

Minutes of the Meeting by Jeanette Ravelini

**Held at Ofcom, Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA**

**On-air Abuse and Harassment.
On 27th October 2008**

Present

Jeanette Ravelini, Secretary & Admin for GB3OK & GB3LK
Tony Ravelini, NoV Holder for GB3OK & GB3LK
Stephen Roper, Head Of Strategic Projects & Field Operations, Ofcom
Paul Mercer, Head of Investigations, Ofcom
Anna Smith, Head of Licensing Centre, Ofcom
Rod Wilkinson, OLC Senior Associate, Ofcom
Sherington Gaskin, Enforcement, Ofcom

Welcome and introductions. SR opened the meeting by introducing himself and proceeded to asked to go round in a circle just stating who was present

Apologies

There were no apologies

Meeting opened at 15:10 hrs

JR handed over a document to express her position with regards with the two voice repeaters GB3LK & GB3OK, it was also explained that JR carries out all the administration duties, regarding the said repeaters although TR is the NoV holder.

JR thanked SR for responding to her email to David Currie, though expressed her disappointment in how difficult it had been to be in the position in having a meeting to discuss her complaint that she first made back in 2004.

JR then read to some of the transcript of a recording of Robert Scott and also notified all this transcript was on a website www.laughingpoliceman.com she expressed her apologies if anyone found the content offensive though explained that this what she read was word perfect. JR then asked if this was offensive and of a menacing nature.

SR said that the transcript was of an offensive and menacing nature. JR then asked as this was of this manner why had Ofcom appeared to ignore this and not carryout any further action though it states on the Ofcom website that Ofcom would act in certain methods. JR then read the paragraph from the Ofcom website stating about individual abuse.

JR described how she had been subject to on-air abuse and harassment by Mr. Rob Scott since 2004 and that she had notified AROS (RSGB) and carried out all the right steps to make an official complaint.

SR expressed that he was unable to see a complete file on the original complaint and there was very little on file.

TR then instructed that everyone knew what went on back in 2004 and more than anyone that RW was fully aware, that RW was with the RMC at the time and that GB3OK was enforced a 28day shut down on RW recommendations. TR also stated that it appeared that Ofcom had done very little in protecting individuals that had received abuse and that it was about time that instead of shutting down good repeaters due to abuse and target individuals who abuse them. TR also stated to RW that he felt that the department and the RMC had let JR down. RW then instructed TR to stop and that he is now an Ofcom Representative and that it was unfair for TR to keep commenting on actions of RW while he was at the RMC. AS then explained this was also unfair and that RW needs to keep both roles separate.

TR stated EL had been shutdown to abuse, he stated that this is not the answer shutting the repeater down, especially when the source abuse is known, RW & SR clarified that the reasons for EL closing down was not due to abuse there were other factors.

JR then stated to RW that he knew more then anyone what had happened and how that Ofcom had not communicated with her from the onset of her complaint that she had always taken RW advice, that is why on the advice RW that she went to the police, and reported a harassment, and that RW had also stated that civil action maybe the way forward. JR stated that though grateful for all the advice, she did expect Ofcom to deal with this as well, as RW had stated that once the police became involved that this would make any proceedings for Ofcom easier.

JR asked why was nothing done regarding her original complaint and expressed that she felt that Ofcom had acted inappropriately she explained that it was no good writing to Robert Scott in 2008 like SR had stated in a previous email sent to her she explained that this was like shutting the gate once the horse had bolted. JR also explained that the police had been involved and that she was now taking civil action against Robert Scott. JR expressed that what Robert Scott said to her on the radio should not be permitted to hold a license and that his license should have been revoked.

JR explained that Ofcom were in receipt of only two recordings but wanted to make this quite clear that these were not isolated cases she had other vile and indecent comments made to her by the third party, and that everyone on the repeaters were aware of the abuse that she had to endure being the repeaters wife.

PM then explained how a complaint would be dealt once Ofcom had received the complaint, decide whether the content & recording could be construed as 'grossly offensive'; If they were not to be give consideration to any alternative means of dealing with the abuse this could be in the form of an NoV or closedown notice, or quite simply close the case. If further investigation was required, complete monitoring

of the relevant frequencies according to the severity of the abuse use an evidential form for any possible future proceedings. Based on evidence, evaluate whether it would be appropriate for Ofcom to take formal enforcement action or whether to close the case. PM Also explained that this is what would happen now that a new case had been opened and that Ofcom would be continue to be monitoring the repeaters though this would not continue forever.

JR notified PM that this was all very well stating what will happen as of date though this clearly did not happened in 2004 and that she wanted to know why. PM stated that he did not know why this hadn't happened and stated that he was unsure who was dealing with this at the time. JR then informed that when she made her official complaint in 2004, Gareth Doyle was one of the enforcement officers at the time. TR also clarified this at Gareth Doyle was one of the enforcement officers who oversaw the shutdown period of 28days of GB3OK. PM then informed JR that this officer now had left Ofcom JR was already aware of this. JR noted that Ofcom did not write to Mr. Rob Scott in 2004 in respect of the reported abuse case, though she felt that this also should have happened, she explained though she felt that a letter was not enough due to the seriousness of her complaint this may have protected her from further abuse from Mr Rob Scott.

PM explained that since 2004 the case management process had been greatly improved, JR then instructed that though this was encouraging it will not benefit her to her complaint and that she urged for Ofcom to have an internal enquiry to how this serious breach of his license conditions and the wireless telegraphy act had gone with no action from Ofcom.

TR asked all there if anyone in this meeting who felt that the actions of Robert Scott had been justified, i.e., Robert Scott jamming the repeater, him having a dedicated website www.gb3lk.com to ridicule TR and his family, Having JR website domain name www.g1upt.com.

SR reminded TR that Ofcom could not be responsible or act on anything that third parties placed on internet.

TR stated this was understood though felt that if there had been some intervention from Ofcom regarding the initial abuse then maybe Robert Scott would not have continued and the websites may never have come on line.

TR enquired what will happen for the future and expressed that he did not know how long he could continue with the repeaters when the regulators choose to ignore every part of JR's complaint.

PM then again reminded TR & JR and that the process or an investigation had certainly improved to how things were dealt with back in 2004.

JR also stated that she felt that she was on a roller coaster ride and didn't understand why she had been through so many departments within Ofcom and Ofcom were very reluctant to give any information. JR discussed deadlines; she notified that RW had stated in an email that she would receive a letter from the investigation department

though she informed that until now she still had not received any correspondence from Ofcom or any letters.

TR informed that there was a low morale in amateur radio and stated that since 2003 when Ofcom took over the role as the regulators, they have done nothing to protect the hobby. RW & SR both stated that they were unaware of this low morale.

Meeting was interrupted by a member of Ofcom staff coming into the board room to say that the meeting needed to close as another meeting needed to take place.

SR acknowledged that the communication should have been better with regards JR's original complaint.

JR asked for an apology in how the complaint in 2004 had been dealt with.

SR stated that both repeaters were to be continued to be monitored and instructed TR to continue to inform Ofcom of any abuse.

JR stated that this again was a waste of time that she still was no further in finding what happened in 2004 and urged for an internal enquiry.

Conclusion

It was agreed that Ofcom would continue to monitor transmissions from repeaters GB3LK and GB3OK in order to gather further evidence. The level of resource assigned to monitor traffic on GB3LK and GB3OK will be a matter for determination by the Investigation Team.

Once information was gathered from 2004 and the evidence assessed, Ofcom will then decide whether to pursue further action.

Should Ofcom decide not to pursue further action, it was agreed that Ofcom would notify JR of this.

TR would maintain and provide on request, a log of any abuse on GB3LK and GB3OK.

It was also agreed that the minutes of this meeting would be submitted to all who attended.

Meeting closed at 16:26 hrs.....
