

Minutes of CUWS AGM

21 May 2007

Meeting commenced at 19:44.

1 Present

Tom Wootten, Martin Atherton, Dominic Smith, Christian Mikkelsen, Martyn Johnson, Caroline Blackmun, Thoa Nguyen, David Holburn, Christian Schreiber, Michael Wells, Hugo Scott Whittle, Tom Heritage, Rui Lima Matos (from 19:55).

2 Apologies for absence

Tim Grant.

3 EGM minutes

Tom declared that it was unnecessary to read the minutes of the preceding EGM, which had taken place immediately before the AGM.

4 AGM minutes

Tom summarized the minutes of the 2006 AGM. *Proposed Christian Schreiber, adopted unan.*

5 Secretary's report

Tom explained that, as has been the tradition for several years, the secretary's report had been written by the chairman. He proceeded to read this report (attached).

6 Treasurer's report

Stuart made some comments on the treasurer's report but explained that there were not many details to point out. The expenditure and income related to the recent order for CUWS-branded clothing made up the bulk of the accounts. Also of note were the donations by Martin Atherton and Michael Wells. Stuart noted that despite the fact there had been a reasonable number of new members joining the Society over the previous year, the subscriptions were not supporting the Society's finances to any great extent. He suggested that increasing the membership charge would not be detrimental.

Tom Wootten commented that £25 for life membership might be rather expensive, when considered in addition to the other costs associated with becoming licensed.

Dominic noted that the amount outgoing for the clothing order was not equal to that incoming from members' payments; Stuart explained that the Society had paid for the one-off setup charge for the clothing customization. *Proposed Christian Schreiber, seconded Dominic, adopted unan.*

Subsequent to the adoption of the report, Christian Mikkelsen asked what Martin and Michael's donations consisted of; Stuart replied that they were primarily items for the club's use for which they had paid.

7 Election of committee

7.1 Chairman

Hugo stood for the position of chairman. *Proposed Martin, seconded Tom Wootten, 12 for, 0 against, 1 abstention, elected unopposed.*

7.2 Secretary

Christian Schreiber and Christian Mikkelsen stood for the position of secretary. After some discussion about who should fill the post of secretary and who the post of treasurer, Christian Mikkelsen was proposed. *Proposed Christian Schreiber, seconded Michael, 12 for, 0 against, 1 abstention, elected unopposed.*

7.3 Treasurer

Christian Schreiber stood for the position of treasurer. *Proposed Stuart, seconded Christian Mikkelsen, 12 for, 0 against, 1 abstention, elected unopposed.*

7.4 QSL manager

Dominic was proposed as QSL manager by Michael. Dominic agreed to retain this position for another year, again subject to receiving computerized logs.

7.5 Transmitting secretary

Michael agreed to hold this position for another year, although Martin pointed out that he had failed to get the VHF antenna resonant during his previous tenure!

8 Matters arising

8.1 Website

Tom Wootten suggested that the committee confirm adoption of the new website template designed by Hugo and check the accuracy of all content and links. He added that committee members should be given the ability to log in to edit the site.

Stuart mentioned that the old website address was still ranked higher by search engines than the new SRCF address and Tom Wootten replied that the old site now carried a notice informing visitors of the new address. Michael suggested that an automatic forwarding system be implemented with a manual link as a backup, but Tom cautioned that this should only be done when the new website had reached a standard befitting the 75th anniversary of G6UW.

Tom Heritage enquired about access to edit the old website and Stuart explained that he was the only person able to confer access onto others. Tom Wootten added that he could edit the old site, and also that he was the only person with access to CUWS group files on the SRCF.

Dominic suggested that a good domain name be acquired for the new website, since the existing one was too long to use on QSL cards; he suggested g6uw.org or m4a.org. Michael agreed and added that he was able to make bulk registrations of domain names through his company. Tom Wootten explained that m4a.org was not available — it had already been taken because it was so short. Dominic noted that it had been available 18 months ago.

8.2 Subscriptions

Dominic suggested that another form of charge be introduced for members based, for example, on shack usage, noting that it would be undesirable to raise membership fees on account of the costs of taking licence exams. He added that this additional charge would be particularly relevant for contesters like himself — since he is a life member, the Society receives no financial support from him, despite the fact that he makes heavy use of its facilities. Christian Schreiber suggested that the charge should not be levied during the first year of membership. Dominic mandated the committee to investigate the matter and make a decision.

8.3 Shack

Michael apologised for the state of the VHF system at the shack and explained that it was basically faulty, although he had used it to make several successful QSOs. He proposed that the antennas be replaced since, although both were new, he suspected that the parts had not been assembled correctly.

He highlighted the difficulty of maintaining the packet cluster link since a 40 mile round trip was required to restart the remote end when the power failed. He said that he would use a new socket for the equipment but that the main problem was that Fred, the equipment's owner, was often away. Martin suggested using an uninterruptible power supply purchased from a junk sale. Michael also pointed out that the antennas and the cluster software had been replaced, and that the CUWS node was one of the fastest in the UK, with connections to enterprise nodes in the US and Japan.

Michael explained that the shack had been cleared up and everything there was in working order; Dominic thanked everybody who had helped at the clear-up. Christian Mikkelsen mentioned that the Quadra amplifier wasn't working on the 6m band, and Michael agreed. Martin disagreed with this and said that he would investigate the matter.

8.4 Other matters

Martin asked Tom Heritage to publicise the Societies Fair details.

Tom Heritage pointed out that the club's ARRL membership had not been widely used. Martyn said that he didn't know that he could use it, or how to use it; Christian Mikkelsen explained that Tom provided the website login details to members who wanted them. Tom added that the membership cost was \$39 and Martin said that he thought it should be renewed. Christian commented that he had made use of the membership, and Tom Wootten suggested that it be publicised on the website. Tom Heritage pointed out that the only drawback was that the membership was in theory a personal membership in his name. Tom Wootten suggested that the situation should be checked before the membership was renewed.

Tom Wootten suggested that a Wireless Society visit to the beer festival would be a good idea, and Tom Heritage pointed out that Dominic was the best source of information on this matter, before drawing the meeting to a close. He reminded those present what an important occasion the AGM was and thanked them all for coming.

Meeting adjourned at 20:12.

Cambridge University Wireless Society

Amateur Radio Station G6UW



“Secretary’s” Report – AGM 2007

For the past couple of years the Chairman has written the Secretary’s report so I thought it only fair that I did it this year. I’m not going to list all of the year’s events as has previously been the case but refer you to the newsletters. These have been coming out reliably every term and I’m sure this term’s will be sent out pretty soon(!) The newsletters have been a big success in documenting the club’s activities and keeping in touch with members, particularly those not in Cambridge. Hugo’s done an excellent job of developing the newsletter and the articles on the memories of older members have been a much welcomed addition. Through the newsletter and advertising in RadCom we have received emails from quite a few old members wanting to be added to the mailing list, and I hope many of them will join us for the G6UW 75th anniversary dinner in November.

I would, however, like to highlight a few events and activities that have taken place this year :

- Faroe Islands Expedition (Summer 2006)
- HF Convention 2006 – an exceptional turnout from CUWS
- First QSOs on the new satellite system
- Science and Engineering Week – visit to a local primary school
- Commencement of Morse classes
- Licence exams for numerous candidates

We have achieved a huge amount in the past year and this has only happened as a result of the vast amounts of energy put in by members. I would like to sincerely thank everyone for all their contributions and support.

Thanks to Hugo for doing a fantastic job and being so keen to take over jobs from me, which I’ve been most grateful for! All the best for next year!

Thanks to Stuart for looking after the accounts for countless years, sending shack keys etc etc

Thanks to Dom for continuing to look after the QSL cards and Tom W for developing the website.

Special thanks to Martin and Michael who work endlessly for the good of the club. The club would simply not exist without them, nor would it be in the thriving form we find it today.

We must also remember to thank David Holburn (who booked the room for us this evening) and James Keeler (our Senior Treasurer) for their continued support.

Next year promises to be very exciting with lots happening for the new committee to look forward to! Some of the highlights will include :

- A dinner to celebrate 75 years of G6UW in November (invites to be sent shortly)
- Planning the new shack
- Trips to Svalbard, Ireland, The Hebrides, The Minkies, Ascension Island and probably more!

*Thomas Heritage MOTJH, Chairman 2006-07
Jesus College, Cambridge*