

**ESSEX REPEATER GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF THE 2017 AGM**



Date: 19th October 2017, 20:00hrs  
Venue: Danbury Village Hall

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Bob Cheverall M0DTA, Roy Knight 2E0KWG, Keith Maton G6NHU, Brian Marks 2E0WHB

**2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM**

Acceptance of the draft 2016 AGM minutes was proposed by Graham G7JYD and were approved for placement on the ERG website

**3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

First of all I would like to thank Graham G7JYD who is stepping down from the committee this year. He has always been helpful and will be missed - *applause*

This time last year we had a huge amount of work going on changing sites as well as running DA/ER and DB. The latter has seen additional earthing for lighting protection being added this year.

This year we have been able to complete the re-siting of MB7IDA and GB7ZP. Both are back on air and as the accounts show, it has cost us in antennas and controllers. As these are both digitally linked systems it has caused us quite a few challenges on networking which aren't yet over. More work on this is in prospect in the coming year, but at least we can do that at a more leisurely pace.

I won't make this speech too long as quite a few of the updates and highlights of the year are in the slide presentation that Murray has.

Whilst we have had some highlights I must say it was rather sad to be at the last event at W&S at Hockley. Over the years they have been incredibly helpful to the repeater group. Having no local emporium in Essex will be quite a loss even though their business is continuing down south

Consequently, I would like to give a special thanks to Joel, who with fewer rally events, has still managed to catch quite a few people for membership subs, renewals and donations.

Everybody on the committee has again worked hard giving up their free time to keep the repeaters going and I would like to thank all committee members for their hard work.

**4 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Honorary Secretary gave the following report to those present:

Good evening and Thank you. Many thanks for attending and supporting the group

I think it fair to say we are in a better place now than two years ago when we had the sudden loss of Clive G1EUC.

In my own case apart from secretarial work I get involved with the IT/networking of our digital systems GB7ZP for D-Star and MB7IDA for Echolink.

During the earlier part of the year we got ZP onto its long-term X-300 antenna and switched on MB7IDA. I have a few slides with updates which include that, which you might like to see... (*see annex*)

The pair has taught us quite a bit on remote control, network issues etc. We have recently been fortunate to add a high capacity UPS to the controllers and are close to introducing a complete new gateway for GB7ZP. It has been interesting to see that ironically since the demise of GB7SS in Hockley, D-Star activity has grown and is more popular than ever. Our new G3 Gateway should enable more fun and flexibility as it accommodates some additional modes if you have the newer radios. Meanwhile we hope to learn from the difficult experience that Joel has on had MB6CE which has gone from D-Star only to multimode during the year (DMR, D-Star and Fusion)

At a more basic level this year saw the NoVs on the four repeaters and the beacon being renewed for another three years and a refresh of our guides/PR has got underway.

The loss of the W&S in Hockley and their Open Days has been unfortunate. So following tonight we are fairly sure that the next event will be the 33rd Canvey Rally on Sunday 4th February and will again participate in the CARS Table Top sale in the summer. I will also be at the Xmas dinner that John G1JJ has in hand too. We do of course keep an eye on other opportunities too

Finally I would just like to wish Graham G7JYD well. Repeater work is not all technical – Kristian & Graham had the garden spades out laying extra earth wiring for GB3DB lightning protection!

*Murray G6JYB, Hon Secretary*

## **5 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

You should have a copy of this year's statement of accounts on your chair if not please share with your neighbour. As you see most is self-explanatory however I will itemise a few of the larger figures for clarification. As you can see from this yearly statement the books closing figures are slightly down on last year's closing balance.

Subscriptions from both the AGM and Canvey Rally have remained fairly constant this year but sadly additional subscription payments throughout the year have fallen as has those via PayPal also marginally fallen.

Main expenditure this year has been

- The acquisition of the new ZP Gateway hardware £336.59
- Website Hosting £78.94 for two years
- Purchase of an X-300 antenna £99.95
- A Windows 7 Licence £14.99

However, additional income has been provided thanks to Murray doing a grand salesman's job selling various items throughout the year. There was also a very generous donation of £50 made at the Canvey Rally by a non-member (John Glover M0JER) so many thanks for that

Should anyone wish to view the Accounts please ask and I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

This concludes my report for this past year

*Ann M6INE, Hon Treasurer*

## **6 ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE**

The old committee stood down. Murray first asked for any other nominations for Chairman. There being none, Andy was re-elected. Following this a block vote was then taken for the new committee as per the original AGM calling notice. This was unanimously approved as follows:-

| Post             | Candidate            | Proposed       | Seconded       |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Chairman         | Andrew Tyler G1GKN   | Bob M0DTA      | Murray G6JYB   |
| Hon. Secretary   | Murray Niman G6JYB   | Roy 2E0KWG     | Kristian M0SSK |
| Hon. Treasurer   | Ann Tyler M6INE      | Murray G6JYB   | Joel G0URK     |
| Ordinary Members | Joel Alderman G0URK  | Andy G1GKN     | Bob M0DTA      |
|                  | Kristian Baker M0SSK | Ann M6INE      | Andy G1GKN     |
|                  | Bob Cheverall M0DTA  | Kristian M0SSK | Roy 2E0KWG     |
|                  | Roy Knight 2E0KWG    | Joel G0URK     | Ann M6INE      |

All as per AGM Calling notice

## **7 ELECTION OF THE AUDITOR**

It was proposed that formal auditing was longer necessary – although this will be reviewed ( - any volunteers ?)

## 8 SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR 2017/18

The Treasurer commented that the current £12 subscription rate (with a default option of £15 if donations are added) continued to be successful and that increases might be counter-productive. Thus the proposal was to maintain the current level of £12pa

This was warmly welcomed by all present and passed unanimously

## 9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting closed, followed by raffle, socialising and refreshments.

**Next AGM is on Thu Oct-18 2018 (7:30 for 8pm) at Danbury Village Hall.**

## ANNEX – Slide Presentation

The slide presentation consists of 12 numbered slides:

- Slide 1:** Essex Repeater Group Annual General Meeting 2017
- Slide 2: Agenda**
  - 1) Apologies for Absence
  - 2) Minutes of Previous AGM
  - 3) Chairman's Report
  - 4) Hon Secretary's Report / Presentation
  - 5) Hon Treasurer's Report - to be distributed at the meeting
  - 6) Election of the New Committee
  - 7) Election of the Auditor
  - 8) Subscriptions for the Coming Year
  - 9) Any Other Business
  - 10) Prize Raffle - including Baofeng UV-5RA radio
- Slide 3: Elections**

As per calling notice....

| Post             | Candidate            | Proposed       | Seconded       |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Chairman         | Andrew Tjay G1GKN    | Rob M2DTA      | Murray G4YFB   |
| Hon. Secretary   | Murray Norman G4YFB  | Ray ZB3KWG     | Kristian M2ESK |
| Hon. Treasurer   | Ann Tyle M2BNE       | Marina G4YFB   | Joel G0URK     |
| Ordinary Members | Joel G0URK           | Andy G1GKN     | Rob M2DTA      |
|                  | Kristian Baker M2ESK | Ann M2BNE      | Andy G1GKN     |
|                  | Rob Cheverell M2DTA  | Kristian M2ESK | Ray ZB3KWG     |
|                  | Ray Hooper ZB3KWG    | Joel G0URK     | Ann M2BNE      |

NB: Our thanks to Graham G7JVD who is retiring, so we are interested in new volunteers...
- Slide 4: Systems Summary**

|       | Input        | Output       | Channel           |
|-------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| GB3DA | 145.125 MHz  | 145.725 MHz  | RV58 (R5)         |
| GB3ER | 434.675 MHz  | 433.075 MHz  | RU246 (RB3)       |
| GB3DB | 51.270 MHz   | 50.770 MHz   | R50-6             |
| GB7ZP | 430.4875 MHz | 439.4875 MHz | D-Star<br>GMSK DV |

GB3CMS Microwave Beacon 10.368960 GHz  
 MB7IDA Echolink Internet Gateway - 145.3375 MHz  
 MB6CE 144.8125 Multimode DV - by Joel G0URK  
 G47GAN Club Callsign  
 CTCSS Our FM voice systems use CTCSS. Tone-H, 110.9Hz
- Slide 5: Danbury – GB3DA/ER**
  - Radios, Cavities, Logic, Filters PSU
  - ERG is on three sites overall
- Slide 6: GB3DA – old and new**
  - In Feb-2016 GB3DA-2 PA went faulty so swapped over with spare – so you ideally need more than one to maintain a service!
  - Age and Thermal wear and tear does take its toll
  - Meanwhile Andy G1GKN has been completing GB3DA-3
- Slide 7: GB7ZP – 70cm Digital is Popular...**
  - X300 antenna upgrade Oct-2016
  - Usage has been increasing markedly
  - D-Star in Essex also has... GB7KH - Kelvedon Hatch GB7TE - Clacton MB6CE - Chelmsford
- Slide 8: GB7ZP – New Gateway**
  - Centos-7 64-bit inc SSD
  - D-Star G3
  - Enables D-STAR users to operate new "Terminal ID" and "Access Point" features in newer radios inc D-51EPlus2 and D-4100E
- Slide 9: MB7IDA Echolink**
  - Major rebuild – using Win7x64 on SSD, new PSU, Case etc
  - The first UK unattended node on a commercial site
  - Remote control along with GB7ZP
  - UPS recently added, but beware of Microsoft Updates!
- Slide 10: 2016/7 Overview**
  - Old & New
  - Canvey Rally & CARS TT Sale
  - W&S Farewell
- Slide 11: Questions?**