



Andover Radio Amateur Club.

Annual General Meeting 06 December 2016

Committee:- David Perry G4YVM - Chairman
Terry Cull G8ALR - President and Treasurer
Angie Chick G6ABM
Andy Cuthbertson G6JRS
Jim Chick G4NWJ
Richard Powell M1CFW
Paul Phillips G4KZY - Secretary

Membership in attending in addition to the committee:- 25

The meeting was opened by Terry Cull.

Item 1 Approval of 2015 AGM minutes. Unanimously approved. No Matters Arising.

Item 2 Chairman's report. – The chairman gave a review of 2016. He mentioned:

the Dxpedition to Cumbrae Island, Scotland

The club net has been well established and still going although on the GB3AW repeater.

The barbecue was a highlight of 2016 and is in the calendar for 2017.

David then talked about the club's plans for 2017:

In 2017 we will organise club evening presentations mainly in the spring and autumn to leave the summer free for outdoor activities.

The club has a new multiband VHF/UHF radio for the club. Andy Cuthbertson is spearheading activities for the erection of beam antennas at Wildhern. We are hoping for good activities on VHF in 2017.

Projects will be taking a back seat in 2017 because in 2018 we have the WW1 centenary and 40th Anniversary of the club. So 2017 will be a quiet year in preparation for a busy year in 2018. Nevertheless, if any club member has specific ideas for club activities in 2017 then please let the committee know of them.

Committee 2017: We had 2 nominations this year for new committee members. Tom Morton-Moore in particular is keen to do more work within the club. However, David believes that 2017 is going to be an important year of preparation for a lot of activity planned for 2018. The committee have worked well in 2016 and David feels that we need stability and continuity in this important year. He has discussed this with the two members who gained nominations for election to the committee and they have kindly agreed not to stand. David



thinks the committee has done a good job and worked hard in 2016, and hopes the club is in agreement.

Item 3 Treasurer's statement. In summary:

Budget for 2017. The budget for 2017 shows a shortfall of £208 in outlay vs. income. The main contributing factor for this is that we will cut the price of the boot sale plots to attract more car-booters, to promote the long term success of this important club activity. We do not expect that a shortfall of £208 will be hard to manage with the club's overall cash balance in the region of £4500 on average.

The details of the budget were circulated among the members. Mention was made of costs including hall rent, annual dinner subsidy, the ongoing popularity of fox hunts, a provision to do IMD from Netheravon which includes a donation to the fireman's benevolent fund, repeater donations for GB3JB and / or GB3AW. Our revenue from members subscriptions is steadily declining due to the age demographic of the members increasing, as older members have lower subscription rates. One suggestion is to increase older members subscription to £10 for next year and this will be considered by the committee for implementation in June 2017.

The current bank balance (as at 12 Nov) is about £4,700. In 2016 there was an excess of income over expenditure of about £500, including some income from SK sales.

Item 4 Michael Senior Presentation. Michael Senior is the RSGB Region 10 Regional Manager (RM). He made a speech which covered the following points:

Region 10 covers the UK area south of the M4 from Dover across to Chippenham. Michael is based in Horsham and has been a fireman, parish councillor, and is a Freemason. RMs have quite a heavy agenda and struggle to get to all of the clubs in their region. The RMs are assisted by deputy RMs who are expected to visit affiliated clubs at least once per year. There are some issues around the area which includes Hampshire at the moment and the RSGB is working to resolve this.

To elaborate on this, Michael explained that RMs are tasked with attending about 6 MM council meetings each year. He visits rallies and other events. This year in addition he has been doing activities related to Tim Peake including visiting three schools – in Dover, Eastbourne and Rickmansworth. He was able to meet several hundreds of children and, with the opportunity to set up a radio communications link to the space station gives very good publicity for the hobby.

Michael noted that children love to play with Morse keys. The RSGB is trying very hard to promote the hobby among the young and dispel the image of Amateur Radio as a hobby for old people. There is a need to communicate with young people, with things which interest them, like Morse code, data, and digital modes; listening to their ideas and letting them pursue their own agenda. As a point of interest, during his time in space, the only people allowed to talk with Tim Peake were NASA and Radio Amateurs.



Michael mentioned that he is up for election in April. Michaels targets (if re-elected) are to make the regions smaller, so that RMs don't have to travel so far and for so long, and with more deputy RMs because the workload for RMs is quite high - higher than they would have signed up for – perhaps 60 hours per month.

There was a question about the insurance cover which The RSGB provides as a service to affiliated clubs. Michael mentioned that the cover is not really comprehensive and that the RSGB insurance does not cover clubs for many things that would be considered as typical public liability insurance.

Item 5 Repeater donations. There was a discussion about whether we should continue with GB3JB donations, as the availability of the repeater is patchy. In the past we have donated £50 every six months with the agreement that they would attend our car boot sales. Bob G3ZNH suggested we cease to support them as the repeater is often off the air, and divert our donations to GB3AW, particularly as the club is using this repeater regularly now. This proposal was seconded by David, G4YVM. There were several arguments for and against this proposal.

Terry G8ALR made a counter proposal seconded by Andy G6JRS that we split the donations to give £50 in 2017 to each of GB3JB and GB3AW There was a vote by a show of hands, which was passed. The committee agreed to write to GB3AW to invite them to the club and to the car boot sale.

Item 6 2017 Committee elections. There was a proposal that the existing committee should continue in 2017 as outlined in David's speech. There were no counter-proposals and this was agreed by a show of hands.

Item 7 Presentations:

Jim, G4NWJ was awarded a prize as the Outstanding Club Member of 2016. He put a great deal of effort into raising funds by selling equipment for the club.

Ricky, G8NDN and Mark M3TDI were also awarded a prize for the same activities. They have tirelessly worked for many years selling for the club at car boot sales.

The club raffle was then held and the meeting was closed by the chairman at 20:50.