

NARC Committee Meeting, 19:30hrs, 12th March 2018
Via Skype

Attendees:

G3LDI, G3PDH, M0UKS, M0SYW, G7URP, G0KYA, M0UKS, M0LJD, M0NKR, M0UJD, G3YLA

1) Apologies for Absence:

G0DWV, G4NZQ

2) Previous Minutes Approved:

Proposed: Roger G3LDI Seconded: Sonny M0SYW

3) Matters Arising:

None

4) Awards:

- a) Koblenz Plate – Andrew 2E0LTA (Is currently undergoing two eye operations and should be back in late March).
- b) Peter Ives G3ASQ Youth Award – Not awarded
- c) John Wadman Key – Rodney G0CBO for activities with VHF Field day / CW
- d) Speaker of Year 2017 – Down to club vote
- e) Foxhunt Trophy – Paul G3VPT, Bob G7JTZ, Roy M3NGF and Ken M0HGR
- f) Construction Comp – Last year's winner will judge
- g) Committee Cup (NARC Cup) – Robert G4TUK for his work with Skype talks and ISS filming
- h) Presidents Cup – not known
- i) Certificates of Appreciation (to be confirmed)
 - Chris G4CCX for CW efforts
 - Paul M1AFQ for liaison and mentoring
 - Ken M0HGR for special event participation
- j) DX Ladder 2017 Winner (Certificate) – G4TUK and M0NKR both with 271 entities.

David to mention and thank several people in his address at the AGM:
Kim G4WUG and Paul G4VLS (for help at the club every week).

5) Provisional overview of NFD and RadioActive June G3PDH:

Malcolm G3PDH confirmed Field Day will be on June 2 and 3 2018. David G7URP said he was happy to run Radioactive again. Malcolm said we therefore need to go ahead and plan the event.

There was some discussion about the format as attendance on the Sunday at the 2017 event was down, possibly down to having the TX Factor crew there on the Saturday.

Roger G3LDI said that John said he was happy to run his airband radio demonstration again. Malcolm said thought needs to be given to how the Field Day contesting would be organised.

Laura and Andy said they wouldn't be running the 6m contest station this year. There was a question as to whether the club should/could take over the running of the 6m contest station, even if it is smaller than previously run. David G7URP said it would be announced at the club and would ask for organisers/participants to organise and run the 6m station.

6) CNS Science Day – Who, What, When, G7URP:

Location: Skinner Centre at CNS with set-up no earlier than 8am. The event is 10am to 2pm. Food will be provided, but also bring your own in case it runs out.

Six people have volunteered – G7URP, M3PLU, G3PDH, G3YLA, M0UKS, M0UJD. They need to wear club shirts or badges. Any student or teacher will be offered free membership to the club.

David/Tammy to bring the display boards and also his crystal set. Sonny to bring the “radio waves” demonstration equipment to the club on Wednesday,

Jim/Malcolm will run a “come and try it” CW demonstration. Certificates will be made available for participants who send their names – decode will be via CWGET.

Malcolm suggested bringing his Maestro unit to allow remote operation of his Flex radio at his home. Kevin said he could bring along a 20m EFHW vertical with a fibreglass fishing pole. Jim G3YLA said he could bring his 20m QCX CW radio as well to demonstrate low-cost kit-built HF radio.

James said the times were not good for the ISS or PSAT satellites. He suggested an APRS radio demonstration.

Jim G3YLA said they could also show and explain the FoF2 graphs at propquest.co.uk

7) Barford (Sunday 1st July 2018)

Mark is on holiday up the night before Barford. So Mark needs to get someone to organise getting the stock (drinks etc) from Macro. Mark said we wouldn't have a RSGB book stall this year, but he would ask RGSB again.

The club was accused of leaving the hall in a mess in 2017, but that wasn't true. We may need to take photographs before and after the event to prove that we have left it as we found it.

Chris G0TZZ won't be able to help in the kitchen. Laura and Andy offered to cook.

8) 2018 outside events – Worsted 2018

We agreed we wouldn't be able to attend Worsted in 2018, but may be able to organise something in 2019.

9) Suffolk Museum update

John G3XLL has attended a meeting with Waveney Valley Radio Museum and written a report. He would like David G7URP to attend the next meeting and he is awaiting a date.

10) International Marconi Day – Steve G0KYA

Same format as previous years – details are on the website. There will also be a bring and buy stand run by Zane. An operating roster will be put on the club website after the Science event this weekend. Two stations will be run – one on 80/40m and one on HF (probably 20m). The 20m station will also be equipped for data modes, including FT8, which is allowed for IMD. This might be handy if propagation is bad.

11) Membership – Mark G0LGJ

37 members have not rejoined. They have all been sent an email. This has come down from a list of 50, with some saying they didn't wish to renew. The current list is now 157 total paid-up/confirmed members, a 25% reduction on last year. Family members accounts for eight of the total. Membership brought in £2,792.

12) 3D printer – Mark G0LGJ

Looking at the cost, space and time taken to print QCX cases, Mark G0LGJ said it wasn't really viable.

13) Accounts 2017 and current – Mark G0LGJ

Income: £4,601.34 Expenditure: £2,412.97 Difference: £2,188.37

QCX kits have broken even. We have only paid £200 for school hire so far. We don't know how much the school hire will be going up. The science event may be an opportunity to impress the school as to our value. We currently get a 50% discount on the hire fees, but that will reduce to 35% in September and to zero next year.

The accounts are being audited at the moment.

14) Loan of PA

Matt M0PTO asked if he could borrow the club's PA for a charity event. He is currently not a club member. The suggestion was that if he became a full / associate member he could borrow it and the committee agreed.

15) Enforcing membership at table top sale etc

Mark G0LGJ said we need to ensure that everyone running a stall at the table top event on Wednesday 21st March needs to be a member. David G7URP said at the very least we must charge them £5 a table if they are not members.

The nominal fee for visiting non-members on the table top sale night should be £2.

16) Any other business

Mark said we had a number of issues with the host being used for the newsletter. He said we could move host, but the problem may be not go away. Some of the problems have gone away, but the problem is random and due to blacklist/whitelist problems. Mark will investigate the issues and possible hosting/mail server solutions.

Next Meeting date

14th May 2018

Meeting Closed at 9:45pm