

Proceedings of RSGB EMC COMMITTEE

meeting held over Skype at 7.30pm on 20th July 2017

1. General

Present

Dr. John Rogers	MOJAV (JR)	Chairman
Bob Bennett	G8BFF (BB)	
Stephen Browning	G8WUR (SB)	
Steve Carter	G8EPA (SC)	
Hilary Clayton-Smith	G4JKS (HC)	
Dr. David Lauder	G0SNO (DL)	
Robin Page-Jones	G3JWI (RP)	
Dr. Martin Sach	G8KDF (MS)	
David Taylor	GD4FMB (DT)	
Bobby Wadey	MIORYL (BW)	Secretary

1.1. Apologies for absence were received from the following;

Alan Melia	G3NYK (AM)
Colin Richards	G3YCR (CR)
Bob Alexander	GM0DEQ (BA)

1.2. The following actions from the EMCC Strategic plan were reviewed

- Objective 1: RP will work with others on the committee to prepare guidelines for people nominated by the regional team to visit and help diagnose members RFI problems under our guidance.
- Objective 4: Managing the expectations of members in relation to the remit of Ofcom. Ofcom claim they will advise and assist, but have no duty to enforce.
- Objective 5: **Post Meeting Note** BB has agreed to help with the website maintenance to take the load of JR. Rick Hewitt MOLEP a WordPress expert has offered to help SC and BB with the major updates and to make the pages more interactive.
- Objective 6: The legacy committee has approved funding for the mitigation measures for VDSL.

2. Key Issues

2.1. Interference Strategy

The committee debated and approved a strategy to proactively campaign against interference to radio reception. It was agreed the aim is to gain leverage with Ofcom and Manufacturers/Service providers; to be proactive and to keep interested parties aware. It is proposed to continue lobbying of Ofcom to solve RFI to the Amateur Radio service, to raise the awareness of the extent of problems in the amateur and wider communities, to form an alliance with other radio users suffering similar problems to tackle this growing issue and its impact on all radio services. The proposal of an aggressive campaign aimed at raising public awareness of the possible consequences of this RFI was not approved as several members were worried about the negative image that might reflect on the Amateur Radio Service. Initially the messages will be placed via RSGB Communications Officer Heather Parsons in technical press and electronics magazines in addition to our own publications, website and social media. Bobby Wadey agreed to act as the interface to Heather but will need help with suggestions for articles from all committee members.

The detailed actions will be added as part the RSGB Strategy Objectives being implemented by EMCC.

A questionnaire was suggested to collect up to date data from all about VDSL RFI using Survey Monkey.

It was proposed to prepare topic specific bullet point sheets to help individuals to make a more personal written letter to address their concerns to parliamentarians, suppliers, regulators and service providers.

EMCC welcomed the news that Ofcom had taken on new staff to deal with EMC compliance. Post Meeting Note -One of these, Amy Hemmings is publishing an article in the August RadCom outlining her role.

- Action All- Working Group to form and prepare an action plan including names and target dates before next meeting.

JR Thanked CR HC and BA for their work in drafting the lobbying strategy.

2.2 Website

update to provide problem solving guidance.

SC has circulated an update to the *Experiencing Interference* section of the website, this is intended to be a basic guide with the aim to reference as much external content as possible. It will refer to in depth detail in the EMC topic leaflets which also need updating. All feedback is welcome.

Action All – Needed more pictures, waterfalls, spectrum plots, audio plots, files etc ASAP

TX Factor have offered to do video tutorials. Outline scripts need to be prepared for these.

JR thanked SC and BB for their work in preparing the updates.

2.3 Feedback From New Members

SB said that he was overwhelmed by the amount of emails. He also passed on comments from previous members who reported the in-depth technical side difficult to follow.

A face to face meeting was agreed upon to be held in St Neots on 16th November 2017, over the course of an afternoon and evening.. Action – MS to organise.

3 Sub-group Reports – Review necessary actions

3.1 Help Desk and forum

we need to analyse data on interference reports so we can extract trends and useful advice to update the leaflets and website.

3.2 Standards.

HC stated the Standards Group is working well, and congratulated them on their work and report, seconded by JR. They are combing through incoming documents, and using spreadsheets for analysis. A shared work area will be used for the collection of comments, before submitting responses to external standards committees from RSGB. Liaison and sharing views with IARU will continue. Thilo Kootz, who had done this in the past, has left DARC and is replaced by Tore Worren.

DT suggested producing a risk assessment style report for each Standards Issue and both refining and maintaining these during the next few months. Another important consideration of risk is timing; particularly as the implementations of the core technologies are often well in advance of the Standards that support them.

IARU g over but not fully up to speed yet, so will mean a regurgitating of letters until up to speed. All agreed.

RP mentioned PME, the 18th edition of wiring regulations are out for public comment before the 23rd August 2017. He will submit comments with regards PME online as they have requested. JR suggested that the Societies comments may carry more weight, with Steve Thomas as GM submitting them instead of EMC chair doing this, if they are prepared and a committee approved.

The Standards group was thanked for their excellent work.

3.3 Communications

3.4.1. Future Way Of Working

JR stated that all committees are being asked to appoint Communications Officers to liaise with HQ. They will proactively feed items into Heather CO, thus publicising the Committee and its work to the members.

3.4.2. Website Update

Nothing to add as key topic 2.2 in meeting covered this.

3.4.3. Publications

RP has started the leaflet on noise. **Action – RP to do draft and send to DL**

3.4 Investigations

Mainly VDSL. JR sent an email this afternoon reporting the outcome of a teleconference with Ofcom on further VDSL tests.

As Ofcom are refusing to discuss any change of test method, then DL suggested we use our own proposed tests and present results. Ofcom have a meeting with the Irish EMC group in December we should suggest some presentations of interest on VDSL which may have more impact coming from another society.

4. AOB.

Strategy Next Steps

The questionnaire document has been submitted and we are awaiting feedback, however an idea of what's next is required. **Action – Bobby add the strategy document to next meeting agenda as key item.**

We have received approval for legacy funding to further develop RF DSP mitigation techniques to reduce the impact of VDSL on the AR bands. A starter report has been submitted to the Legacy Committee.

Next EMCC Skype 21st September 2017 @ 19:30. The chairman closed the meeting at approximately 9.45pm.

B Wadey MIORYL, EMCC., 30th July 2017