

Avalon Amateur Radio Club Committee Meeting 24 May 2019 Minutes Glastonbury Scout Hut 19:30 to 20:30



Present

Matt M3MMZ Chairman
Mike M6FCT Treasurer/Membership Secretary
Chaz G6UVO Vice-Chairman
Richard G7LEE Secretary
Martin G5FM Press/Examinations Secretary

Jim G0MSL guest
Callum (currently training for Foundation)

Informal Committee Meeting

Bank Account

Mike M6FCT Treasurer reporter that on Wednesday Matt M3MMZ and Mike M6FCT had gone to the bank to get the account set up and we should be able to use it by next week. It is therefore proposed to initiate subscriptions from 1 June.

Once we have enough in the kitty we should pursue RSGB Affiliation ASAP

Training

We have four people training and hoping to take the exams in June, this gives the opportunity to resit up to September under the old syllabus. Callum and Petra are training towards Foundation and Mike M6FCT and Matt M3MMZ are training for Intermediate

Assessments

Richard G7LEE notes that the practical assessments need to be completed by the date of the exam. We need to get a march on this as it needs sorting in a month! Assessment forms have been issued to all trainees

Examinations

There are two ways to proceed with the exams. One is to get paper copies from the RSGB. The other is to use the online system. Online is good because you get feedback within an hour or so and can get a pass code which lets you apply to Ofcom for the licence right way. The paper version is tried and tested. We have to make a decision about which way to go.

Richard G7LEE can supply a Mobile to Wifi box. This creates a wifi network with Internet connection via the mobile network. I use Giffgaff as a provider, this is PAYG so we need to qualify roughly how much data a test uses. I propose to test this at Site 2 next week to see if we can load the test. I have not been able to find how do to this online on the RSGB website, but G5FM has made this work on a regular internet connection I believe. The online system apparently uses [Testreach](#) but I defer to

G5FM who has seen this in action. We should definitely test the technology first, and there are still questions about candidates using their own laptops – what if for some reason a candidate’s machine is not suitable. It appears you cannot do this online with paper as a backup.

On balance we may want to go for paper, this is a discussion for the candidates and Martin G5FM. That decision needs to be made in two weeks because there is a two week lead-time for getting the exam papers from the RSGB.

The Scout Hut has been approved as a test centre by the RSGB regional coordinator

Email and Groups.io

There has been some discussion about how an email discussion between Committee members ended up on the groups.io avalonarc site. It is worth noting that Martin G5FM regards emails as publishable unless stated otherwise in the email. Not everyone was aware of this.

Matt removed the thread and some of the rest of the AvalonARC Groups.io. We concluded that:

The future usage of Groups.io is for general communications to people who have an interest in the club but are not necessarily members.

There will be a sub-group for members in good standing (paid up or members where the fee has been waived at the Committee’s discretion, eg those in training)

There may be a Committee sub-group, but this has not been confirmed. Matt has a preference for Committee discussions to be taken by email, conversely a committee sub-list could be declared as assumed not for publication elsewhere unless stated explicitly.

Bath & West Wed 29th May

Matt M3MMZ will go to support the Amateur Radio exhibit at the Imagineering Fair here, Martin G5FM will take him there and Martin provided some display information. Richard G7LEE will check diary to see if I can assist, preferably not too public-facing.

AOB

Jim G0MSL said that Parry G0JLY? has a mast that Jim helped him install in 1989 that could be a good deal for the club at a good price in return for assistance in dismantling it.

Document History

Date	Author	Description
24 May 2019	Richard G7LEE	Issue 1
25 May 2019	Richard G7LEE	Issue 2 minor corrections