Simon Wilton G7HCD, Steve Heard G3MII, Carl Thomson G3PEM

### **2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM**

Acceptance of the 2006 AGM minutes was and passed unanimously.

### **3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman gave the following report to those present:-

*I would like to thank you all for attending this AGM and coming out on a cold night to sit in a hall and listen to a load of waffle but it does show your support is very much thought of.*

*Here we are another year over and a lot of work done on behalf of the repeater group getting the 6mtr Antenna down and replacing it with the spare, It seems the weak spot on it is the trap area which I have an idea to put right at some time on the one I have at home and then replace it with the one on site at the moment, The problem is the Trap is in the middle of the antenna and that being about 18 foot in length causes it to whip at the trap point and this then loosens the joint making the Repeater deaf. Since I have replaced the antenna we have had a report from Braintree of 60 db over 9 and better coverage in other areas. At this point I would like to thank Bob and his wife Lynn for looking after us while we are up on site feeding us with copious amounts of food and coffee.*

*Also looking at the Digital Radio Repeater to possibly run from my home or one of our sites. This is one thing to look forward to in the future.*

*My 23cms voice beacon is still running from my home QTH beaconing out every 15 minutes running 10 watts into a vertical collinear, Reports would be very welcome on coverage.*

*Would like to thank all those club members who have supported us over the years and helped us with work also the dedicated committee members who have given me there support over many years none of this would have been possible without them so thank you once again and would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you*

*Very Merry Christmas from Zipy G4ZPE, the Hon Chairman ERG.*

#### **4 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Honorary Secretary gave the following report to those present:

*Good evening, it's good to see so many here tonight and Thank you Mike. As you know many of us have other lives so I apologise if we haven't been able to do everything we set out to. Extra help for busy committee members is always welcome. Fortunately GB3DA and GB3ER have had a very reliable year, though we would appreciate more use on our 70cms box. Don't forget that 2m FM is now a 12.5kHz spaced band as we know with GB3OK near London – do bear that in mind when buying radios and look for ones with decent narrow receiver filters.*

*It's unfortunate but so far we have not made any headway with 23cms applications and that's on the shelf at present. Its certainly the case that we will be looking closer at the new D-Star systems in the coming year so do let us know if you have an interest in them. We certainly have seen that the MB7IDA Echolink system has been popular and a new internet linked digital voice repeater may therefore be interesting as well.*

*One thing we have noticed though is that the pent-up demand for local M3 training is tailing off which we need to consider for future activity.*

*My thanks to all who have helped during the year, whether it's at rallies or hosting committee meetings*

*Murray G6JYB*

#### **5 HONORARY TREASURERS REPORT**

The Honorary Treasurer gave the following report to those present:

*Good Evening. You should all have a copy of the year's statement of accounts.*

*Paid up Membership levels have decreased to 37 from 63. We were disappointed at last years AGM numbers. At Colchester although the rally was excellent, though we didn't do too well membership-wise. Canvey was a little better but the W&S Open Day also gave us less income this year.*

*Our income from donations and sales fell, in line with the declining subs. However our control of costs has been maintained and we have significantly benefited from higher interest rates particularly since we went over to Internet banking.*

*Looking forward to 2008 we expect to have at least two main local events:*

- **Canvey Rally on 3rd February 2008**, where we will do our best to attract potential and existing members to the stand
- **Colchester Rally in July**: We look forward to another good attendance this year - and hopefully more subscription income.
- **Waters & Stanton Open Day in May**: In the past this has proved to be a good event in many ways and we await confirmation that it will be on again in 2008.

*As the accounts show (or don't!), administration costs e.g. stamps, envelopes, photocopying, continue to be heavily subsidised by committee members - even the food and the raffle for this meetings.*

*We would appreciate it if we had regular renewals instead of in a lot of cases having to chase people*

*This year has been a particular strain with free time being short to keep accounts in a timely fashion as well as repeater repairs*

*Finally I would like to give special thanks to Tony our Auditor who, as always, was very patient and helpful*

*Thank you - any questions?*

To a question from the floor on the £30 Equipment costs, Clive explained that these were for crystals for the new GB3CMS Beacon source, which involves further work this year.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Martyn G1EFL, seconded by Alan G0TTM and passed unanimously.

## **6 ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE**

The old committee stood down. The new committee of six as per the calling notice plus additional four volunteers in the meeting was voted in en-bloc without objection as follows:-

<b>Position</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Secunder</b>
<b>Chairman</b>	Mike Wheaton G4ZPE	Murray G6JYB	Trevor M0TDA
<b>Hon Secretary</b>	Murray Niman G6JYB	Trevor M0TDA	Clive G1EUC
<b>Hon Treasurer</b>	Clive Ward G1EUC	Keith G1NHW	Mike G4ZPE
<b>Ordinary Members</b>	Trevor Downey M0TDA	Roy 2E0KWG	Murray G6JYB
	Roy Knight M3KWG	Murray G6JYB	Keith G1NHW
	Keith Wainwright G1NHW	Clive G1EUC	Roy 2E0KWG
And at/before the AGM:-	Martyn Medcalf G1EFL		
	Simon Wilton G7HCD		
	Bob Cheverall M0DTA		
	Anthony Martin M1FDE		

## **7 ELECTION OF THE AUDITOR**

Prior to the meeting Tony Day G6OXQ had indicated his willingness to continue as auditor.

Proposed by Murray G6JYB and seconded by Clive G1EUC, Tony was re-elected unanimously.

## **8 SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR 2007/8**

Clive G1EUC, Hon Treasurer, made the following proposal:-

*The committee have carefully reviewed the situation. We don't think anything is to be gained by raising the subscription rate; so our intention is to take affirmative action to drive the membership numbers up back up*

*Any ideas? For a start has anyone anything saleable (equipment etc) they could donate for the next rally?*

*My proposal to the meeting is for the main rate to be held at £9 – but discounted subs for SWLs and under-18s are dropped to simplify our processes*

The subs level was proposed by Clive G1EUC, seconded by Peter G1FOA and passed unanimously.

## **9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There wer no formal AoB matters. Clive highlighted the difficulty in producing the ERG newsletter as input was often a struggle. Mike advertised the Dengie Quiz in November and his Pirates/Wenches evening on Saturday Oct-20 at Rettendon Village Hall.

John Bowen, the visiting CARS Chairman proposed a vote of thanks for the evening

Meeting closed at 9:30pm.

**Next AGM is on Thu Oct-16 2008 (7:30 for 8pm) at Danbury Village Hall.**