

**British Top Band Direction Finding Association  
Annual General Meeting  
Goring Heath Parish Hall, 28 January 2001**

**Present**

Brian Bristow  
George Whenham  
Wing Chung Lo  
Peter Lineham  
Pat Hawkins  
Mike Hawkins  
Graham Phillips  
Bill Pechey  
Doreen Pechey  
Trevor Gage  
Alan Simmons  
Steve Stone

**Apologies**

Geoff Foster, Chris Plummer, Ian Butson, Paul Clarke, Colin Boyce

**Minutes of the inaugural general meeting held on 20 February 2000**

Agreed.

**Matters arising**

Brian reported that the Ripon club has agreed to sell their two transmitters to the Association. This action was approved.

**Election of officers**

Trevor proposed and Brian seconded the motion that the existing officers be re-elected for the following year. This was agreed nem con. The officers are:

Chairman – George Whenham  
Secretary – Bill Pechey  
Treasurer – Graham Phillips  
Contest Manager - Mike Hawkins  
Auditors - Alan Simmons and Graham Nicholls

It was generally felt that the Association needs a publicity officer. Trevor thought that local papers could be interested in reports. Graham felt that any publicity activities should publicise the Association as well as events. No one was willing to take on the job but Bill will do what he can.

**Chairman's report**

George presented his report in which he thanked Bill, Graham, Brian and Mike for helping to get things going. This year has been very much a trial year and the Association has been finding its feet.

The email reflector has been a mixed success; the start details and reports have not always been sent out and not all members have access to email. George expressed the wish that we should do better next year with reports and encouraged those without email to get set up so that they could take advantage of the benefits.

**Treasurer's report**

Graham handed out copies of the accounts, which had not yet been audited.

No funds from the levy have been received from the Banbury event due to a misunderstanding. The South Manchester Radio Club owes the Association £5 for their event but the treasurer has not followed this up.

Graham asked if we should continue with the £1 levy? It was agreed that we should but there would be no levy at the national final.

It was agreed that the accounts should be closed at the end of the calendar year to give the treasurer time to have them audited.

Bill will make sure that the RSGB affiliation and the insurance are done before the beginning of the season.

Trevor wondered if people who were neither members of the Association nor members of an affiliated club should be allowed to take part in the national competition. It was agreed that such contestants could take part in the qualifying rounds but should not be allowed to win trophies or qualify for the national final. Mike felt that there should be a notice to that effect on the signing-in sheet. Membership forms should be made available at each event. Organisers, helpers etc. of each event should be made honorary members for that round only. Bill will check with the insurance policy whether there are any restrictions about non-members.

### **Subscriptions**

It was agreed to keep the subscription levels the same as 2000, namely £5 for individual members and £10 for affiliated societies.

The proposal that those who had paid their subscriptions in 2000 should receive a free subscription for 2001 was agreed.

### **Changes to the National Rules**

The proposal that any member of a team may hand in the clock card as long as that member is in possession of the DF set at the time was agreed by seven votes to two. It was also agreed that the rule would apply to qualifier events only and that its operation would be reviewed at the 2002 AGM.

George will check whether the secretary is in possession of the latest version of the rules.

Bill will redraft the rules to correct some errors and include some words about the use of the time clocks. He will circulate his new draft for comments with a view to adoption at the 2002 AGM.

### **Events calendar for 2001**

A draft calendar for 2001 was handed out. Not all qualifiers have yet been arranged and there was an error on the list, which showed the Banbury event on 13 May; no date has yet been agreed.

It was suggested that the Mid-Thames club might run a qualifier as well as the final? This will be discussed after the meeting and Mike will circulate the final calendar.

### **Any Other Business**

It was agreed that the Derek Newman trophy would be awarded for the National final winner in addition to the traditional RSGB one. The names of the winners will be engraved on the trophy starting with the 2000 final.

It was agreed that there should be a trophy for the runner-up in the national final. Brian will get a catalogue of trophies and one will be chosen ready for the 2001 final. This trophy will also be engraved with the name of the winner.

It was agreed that two new clock cables would be made to replace the one that was lost and to have a spare.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Doreen for providing the refreshments.