



## Andover Radio Amateur Club.

### Annual General Meeting 05 December 2017

Committee:- David Perry G4YVM - Chairman  
Terry Cull G8ALR - President and retiring Treasurer  
Angie Chick G6ABM – Acting treasurer  
Andy Cuthbertson G6JRS  
Jim Chick G4NWJ  
Richard Powell M1CFW  
Tim Bannister 2E0DJU  
Paul Phillips G4KZY - Secretary

Membership in attendance in addition to the committee:- 27 (35 members present, in total).

**Item 1** The meeting was opened by Terry Cull.

**Item 2** Approval of 2016 AGM minutes. Andy Cuthbertson pointed out that the 2016 minutes erroneously failed to show committee member Tim Bannister 2E0DJU as being present. With this amendment there were no further matters arising and the 2016 minutes were approved.

**Item 3** Chairman's report. – The chairman gave a review of 2016. He mentioned:

2017 was a good year for the club with a stable membership level and plenty of activity.

The highlight of the year was VHF NFD. The principal aim was to have fun from that point of view the event was clearly a great success. In addition the club was well placed in the results and at a level which was beyond our expectations. We hope to do more contesting events, including VHF NFD in 2018.

David went on to speak about the BDAC museum station. This has been successful but frustrating. There have been difficulties with antennas in particular and an external aerial was finally erected just 2 weeks ago, so the situation is improving. Overall the BDAC station is successful but progress is slow and it would be better if more members were going over there to operate the station.

David spoke about the club's plans for 2018:

On 26 May 2018 BDAC are planning a big event. We will participate with our station and the plan is to put an active station in the Comet cockpit. We've also been invited to an international air show at RAF Fairford. In addition, one member wants to start a youth room at BDAC.

The club QTH – can be frustrating as it is only available during meeting times and by arrangement in advance. It would be useful to have an extension to the hall such that we



could come and operate at other times. There is the potential to use the BDAC Museum as a second clubhouse where we can do more operating.

Next year we are 40. We will have a special anniversary meal. David then talked about the kind of things we were we all doing 40 years ago and quoted from some amusing content taken from magazines from 1977 and 1978.

**Item 4** Treasurer's statement, given by Angie Chick. In summary:

The membership has dropped to 48 this year, although there are still 12 who have not yet renewed their membership

Jack Wintle became SK this year, leaving a total of five honorary life members.

The membership fees will remain unchanged for this year – due on 01 July 2018

The only equipment purchases for 2017 were a VHF / UHF antenna at £134.85.

Other expenditure include paying for BDAC expenses, VHF NFD expenditure, the Annual meal and BBQ. All of these items are also projected for 2018.

Receipts for the two Car Boot sales were slightly up compared with 2017, although the September one was rather disappointing. The coffee fund is also doing well with an increase of about £70 to the fund in 2017

The club's balance sheet shows a total amounting to £6019.44. For 2018 there is a projected shortfall of income over expenditure of £650, mainly caused by the expected spending on the special Anniversary Annual Meal.

**Item 5** Repeater donations:

Angie Chick suggested that the decision on how or if we contribute to repeater groups should be based on how much we use them and how we see their value to the club.

The general consensus was that GB3JB is good when it is working but it is often down. GB3AW is regularly used for the club net.

Terry Cull proposed that we continue our donations for GB3JB. Bob, G3ZNH disagreed, as it is down more often than it is up. A vote to discontinue donations for GB3JB was taken and carried by show of hands.

Bob, G3ZNH also suggested that the club does not donate to GB3AW on the same basis as GB3JB. However, Peter Buck proposed that we make a donation to GB3AW and Martin Smith seconded. Votes in favour were 22, with three against. It was therefore agreed to give £50 to GB3AW. There was a discussion about whether we ought to also consider donating to GB7KT. It was said that there are ten 10 people using GB7KT. Martin Smith



suggested that we should financially support GB7KT. Frank G8PCB formally proposed this, Rick Keens seconded and the motion was carried on a show of hands.

#### **Item 7** Election of the 2018 Committee:

The meeting was informed that Angie Chick has recently taken over the treasurer's duties from Terry Cull. As she is busy working on the accounts we have not had sufficient time for them to be audited.

Angie mentioned that, as she will struggle to get to a bank branch, in future our preferred method of payment will become direct bank transfers. Cash will also be acceptable, however, and the club is considering getting a card reader and perhaps putting in place the ability to be paid by PayPal. However, in the future she requested that members no longer use cheques.

Jim Chick has taken over the membership duties previously undertaken by Angie.

Ivan Clark has been nominated to join the committee as the web site administrator.

All other committee members were proposed to continue in their positions, unopposed. Accordingly the committee for 2018 stays much as at present:

David Perry G4YVM - Chairman  
Angie Chick G6ABM –Treasurer  
Andy Cuthbertson G6JRS – Vice-Chairman  
Paul Phillips G4KZY - Secretary  
Jim Chick G4NWJ  
Richard Powell M1CFW  
Tim Bannister 2E0DJU  
Ivan Clarke 2E0DUM -WebMaster

#### **Item 8** Presentation of "Member of The Year"

Club member of the year 2017 was awarded to Mal G8FHI for doing such a super job of providing catering and support for the VHF NFD team. VHF NFD was a highlight of 2017 and the committee felt that Mal and his wife, Judy, had worked hard to make an outstanding contribution to the success of the event.

#### **Item 9** AOB

Peter Buck G3LWT spoke up to say that one of the important activities of the radio club is to operate radios, and therefore to have a club net. He started one on top band a couple of years ago. This was not successful because of a bad choice of frequency and lots of QRN, coupled with the difficulties of top band antennas. The net moved to 80m which was



moderately successful but there was too much QRM in the evenings so it was moved to Sunday mornings.

However, the main success has been the 70cm GB3AW net. It covers the majority of the ARAC club members. There has been up to a dozen members on this net, with an average of six members participating. Peter recommended all members to join the net to keep up with club activities and chat, share ideas and so forth. There have also been trials using 144MHz because some say it is better not to use repeaters for club nets. There have been six participants ranging from Hungerford across to Salisbury. It has been quite successful and Peter plans to try and implement 2m as a second club net.

David Dixon G0AYD asked if we are going to do IMD in 2018. He offered to organise the accommodation and Martin Smith M0MWS offered to organise the equipment and food. IMD 2018 will be on 21 April 2018.

Martin Cranage G8OFA suggested we need to have better communications about what we are doing in the club. Derek Pinnock and Martin Smith also remarked that they were unaware about, for example, our plans for VHF NFD. There ensued a lively discussion about the ways in which the committee communicates to the general membership about club activities. The committee agreed to work on this.

Following the raffle, the meeting closed at 21:15.