

# **Mid Cornwall Beacon and Repeater Group**

**Minutes of the AGM held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 2pm**

**At Lanivet “All for One” Hall, Lanivet, Bodmin, PL30 5HG**

## **Members present**

Lisa Willis **2E0PXI**, Keith Holland **G3MCD**, Nick Camp **G7KFQ**, Jean Camp **2E1FOX**, Mike Bundy **G4WVD**, Rich Willis **2E0TGK**, Luke Penny **M6YEN**, John Birkbeck **G3IGV**, Maurice Richards **G3WKF**, Andrew Ellis **M1DNS**, Peter Taylor **G8BCG**, Martin Perrett **G8LCE**, Paul Andrews **G6MNJ**, Kevin Franks **M0BFB**, Alan Bagley **G3XPY**, Ross Bradshaw **G4DTD**, John Newman **G0VDU**, Andrew Green **M1AEG**, Chris Pascoe **M0TIK**, Gerry Somers **G7VFV**, Lee Paston **M7LRP**.

**Non-member present:** Rachel Andrews **G6MNI** (XYL of G6MNJ), Susan Franks (XYL of M0BFB)

The Chair, Lisa Willis **2E0PXI** opened the meeting at 2pm by welcoming all present.

## **1. Apologies for Absence received from:**

Richard Benton **G4WKW**, Keith Bonney **G0KTD**, John Birkbeck **G3IGV**

## **2. Report from the Chair by Lisa Willis 2E0PXI**

Lisa made a short announcement, explaining she had decided to stand down from her role as Chair. In this she thanked Keith **G3MCD** for all his support and explained the pressures of her other activities meant she could not dedicate the time MCBARG needed.

## **3. Secretaries Report by Paul Andrews G6MNJ**

Paul started by thanking Lisa for her service in the post of chair. He told the room there were copies of the last year's AGM notes and Constitution available on the front desk and asked if there were any questions on these from the room. No feedback was given and thus they were accepted as is.

Paul went on to say:

It is customary at this point to thank those who continue to support our group to ensure our services remain and can be relied upon. There are so many people that provide these from keeping the site clear of weeds, reading the news, climbing the mast, keeping beacons and repeaters functioning and of course keeping a close eye on our finances. You all know who you are and I thank you for everything you do for the group. You too can help by setting up a standing order for your Subs, which are just £20 a year. Keith **G3MCD** has a number of standing order forms for those you wish to set this up – I have done it!

MCBARG attended the CRAC Rally in Truro in July, where we were presented with a cheque for £168 by Callum, **G5XDX** on behalf of ROC members. We also received £220 in cash at the show - Thank you.

A number of big improvements to the site have been seen over the past year or so including the continuing upgrade of the beacons led by Nik G7KFQ and Peter G8BCG. We also have a digital DMR voice repeater GB7DT on site on 70cms.

Solar System - GB3MCB Sustainable Beacon Project – this continues to run 24/7 helping the group keep the electric overheads under control.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report by Keith Holland G3MCD**

(For the year from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024)

Last year we brought forward a cash balance of £5015.14 at Lloyds Bank and a balance of £809.11 in our Paypal account.

Total £5824.25

#### **Income in this Financial Year:**

During the year we received £290 from membership subscriptions in cash and cheques, £201.20 in Bank Transfers and £492.33 via PayPal

We received donations of £250 from the Newquay Radio Club and £168 from Radio Operators of Cornwall. Sales of donated equipment on EBay came to £519.40 and we received £210 from the RSGB for a RADCOM article.

We received £37 from refreshment sales and £65 from the raffle at the AGM.

The RSGB refunded our OFCOM licence payments (£50) and we received a refund of an original prepayment of £141.72 made to Octopus.

Our Total Income for this financial year was £2424.65

#### **Expenditure in this Financial Year:**

Our major expense, as always, was electricity. This year's payments to Octopus totalled £1185.05. and we switched to BG Lite in June and paid them £135.49 Lanivet Hall Hire for the AGM was £40, and £192 was paid via Paypal for SMARTY internet to site.

Site insurance (£60) and Affiliation Fee (£68) were paid to the RSGB.

The Repeater Site Lease cost £10 and its Recorded Delivery £3.45.

OFCOM beacon licences cost £50 and Website expenses came to £215.99

Maintenance, repairs, updates and filters cost £350.53

DPD charges, postage and AGM expenses were £27.49

Paypal Fees were £23.39, and site security improvements were £165.98

Once again many of the expenses this year such as Echolink, ATV streaming costs and telephone monitoring charges were paid for personally by members and no expenses claimed. A big thank you to all who donated in this way.

**Our Total Expenditure for this financial year was £2527.37**

Balance carried forward to the new financial year on 1 st October 2024:

Annual Income (£2424.65 ) less Expenditure (£2527.37) = - £102.72

Add back the Paypal and Bank balances brought forward = £5824.25

Total = £5721.53

This agrees with the sum of the cash held at Lloyds Bank £5518.20

plus the balance in our Paypal account on 1 st October 2024 £203.33

Total Balance carried forward to the new financial year = £5721.53

We are reserving £1000 for projected cost of electricity, £2000 for mast and antenna improvements plus £500 for the insurance excess on any claim.

*Audit of Accounts:*

The accounts for the financial year ending 30 th September 2024 were checked and approved by Alan Moore ACIB MIBA - our Hon. Auditor.

Keith Holland, G3MCD – Treasurer

# Mid Cornwall Beacon and Repeater Group



## Accounts for the year ending 30/9/2024

Account balances brought forward:	£
Lloyds Bank Balance on 1/10/2023	5015.14
Paypal Balance on 1/10/2023	809.11
<b>Total B/F</b>	<b>5824.25</b>

<b>Income this financial year:</b>	
Subs & Donations (Cash & Cheques)	290.00
Subs paid by bank transfer	201.20
Subs & Donations via PayPal	492.33
Donation from Newquay Club	250.00
Radio Operators Cornwall donation	168.00
Ebay sales of donated equipment	519.40
RSGB Radcom Article	210.00
Raffle at AGM	65.00
Refreshments at AGM	37.00
Refund of OFCOM licences by RSGB	50.00
Refund of Octopus Pre-payment	141.72
<b>Total Income in this financial year £</b>	<b>2424.65</b>

<b>Expenditure this financial year:</b>	
Electricity (Octopus to 13/6/24)	1185.05
Electricity (BG Lite from 14/6/2024)	135.49
Lanivet Hall Hire (for AGM)	40.00
SMARTY - site internet	192.00
Insurance (via RSGB)	60.00
RSGB Affiliation Fee	68.00
Repeater Site Lease & Rec.Dely.	13.45
OFCOM Beacon Licences	50.00
Website + annual costs	215.99
Repairs, Maintenance & Filters	350.53
DPD, Postage + AGM expenses	27.49
PayPal Fees	23.39
Site Security	165.98
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 2527.37</b>

Income less Expenditure = deficit	-102.72
Add back Bank and PayPal balances B/F 1/10/2023	5824.25
<b>Balance Total</b>	<b>£ 5721.53</b>

This agrees with the balance held at Lloyds Bank, Wadebridge	£ 5518.20
plus the balance held in our Paypal account on 30/9/2024	203.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 5,721.53</b>

1st October 2024

Keith Holland  
G3MCD - Treasurer

### Auditor's Statement

"I have examined the above accounts and confirmed that the figures are in accordance with the books and records maintained by the treasurer"

Signed

Alan Moore ACIB MIBA - Hon. Auditor

Date

13/10/24

## **5. Review of GB3NC and GB3HB by Mike Bundy G4WVD, Repeater keeper and NoV holder**

GB3NC :- Early in the year NC logic needed resetting, the logic was removed and soak tested for a month before putting back with no improvement. A suggestion was it coincided with a smart meter fitting, and maybe fitting an external antenna might help, however this was not an option. GB3NC has run only on the DR1 logic since then, the only positive outcome is the GB2RS news did not miss a reading.

GB3HB :- This needed resetting about 6 times in the year running dual mode. A report from G4OCO highlighted an unusual sound, this was investigated. The logic was looked at on site but the issue was not found, GB3HB was left running on the basic DR1 logic. A few days later a message from M0BFB saying that the C4FM link to AEG's link was not working. It appeared the control on the DR1 had been changed, this was rectified leaving GB3HB running in Dual mode. The logic and mode switch will be looked at and the committee advised.

Future logic : As mentioned last AGM a Arcom RC210 controller is under construction, the main boards is now housed with a stabilised PSU, not a switched mode. Programming on the unit is not going as planned because of a problem with Win11 and a USB / RS232 connection to the RC210, so programming is being done via DTMF.

GB3NC and GB3HB NOV's are due for renewal after next year's AGM.

## **6. The DATV Repeater GB3NQ**

Kevin Francks, **M0BFB** gave the following report:-

GB3NQ has had a good year with a lot of upgrades all made possible by a very enthusiastic team bringing their skills to the table making HD TV transmission on a budget possible.

GB3NQ is also well supported and recognised by the BATC who are continually developing new hardware and software for amateur TV enthusiasts making NQ an ever evolving project.

It must be said that all the above is only made possible by the MCBARG excellent site and facilities that is much appreciated by all involved.

## **7. The Beacon Keeper's Report by Nick Camp G7KFO**

1. The 40 MHz Beacon has been spotted at over 6,000 Kilometres

The 28MHz and 60MHz have been received on the East and West coasts of the United States and in South America.

2. The 2 meter Beacon is now back up and running on JT65B and CW ident with GPS lock. For this I extend my sincere thanks to Peter Taylor G8BCG.

3. Our 3CMs Beacon is currently off Air while it is being upgraded by the microwave group. This will make it frequency stable using GPS and it will also have JT65B.

4. All other beacons will be upgraded to a similar standard in the coming year.

## **We then continued to the Election of the new committee:**

As per the Constitution, Andrew MIDNS who was not standing for office, then announced the ending of the old committee and the voting of the new President and the new Chairman.

The post of President was proposed to be Maurice Richards G3WKF and the majority of the room voted for him to be the new President of MCBARG.

Paul Andrews G6MNJ had been proposed as Chair and the majority of the room voted for him to be the new Chairman of MCBARG.

### Election of Treasurer

Jean Camp 2E1FOX was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for her.

### Election of Secretary & Data Protection Officer:

Gerry Somers G7VfV was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Vice Chair

Nick Camp G7KFQ was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Deputy Treasurer

Mike Bundy G4WVD was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Committee Member (Beacon Keeper)

Nick Camp G7KFQ was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Committee Member

Alan Bagley G3XPY was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Committee Member

Andrew Green M1AEG was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Committee Member

Lee Paston M7LRP was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Committee Member

Kevin Francks M0BFB was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

### Election of Committee Member

Peter Taylor G8BCG was proposed for this post, and the majority of the room voted for him.

## **Election of Auditor**

Rachel Andrews G6MNJ BSc FCMA CGMA was elected as Independent Examiner. The majority of the room voted for her.

## **Membership Subscription**

Currently £20 pa

### **Approval of Trustees**

The trustees are now the officers of the group: Paul **G6MNJ** Jean **2E1FOX** Gerry **G7VfV**

A vote was taken to approve the trustees

The majority of the room voted for them.

### **Under “Any other business” several matters were raised:**

1. It was agreed our PRO officer would be discussed and selected at our first committee meeting
2. The Facebook page also needed a committee member to take responsibility for, this too was to be established at the first committee meeting.
3. Luke **M6YEN** pointed out as he was standing down the group must select one of it's new committee to take on the role of data protection officer. Gerry **M7VfV** kindly offered to take this responsibility.
4. It was mentioned that Phil **MOPHM** of Cornwall Search and Rescue could possibly help the group with our mast safety concerns, and we could contact him on his mobile 07XXX XXXXX. This will be followed up in the first committee meeting and given a very high priority.

**The meeting closed just before 4pm**