

MINUTES OF ZONE 4 MEETING

Meeting Number 02/02
Held at Newmarket
Date 6th October 2002
Time 1030

1. PRESENT

G0LWY, G0TVD, G1NUO, G4KUF, G4KUJ, G4ODH, G6EUO, G7BNF, G7CIY, G7CNX, G7IZS, G7PRC, G8KLC, G8LXY.

2. APOLOGIES

G0JVT, G0MQL, G0OKK, G1SCQ, G4PMG, G6IJN, G7OOW, G7SMW, G8LTY, G8XOR.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 24th February 2002 were approved after some corrections to call signs had been made.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING

Zonal Web Page

The Company web site is for company groups only.

Zone pages can contain what the groups want. It has been discussed at the COM and there were no strong views, one way or the other regarding zonal pages.

If Zone 4 had a volunteer to organise a zonal page a link could be provided from the main web site.

Dave Hicks, G6IFA, thanks all those who have supplied him with historic material regarding RAYNET. He is putting this all together and is expecting this to take about a year to complete.

G7BNF suggested that Dave should contact G3AJS and G0DEN who had a lot of such information.

It was reported that the meeting with Herts Care regarding Child Protection had taken place and gave those present a full appreciation of the issues. It was reported that an article for Ray~Link was being prepared.

The call out arrangements with Lowland Rescue had been agreed.

5. ZC4 REPORT

It was noted that there were more M3 call signs appearing on the bands. (N Herts and Forest Heath had one and Essex had several). A lot of these were current class B licence holders. The meeting was reminded that M3 licensees are NOT allowed to pass third party traffic under the terms of their licence. This will be raised with the RA at the earliest opportunity.

None of the groups present were running Foundation courses but the Stevenage and Felixstowe clubs were.

Groups were reminded that yearly returns were required on form GAR- 01 or on the online version.

If a report is submitted after each event there is no need to complete the GAR-01.

The RSGB Year Book has a new layout. The RAYNET group entries are now included in County alpha order.

The current term of office for G8KLC as ZC4 ends on 31/12/2003. Nominations are required by the end of October. G8KLC indicated that he was happy to stand for another term of three years.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The opening funds at Feb 2002 stood at £85-21.

The funds at Oct 2002 stood at £85-21.

“Donations” were of the form of business phone use and “free minutes” on a mobile.

Paper usage was negligible as there had only been one or two mailings.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

G8KLC was re-elected as Treasurer – nem.con.

G4KUJ was re-elected as Minutes Secretary – nem.con.

The meeting agreed that the post of Frequency Co-ordinator was no longer required as any co-channel problems were generally sorted out amicably “on the day”.

Groups were asked to advise G8KLC of their usual operating frequencies and regular net schedules. These would be circulated with the Meeting Agenda with a request for updates BEFORE the meeting. The list would then be re-issued to those at the meeting as well as being distributed by e-mail to all groups.

It was suggest that it might be worth approaching Glenn Pooley, G1ZAF, with a view to filling the Training Officer post. G8KLC would follow this up.

G6EUO was re-elected as Emergency Co-ordinator – nem.con.

It was emphasised that all groups should ensure that G6EUO has up to date contact information.

8. COUNTY and GROUP REPORTS

Written reports had been submitted by Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Suffolk.

Verbal reports were received from Epping Forest, Forest Heath, Mid Herts, North Herts, SW Herts and S Norfolk.

It was suggested that groups should send their reports to G8KLC in good time before the meeting so that they could be circulated before the meeting. Discussion at the meeting could then be focussed on matters raised in the pre-circulated reports.

It was agreed that this should be tried for the next meeting.

G7IZS asked for training matters to be included in the reports.

It was also suggested that a 'Zone Reports' Reflector be established on the web site. G8KLC undertook to consider this with the IT Team.

9. INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS

G8KLC made the following points regarding the RSGB RAYNET review.

There had been no consultation with the network about the results of their review or the item on the RSGB News.

The RSGB statement was news to the COM.

The COM has decided to continue with the name RAYNET.

G8KLC read out the COM statement which appeared on the network web site and was broadcast on the 80m news.

The question of who had been asked to comment by the RSGB was raised.

G8LXY said that he knew that G4HPE from his group had been requested to contribute to the review but he was unaware of Steve's response or even if it had been used by the RSGB.

G7CIY and G6EUO had received letters from the RSGB. G6EUO had chosen not to respond.

G3STG had asked for any information regarding a noise type interference around 3663KHz to be forwarded to him. There appeared to be a wide area problem in the middle of the country.

The Network AGM was being held on 2nd November in Leicester at The National Space Centre. Full details would be issued shortly in Ray~Link.

It was encouraging to note that the membership numbers had increased.

It was reported that Dave Hicks had put himself forward for election to the board of the RSGB.

The helicopter insurance had been renewed..

There was considerable discussion regarding the Disclosure document.

The consensus of the meeting was that it was unfortunate that we had to consider these matters but it was inevitably the sensible way forward.

G8KLC would formally ask all groups to return their comments to him by the end of October. He also agreed to send a copy of the Mid Herts document to all groups.

G0LWY expressed thanks to the Mid Herts for paving the way. This was endorsed by the meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting was agreed as the 23rd February 2003 if the venue was available or the 16th February as a second choice.

G6EUO undertook to check on the availability of the venue.

Prepared by G4KUJ
January 2003