

# DIGICOM

The Newsletter of MAXPAK,  
The Midlands AX25 Packet Radio  
User Group

April/May 2008



## DC86

### In This Issue

Forthcoming Members Meetings	1
Editor's Jottings.	2
Node / BBS Info	3
2008 AGM Minutes	4
MaxPak LAN	6
MaxPak Who's who	7

### WINTER / SPRING DIARY.

Monthly Member's Meetings continue to be held at The **Sir Robert Peel Public House**, located on the Main A4124 Bell Lane adjacent to the Lichfield Road / Broad Lane Junction and traffic lights.

**A to Z Reference: Square 7G, Page 25.**

**Postcode = WS3 2JS**

All meetings commence about 19.45 hrs in the downstairs Lounge Bar.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2008 Natter Evening**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 Natter Evening**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 Natter Evening**

We hope you may be able to pay us a visit  
At one of our meetings.

## **EDITORS JOTTINGS**

Well, another AGM has come and gone, with only 7 people attending.

I was feeling rather despondent over the attendance, when I read an old copy of Digicom from our website, dated 2000. In that edition was the 2000 AGM report, showing only 10 attendees, which ironically, made me feel a little better!

This edition of Digicom has been slightly delayed to include the minutes of the AGM. I thought that this would be a good time to explain some of the points raised at the AGM.

We will be purchasing 3 new Watson WX-30 dual band verticals. Two will be used at the WV node at the Mander Centre in Wolverhampton. The existing aerials have given us 17 years of faithful service, but due to old age, are letting in water, which as we all know, doesn't do much for your signal!

Chris and Miles will be on the roof of the Mander Centre, complete with Hi-Viz vests and hard hats (the Hi-Viz vests are required so we don't get hit by any low flying fork lift trucks!).

Likewise, one of the aerials at GB7MAX also requires replacing due to problems with old age.

It is hoped that the old aerials can be re-furbished and re-used at a later date.

The purchase of an EPROM programmer was thought about some time ago. It would enable to blow our own Eproms for TNC's and Ex-PMR rigs. At the moment, we have to beg help off third parties.

I would like to send Dave, M0DCM, a big thank you for getting the website back up and running in record time. Problems started when our service provider's server crashed on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, which surprisingly enough, had no backup. Dave has now got a temporary website running and is adding and altering bits on a daily basis. He is using Microsoft Expression so we can, in future, have multiple backups!

Dave has also been able to put video links on the website (like on YouTube). If you get chance, watch the video of the manufacture of a homebrew valve. It is very impressive.

73 de Miles G4GSB

[www.maxpak.org.uk](http://www.maxpak.org.uk)

# Node/BBS News

Correct 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008

## GB7MAX /BLOX Node

### (Bloxwich)

The BBS/Node, using WinFBB/ XROUTER continues to perform satisfactorily. The main aerial which links GB7MAX to the WV nodes is showing signs of wear; it is causing a few connection problems. It will be replaced later this spring.

Current user access to both BLOX and GB7MAX is as follows:

**2m 144.9375 MHz 1K2**  
**70cm 432.675 MHz 1K2**

Direct Telnet access to the BBS on Port 4001 and to the BLOX node on Port 2323 is now available. Contact Chris, G0CNG, sysop, for further Information or access password authorisation for either or both BBS and the Node.

## GB7WAL

### (Walsall)

This BBS is now back on air. User ports as follows:

**2m 144.850 1K2**  
**70cm 432.650 1K2**

## GB7WV NODES (The Net X1J-4)

### (Wolverhampton)

These continue to function satisfactorily. The 2 aerials which link WV to GB7MAX and the Coventry BBS are showing signs of wear, and are also causing some connection problems. G0CNG and G4GSB will be replacing them later this spring. User access available as follows:

**2m (9K6) WV22 GB7WV-2 144.975 MHz**  
**70cm (1K2) WV72 GB7WV-7 432.675 MHz**

## DUDLEY GB7DN (XROUTER) NODE

### (Dudley)

Sited at the QTH of our Secretary, G4GSB in Dudley. Coming soon, APRS UI-View Digipeater on 144.800, and user access on 4 meters. Access is as follows:

**2 m 144.850 MHz 1K2 144.975 MHz 9k6**

**70 cm 432.675 MHz 1K2 432.625 MHz 9k6**

## SALOP G7BUG-8 NODE

### (Newport, Shropshire)

Sited at the QTH of Tony, G7BUG. Good signal reports have been received around Newport and Wellington areas. User access as follows:

**2m 144.950 1K2**

# **MINUTES OF MAXPAK A.G.M. HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup>**

## **APRIL 2008 AT**

### **THE SIR ROBERT PEEL**

Present: G0CNG, G4GSB, G0KFS, G6KUI, G7BNK, M0DCM and G6KOI.

Apologies: None.

The A.G.M. started at 20:30

#### 1. **MINUTES FROM LAST YEARS A.G.M.**

- The minutes of the 2007 A.G.M. had been published in Digicom, and were also handed out to all present. They were proposed as a true record by M0DCM and seconded by G0KFS. It was unanimously accepted by all.

#### 2. **Matters Arising.** Non-registered.

#### 3. **CHAIRMANS REPORT.**

- The chairman reported:
- “It has been a quiet year. The DY node at the Sedgley Scout headquarters was removed last autumn after the site agreement ran out. This enabled us to install an extra user access port at the WV node on 432.675 MHz 1K2.
- We have added an additional node at the QTH of Tony, G7BUG, in Newport, Shropshire.
- We hosted the successful packet radio conference last Autumn
- We have attended rallies last year, and this year plan to attend the Elvaston and Telford rallies.”
- That concluded the chairman’s report.

#### 4. **PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.**

- The accounts were presented by G0KFS, who showed that we had a £55.98 excess expenditure over income.
- The biggest expenditure last year was the £139 for food etc for the packet conference.
- We have a healthy deposit account and current account.
- We will be purchasing an EPROM programmer and eraser later this year.
- We will also be replacing 2 aerials at the WV node and 1aerial at GB7MAX
- The accounts were proposed by G0CNG and seconded by M0DCM.
- All unanimously accepted them.

#### 5. **SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR.**

- It was accepted by all that we leave the subscription at £10 and continue with the £5 subscription for persons 65 and over.

#### 6. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

- G0CNG said he was willing to be chairman for another year.
- He was proposed by G0KFS and seconded by M0DCM.
- He was elected unopposed.

#### 7. **ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

- G4GSB was willing to be secretary for another year.
- He was proposed by G7BNK and seconded by G6KUI.
- He was elected unopposed.

#### 8. **ELECTION OF TREASURER**

- G0KFS was willing to be treasurer for another year.
- He was proposed by G4GSB and seconded by G7BNK.
- He was elected unopposed.

#### 9. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

- M0DCM was proposed by G0KFS and seconded by G6KUI
- G7BNK was proposed by G0KFS and seconded by G6KUI
- All unanimously accepted them.

#### 10. **A.O.B**

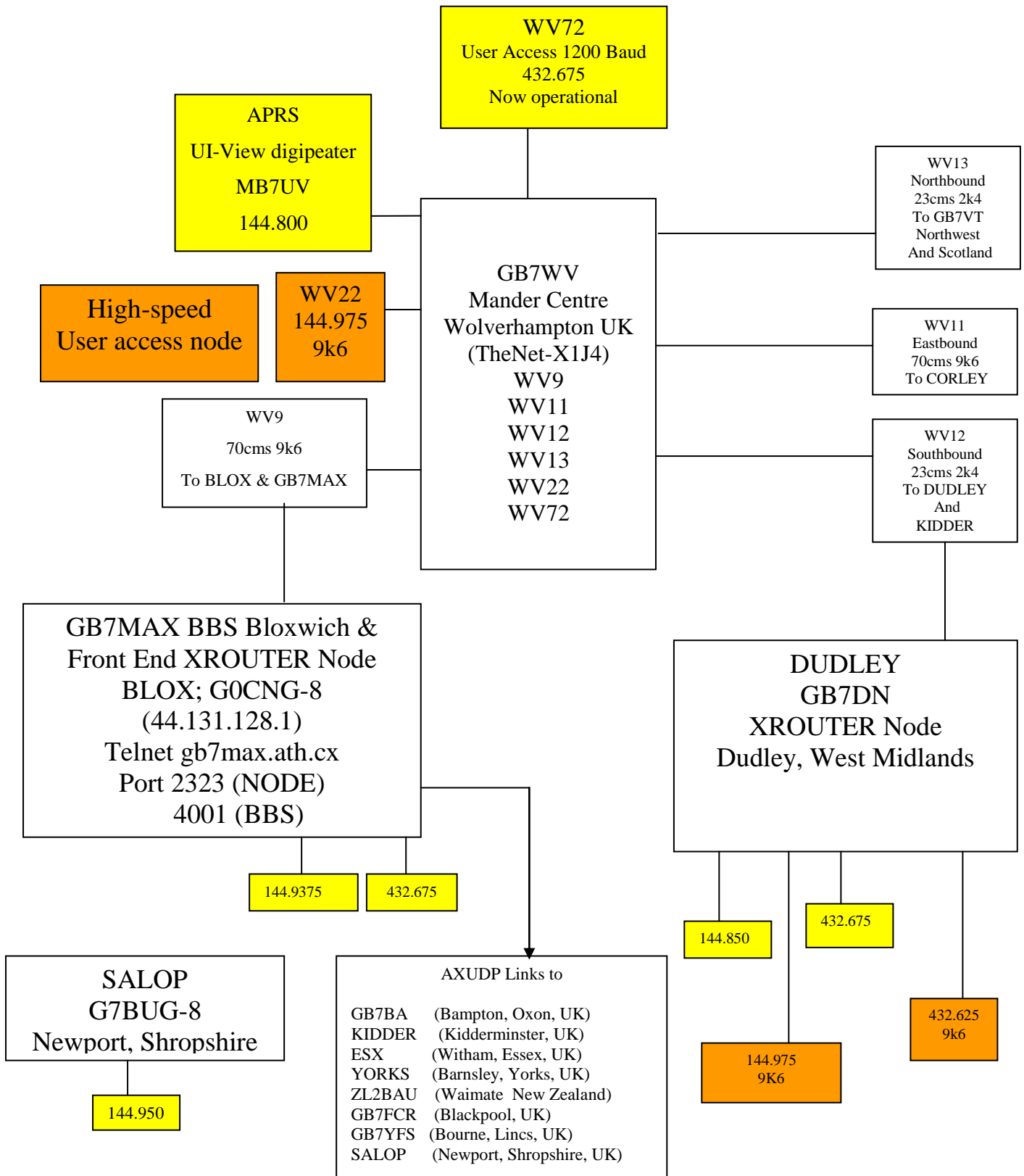
- The EPROM programmer mentioned in the accounts report will be sourced by G4GSB.
- The 3 aerials also mentioned in the accounts report, will be sourced by G4GSB, with requests sent to suppliers requesting club discounts.
- G6KUI stated that the Elvaston rally may be called off this year, their being a meeting tonight of the rally committee.
- G0CNG to contact the sysop of GB7BA in Oxford regarding holding this year's packet radio conference around his area.
- A discussion followed regarding keeping people's interest in Packet, and adding new members to the network. G4GSB stated that once he had completed "tweaking" his node, he would be contacting local radio clubs with a view to a packet radio demonstration.
- M0DCM stated that he would be shortly upgrading the website; the existing one was quickly put together after the main server crashed.

The AGM finished at 21:23.

Minutes prepared by G4GSB.

# The MaxPak Local Area AX25 Network; April 2008

1K2 user ports in yellow, 9K6 users ports in brown



## **2008 - 2009 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **Chairman and Membership Secretary**

Chris G0CNG QTHR or @ GB7MAX

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### **Secretary**

Miles G4GSB @ GB7MAX

SysOp GB7DN

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### **Treasurer**

Albert G0KFS @ GB7MAX

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SysOp GB7MAX, GB7WV, MB7UV

Chris G0CNG

Details as above

SysOp GB7WAL Dave G7BNK

G7BNK @ GB7WAL

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### **Webmaster**

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### **Digicom editor**

Miles G4GSB / Dave M0DCM

Details as above.