

# **Laughing Policeman Wireless Society AGM Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Ripperidge Inn**

**Doverdale Lane**

**Droitwich**

**WR9 0QB**

## **Agenda**

- 1. Minutes of the last meeting.**
- 2. Financial report**
- 3. Freedom of Information enquiry of OFCOM**
- 4. New membership proposal**
- 5. CTCSS tones**
- 6. A.O.B**

The meeting was attended by 7 founder members with our life president taking part by telephone due to illness.

The minutes of the last meeting in 2009 were not read out, but a printed record was passed to those present.

The treasurer confirmed that donations had been received to maintain the website and the turnover for the each of the past years was such as to maintain UK Charitable Status, cash in hand £19.72 cash as the bankers had started charging for maintaining the bank account and it had been closed due to it being the largest expense!

A Freedom of Information request was made by a club member, at his own expense, with regard to OFCOM and prosecutions of Radio Amateurs – as they had ceased publishing the details. It transpired that the assumption that these details were being kept a secret was misplaced as the last recorded legal action against a radio amateur was in 2001, the same time the prosecution statistics ceased to be published.

A founder member proposed that membership of the LPWS should be handed out freely to anyone contravening their licence conditions; initially this was not a universally popular suggestion. It was proposed that from now on, anyone keying their mike with no call-sign,

addressing remarks to anyone not having established their stations correctly (ie any LPWS member NOT using a call-sign), would be automatically enrolled as a member.

It was explained that in 1991, case law now means that it is an offence to transmit on any frequency and saying more than 8 syllables without a call-sign. After explanations of many other common practices that are contrary to licence conditions, and the attraction of this new membership procedure was easy to see. The proposing member put it to the vote, it was seconded and passed unanimously, with the probability that the LPWS would become the largest representative body of Radio Amateurs in the UK.

Our Technical Director handed out a document called CTCSS tones and explained their use on repeaters and how to modify radios to adopt the sub audible tones and regain repeater access. A modified radio was shown fitted with a relatively cheap board, as an example.

It was decided to purchase 3 new radios with CTCSS capability to conduct tests and decided if it was to be a direction we were to follow. 2 members agreed to buy and test the Yaesu FT-7900 and make a report available. It was impressed upon members that not adopting CTCSS tones would severely limit our realm of operation.

### **Any Other Business**

It was agreed that we thank all those making personal donations of time and money especially those keeping a presence on newsgroups and maintaining the LPWS website at [laughingpoliceman.com](http://laughingpoliceman.com).

A request was made for a new look website, but after the Technical Director explained the amount of work entailed, it was agreed that we would continue with the current format.

The meeting was ended and special thanks conveyed to our life president by phone.

A proposal was made to open a kitty for drinks @ £10.00 per head; it was seconded, and passed. The meeting was dissolved at 21.28 and everyone had a few drinks.