

GB3PO Repeater replacement progress meeting

Held Wednesday 9th November 2022

Present: -	Keith – G7CIY	Secretary and Repeater Keeper GB3PO/GB3IH
	Dave – G8XOR	Chairman
	Mark – M1NIZ	Treasurer and Repeater Keeper GB7MK/GB7AL
	Iain – G0OZS	Repeater Keeper GB3EF
	Karl – G4AQV	Technical Support
	Steve – 2E0TDN	Fund Raiser

Apologies	Jake – G1YFF	Repeater Keeper GB3EA/GB3EZ
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G8XOR opened the meeting at 19:05 and thanked everyone for attending. The current situation is as follows: The TAIT repeater has a replacement transmit unit which is almost as good as new having not had much usage. Its lower power than the previous one (25W as opposed to 60W) but this is more than adequate for our needs.

G7CIY has tested the repeater and it has a stable output and good audio throughput – however, during testing we found that there was no pip to acknowledge access or CW ID. The repeater is currently on route/with G1YFF to fix this issue. The expectation is that we will get this back soon.

2E0TDN lent the Group an Icom repeater which Karl tried to configure as a replacement, but unfortunately it wasn't possible to get it to send a call sign. Steve also offered a Yaesu repeater but after discussion it was decided that we didn't need it. The Group is very grateful for Steve for his generosity.

In the background, G8XOR has been looking to purchase a brand new repeater but has unfortunately met with supply issues – with at least a year's lead time for delivery.

Actions agreed at this meeting:

- 1) Get TAIT repeater CW ID/Acknowledgement tone sorted – currently in hand with G1YFF
- 2) On installation day – get cavities aligned and checked – G8XOR/G4AQV /G7CIY/G0OZS
- 3) Spectrum analyser to be used to check system – G8XOR/G4AQV /G7CIY/G0OZS
- 4) G8XOR to obtain new COAX (and plugs) for entire install ASAP
- 5) G8XOR to purchase new antenna (obtain prices first) (decision by Committee for which one we go for) ASAP

We agreed that we would go to two aerial working to improve coverage and sensitivity. We should in theory be able to remove some of the cavity filters as well. If for some reason the new antenna is not with us install day, we will use the old antenna for receive and the VHF leg of a dual band on site for transmit.

We currently have £3355.00 available in the account. Regarding the purchase of a replacement aerial for GB3PO Radio Structures are quoting £182.22 for a FVC/3 which is a 3dB co-linear, ML&S are quoting £65.96 for the Diamond X-50N and Moonraker are quoting £59.99. This aerial is spec'd to withstand windspeeds upto 134mph.
<https://www.hamradio.co.uk/diamond-x-50n-pd-2604>

- Diamond X-50 antenna
- Dualband operation on 2m/70cm (145/433MHz)
- Gain 4/7.2dB
- Power 200W
- Type 6/8, 3x5/8
- Connector - N Type type
- Length 1.7m
- Sections - 1
- Radial length 19cm
- Mast size 30-62 mm
- Wind velocity 60m/sec
- Weight 0.9kg
- This model is made of fibre glass construction, pre-tuned and fully weatherproofed.
- Mast mounting brackets are included.

- 6) In the meantime, we should ALL investigate avenues for a new repeater – we should go for a reliable make from a reputable source – feedback to G7CIY please.
- 7) G0OZS to try and source “Net Tek” for site tests
- 8) Provisional install date is Saturday 10th December – assuming all goes well. We will have a catch-up meeting on Tuesday 6th December to make sure everything is in place.
- 9) Aaron is still trying to get GB3EF antenna installed. G0OZS and G8XOR to follow this up and make sure it doesn’t get forgotten.
- 10) G0OZS and M1NIZ talked about GDPR and after the meeting G0OZS sent out some follow-up information. This is ESSENTIAL to acknowledge donations. M1NIZ/2E0TDN to liaise with Chris to make sure we can do this.
- 11) Iain has found a source of UHF filters that can be possibly used as notches for the GB7MK de-sense issue. G0OZS/G8XOR/M1NIZ to follow up.
- 12) 2E0TDN mentioned that he had a provisional design for SARG Supporters car stickers (action from AGM). He asked whether GB3EA/GB3EZ were going to remain part of the Group and G8XOR confirmed that G1YFF wished to be still part of SARG.
- 13) When the TAIT is installed, the MX290 will remain as backup. When a new repeater is obtained, the TAIT will become the back up with the MX290 being recovered.

Thanks were noted to 2E0TDN for booking the room and thanks to everyone for the continued support of our repeaters.

Thanks
Keith – G7CIY
SARG Secretary

10th November 2022