

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
of the South Anglia Repeater Group
Held at the Deben Room, Woodbridge Community Centre
on 29th April 2025 at 7pm**

Present

Anne Keen G7DWN, Nigel Smith M7NES, Wayne Broyd G7SMW, Dave Sparrow G8XOR, Keith Gaunt G7CIY, Chris Cates M7FIK, Steve Friend 2E0TDN, Chris Irish G6PDE, Mark Austin M1NIZ, Melvin Green M0IID, Iain Moffat G0OZS, Andre Edmonds 2E0DWU

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from M1ACB, M1ADV, G1YRE, M0ZAH and M0JSA

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the 2024 AGM were approved
Proposed 2E0TDN Seconded 2E0DWU none against.

The minutes of the 2024 EGM were approved
Proposed M1NIZ, Seconded 2E0TDN none against,

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

The following actions were in the 2024 AGM minutes

1. M1NIZ to consider becoming keeper of PO/IH – Discharged as G6PDE took over
2. M1NIZ to approach Christian D. about IH/PO - Discharged as G6PDE took over
3. Test remote key shut down for IH/PO – DONE
4. G8XOR to discuss assets at Wickhambrook with G1YFF – ONGOING
5. M1NIZ to discuss Barclays online banking options with 2E0TDN – for new Treasurer
6. 2E0TDN to find and share constitution – DONE
7. G0OZS and G8XOR to discuss next steps based on constitution – DONE as EGM
8. G0OZS to create Committee WhatsApp Group – DONE
9. M1NIZ to talk to Bury Club re Donation – not done as EA/EZ no longer SARG.

No actions were recorded in the 2024 EGM minutes

4. Chairman's Report

G8XOR reported as follows: "Since my last report GB3PO has successfully been upgraded using an ICOM UR-F5100 module with logic provided by Jake G1YFF. To my knowledge there has been no significant complaints regarding its performance or operation.

At the time GB3PO was upgraded the Team took the opportunity to tidy the area around the repeater cabinets by re-routing the aerial cables via a patch panel and providing an earth connection for the incoming feeders. Feeders were also routed via the top of the cabinet making the area looking more professional and generally safer.

There is still further work to do on GB3EF in regards to replacing the feeder cable between the site sharing hut and the tower but this is solely in the hands of the Riggers/BT radio Support Team. A new 1Mhz split instead of the current 500Khz split will be instigated once the cable has been changed out which will enhance the performance and allow the repeater to run at its full licenced power output.

There are plans to upgrade GB3IH and change the frequencies to allow a wide split which will remove the current mobile receive frequency out of the 433Mhz band which will reduce the amount of interference on this frequency. A new repeater based on a Motorola unit has been sourced and work has begun to design and build a new control unit. The channel spacing will change to 12.5Khz instead of the current 25Khz. All the aerials are relatively new so no work needs to be done on them.

The move of ICR (Ipswich Community Radio) from its old location in the Chantry area to the Matty Block at Ipswich Hospital by their Technical team and Iain G0OZS has been completed and now has an output power of 50W with no problems being highlighted regarding interference to any of the Group's repeaters.

May I extend my grateful thanks to all who have contributed time, money and hardware to Group to maintain and enhance the repeaters belonging to the Group. "

The following points were made in discussion of the report

- The new PO has no audio during idents and is a weaker signal to the North and Northeast. G0OZS and G8XOR responded that the Audio ident is due to issues with the current ICOM hardware that were unexpected and could only be partly worked around by G1YFF in the controller. There was a discussion as to whether the loss of signal to the North East was first experienced when the new repeater was installed or when the south antenna was replaced. Further investigation is needed.
- G0OZS has the spare Tait repeater for PO in storage and enough parts to build a spare EF after modification from 4m to 6m. G8XOR has spares for GB3IH.

- G8XOR has confirmed to BT the site share agreements for Mendlesham and Wickhambrook from his hard copy archives. His BT contact needs to talk to a RCLO to get riggers on site at Mendlesham to get access for the cable swap. Cable and connectors for this work are on order.
- SARG is fortunate to be able to use good sites without paying commercial rates
- Steve 2E0TDN proposed a vote of thanks to G1YFF for all of his work in support of the group over many years. This was seconded by M1NIZ and agreed by all #

ACTION 2025/1: G0OZS to write letter of thanks to G1YFF

5. Repeater Keepers' Reports

GB7MK: M1NIZ reported that the repeater was working although desense by GB3IH is an ongoing issue and the primary internet link has been lost as the remote end is no longer available so only the backup link now in use remains. There was discussion of whether to look at another microwave link or a 5G cellular solution.

ACTION 2025/2: G0OZS to advise M1NIZ of contacts for ICR who have 5G on site

ACTION 2025/3: G7CIY to advise M1NIZ of his low cost data plan provider

ACTION 2025/4: G8XOR to talk to scouts re possible link antenna at Rushmere

M0JSA had sent questions about linking MK and AL to DVSPH talk groups 841 and 844. M1NIZ replied that they should both work user activated. There is a bandwidth cost to adding more static talk groups. He needs to establish contact with the DVSPH admins after all the recent changes.

ACTION 2025/5: M1NIZ to re-establish contact with DVSPH admins and ask about static talk groups

GB7AL: 2E0TDN reported that it was all working but traffic is low. He will need to lower the mast for 1 day soon for maintenance.

GB3EF: G0OZS reported that GB3EF continues to operate on low power (4 watts versus 10) due to known issues with the feeder discovered after the antenna was replaced in December 2024. This has been done to protect the transmitter from reverse power and reduce the potential desensitisation of the receiver by levels of reverse power beyond the capability of the four cavities to suppress. It remains usable over a wide area from the East Suffolk Coast to the A14 west of Bury St Edmunds. Relatively poor coverage to the northwest in the direction of Cotton and Rickingham is due to the geometry of the antenna and the mast with the lightning pole at the centre of the mast blocking the antenna in that direction.

Further progress requires another visit by BT riggers to give us access to replace the lower section of the feeder. At that point we will be able to increase power and switch to a 1MHz split for improved TX to RX isolation.

G7CIY reported ongoing intermittent issues with desensitisation even at close range which have been confirmed by G0OZS. G0OZS said that it was hoped that changing to a 1MHz split would improve isolation and leave behind any intermodulation products on 51.220MHz, while repairing the feeder would reduce reflected TX power into the receiver.

GB3IH and GB3PO: G6PDE reported that GB3IH has been rendered unusable for many due to local interference which we suspect are multiple instances of telemetry or remote control devices in the unlicensed 433.05- 434.79 MHz ISM (Industrial Scientific and Medical) Band. Whilst we suspect these devices are operating outside their specification particularly duty cycle it is virtually impossible to get them stopped.

To mitigate this we have requested, via James M0ZAH, a new wider split frequency pair and the ETCC have allocated us Tx:439.3625MHz Rx:430.3625 which takes us outside the ISM band. Dave and Iain are currently building a new repeater using these and once deployed we expect the current interference problem to cease.

GB3PO continues to operate reliably with regular daily users and weekly Wednesday night nets.

6. Treasurer's Report

M1NIZ presented the accounts attached to these minutes

He noted that

1. All of the new PO was brand new and some of the cost rolled over into the current year
2. Website hosting was reduced from £100 to £60 thanks to M0ZAH
3. Insurance was reduced due to not covering GB7PP, GB3EA and GB3EZ
4. Hall Hire was doubled relative to 2023 due to the EGM
5. Interest was noticeably higher than in the previous year
6. There was a net gain of £172.49 on the year
7. Insurance for 2025-26 is due on 30th April

There was discussion of whether more interest could be obtained given the relatively large balance. As M1NIZ intends to stand down this will be for the new treasurer to look into, although concerns were expressed over the time it was likely to take.

A vote of thanks to M1NIZ was proposed by G7CIY seconded by G7DWN and approved with none against.

7. Auditor's Report

Anne G7DWN confirmed that she had examined the accounts and that there were no issues.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by G0OZS, Seconded by G8XOR and approved with none against.

8. Election of Officers

(a) Chairman

Dave G8XOR was willing to continue and there were no other nominations.
G0OZS was proposed by G0OZS, seconded by M1NIZ and elected unopposed.

(b) Secretary

Iain G0OZS was willing to continue and there were no other nominations.
G0OZS was proposed by G8XOR, seconded by 2E0TDN and elected unopposed.

(c) Treasurer

M1NIZ had previously advised the group that he would not stand for re-election.
Chris M7FIK offered to stand and there were no other nominations.
M7FIK was proposed by G0OZS, seconded by M1NIZ and was elected unopposed.

(d) Technical Officer

Iain G0OZS was willing to continue and there were no other nominations.
G0OZS was proposed by G8XOR seconded by 2E0DWU and elected unopposed.

(e) Auditor

Anne G7DWN was willing to continue and there were no other nominations.
G7DWN was proposed by 2E0DWU, seconded by M1NIZ and elected unopposed.

ACTION 2025/6: G0OZS to add M7FIK to SARG committee WhatsApp

9. SARG Web Site

G0OZS thanked M0ZAH for having made hosting available which had been trouble free and readily updated.

M0IID thanked the group for having an easy to use and up to date site.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 DMR Nets

M0IID Thanked M1NIZ and 2E0TDN for supporting MK and AL for DMR nets

10.2 Requests for Donations from groups that use repeaters

A donation from the Mill Farm Group via 2E0DIQ was noted.

G7CIY and 2E0TDN suggested that groups which use or have an interest in the repeaters should be asked for donations, specifically F&DARS for nets and RAYNET for emergency use.

ACTION 2025/7: G0OZS to write to F&DARS inviting a donation

ACTION 2025/8: G0OZS to propose a donation to the next RAYNET committee

ACTION 2025/9: G0OZS to write to 2E0DIQ to thank him for the donation

10.3 Purchase of hardware for new GB3IH

It was noted that G0OZS and M0ZAH had offered a Motorola DR3000 repeater for £500 and a controller for £50 for the new GB3IH. The DR3000 had been demonstrated during the interval at the AGM as a basic repeater on the new IH channels with CWID.

After some discussion 2E0TDN proposed and G7CIY seconded a proposal to buy both the repeater and the controller. This was approved with all in favour.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:05

APPENDIX – 2025/2025 Accounts

Account Summary For The South Anglia Repeater Group

Year Ending 28th February 2025

29TH February 2024

Current Account	£2700.55
Premium Account	£832.25
Cash In Hand	£0

TOTAL £3326.02

Profit/loss -£514.90

28th February 2025

Current Account	£2830.53
Premium Account	£844.76
Cash In Hand	£30

TOTAL 3705.29

Income

Subscriptions	£488.82
Interest	£12.51
TOTAL	£501.33

Expenditure

Website hosting	£60
Repeater Insurance	£75
Hall Hire (AGM/EGM)	£72
Parking (PO site visit)	£5
New PO parts	£116.84
TOTAL	£328.84
PROFIT/ LOSS	£172.49