

## UK FM Group (Western)

Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the UKFM Group (Western)

Held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013

At the Grappenhall Community Centre,  
Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall, Warrington



Meeting commenced at 20:00 hrs

### 1. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman, Dave M00BW, welcomed everyone to the thirty eight AGM and advised that 16 members were present and the meeting was quorate. He then thanked everyone present for their attendance and thanked the Warrington ARC for the use of their room. He also asked if they had managed to move on all the GB2012MV mugs.

### 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: -

Peter	G8NSS
John	G8LZO
Darren	G7LWT
Dave	G1JVF
Ben	2E0XOJ

### 3. Reading of clauses from the Constitution

It was proposed by Paul, G1DVA that the reading of the clauses be waived. This was seconded by Ken, G3VBA.

### 4. Minutes of 37<sup>th</sup> AGM

The minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> AGM had been circulated to those present.

Proposed by	Name: Mark	Callsign: MW1MDH
Seconded by	Name: Paul	Callsign: G1DVA

The vote was: For 13 Abstentions 2

## 5. Matters arising

None

## 6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman started with the comment that it had been yet another difficult year for the group, and then gave a run through of state of the repeater network.

Stoke repeaters GB3VT, ST, SE, SM, SX. From a technical point of view all have been working fine although they do still suffer from occasional abuse, Phil and Peter are keeping on top of the problem.

GB3MA/MB. Darren has not been able to complete the work he wished to do on the repeaters due to work commitments and time constraints although some progress had been made and the callsign changes made to GB3MA and GB7MA respectively.

GB3MP. In a nutshell "we have got what we have got" Due to the costs involved and access restrictions imposed by the site owners Arqiva it is not plausible that any alterations or upgrades will be carried out in the foreseeable future.

GB3PZ. Still a very popular repeater, although it does suffer its share of abuse. Ian G4ZPZ and the guys are on the case.

GB3LI. No problems as and when any crop up Ken sorts them out.

GB3CR. New logic and box installed, currently looking for a frequency change due to local pmr interference.

GB3MF. On test.

GB3WP. People will recall that we had to vacate the original site, with hope of being able to return. This proved impossible due to the difficulties with the site owner. Steve and Brian managed to find a new site but due to problems with key fobs and electric gates a temporary site was found until these issues were finally resolved. The repeater is now at its permanent location and a frequency change is being applied for to allow an increase in power.

GB7WC. A popular repeater, has had its problems when BT decided to do work on the site.

GB3MN, MR.

Previous Arqiva site was taken over by another company who wanted to increase the site rental by a significant amount. MN developed a "gurgle" which turned out to be the landlord's equipment. A filter was fitted thanks to Darren for the loan. Shortly after this MR developed a receiver fault.

A new site was found next door and the equipment moved over less an antenna which due to a run-in with the site owner had to be left on the mast. Thanks to Maxwave for their generosity especially Sam Hunt. After fixing the receiver fault on MN the transmitter failed! A Tait replacement units has been provided to replace both MN and MR as and when time and man power is available.

GB3LL. A new box was installed in March after a long delay and lots of issues. The box and then the logic had both failed. A fault with the new power supply occurred soon after but this has been resolved.

John GW8WFS decided that he wished to relinquish the NOV and this has been taken over by Pete GW6SIX who is now building up a good relationship with the site owner.

The committee would like to thank John GW8WFS for looking after the repeater over the years.

So far from sitting on our backsides we have been working away in the background.

We still have an outstanding meeting planned in the Stoke area. This will be organised as soon as a suitable date and venue can be sorted out.

Dave also said that he was aware of some Facebook postings criticising the committee, that is fine if they know all of the facts. When they are given them they either do not believe us or just want to throw mud! If these people feel they can do better why are they not in attendance this evening to speak to us all face to face. Running such a large number of repeaters is not an easy task, we do not always get it right but at least we try.

Finally the Chairman thanked everyone for their support over the past 12 months and advised that yet again this coming year is going to be quite difficult for the group from an engineering, site and financial position.

## 7. Committee Reports

### 7a. Treasurer

Copies of the Treasurer's report were distributed to those in attendance for the 12 months accounts ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

Dave 2E1EAP reviewed the accounts for the year.

We started the year off with £ 1,112.24 in the bank, and £407.25 in cash

This year, the income from subscriptions/rallies was £ 3,202.00

Outgoings:     £ 3,293.00

Balance:       £ 1,299.17

Dave thanked the auditors, P Walsh and David Randles for reviewing the accounts.

Acceptance of the Accounts

Proposed by   Name: Paul    Callsign: G1DVA

Seconded by   Name: Geoff   Callsign: M0AUG

Vote - unanimous

### 7b. Membership Secretary

Kath, M1CNY stated that the membership had increased by 48 from the previous year and currently stood at 266. While this was a positive move in the right direction, more needed to be done to further increase the membership. Not only by the committee, everyone needed to help attract new members.

We attend rallies but income is well down on what it was, most people are now using the Paypal facility to pay their subscriptions.

### 7c. Property Officer

Mike G4VSS said that due to the large amount of changes currently taking place on the repeater network, it has been difficult to do a comprehensive list of equipment. Hopefully things will settle down over the coming months and a proper list can be made.

**7d. Talkthrough Editor**

Julian M0JPW said that the project to put all the back issues of Talkthrough onto the website is now well under way after a few initial teething problems. Again members were asked if they had any copies of the few magazines that are missing from the group's archives. It was hoped that a new online Talkthrough would soon be put onto the website, and a plea was put out for any budding authors and material to be included!

**7e. Website Manager**

Mark MW1MDH commented that the website was running smoothly since the move over to wordpress.

There are 109 [101 last year] Yahoo members, and 68 registered on Facebook.

Discussion took place around Twitter and Facebook and making more use of them.

**7f. President**

The President Gordon G3LEQ was not in attendance but sent his best wishes to the group.

**8. Election of Committee members for 2012 / 2013**

The following were elected as members of the committee for the next year.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Callsign</b>
<b>Chairman:</b>	Dave	M0OBW
<b>Secretary</b>	Julian	M0JPW
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dave	2E1EAP
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	Kath	M1CNY
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Mark	MW1MDH
<b>Talkthrough:</b>	Julian	M0JPW
<b>Property:</b>	Mike	G4VSS
<b>Recruitment:</b>	Ben	2E0XOJ

Paul, G1DVA proposed that the current Committee was elect en-bloc  
The vote For was unanimous.

**9. Any other business**

It was asked if a moderating policy should not be drawn up with regards to Facebook, this was agreed to be looked into.

**10. Date of next AGM**

8<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Meeting closed at 21:19 hours