

THE WORLD BELOW 400 GHz

The Periodical Newsletter of the
WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc.,
ZL1IS,
PO BOX 606,
Waikato Mail Centre
Hamilton 3240.



NZART
BRANCH 81

www.zl1is.info

MAY 2021 ISSUE

WAIKATO VHF GROUP EXECUTIVE

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------|-------------|
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Special General Meeting 2021

The Special General Meeting of the Waikato VHF Group will be held on

Sunday, 30th May 2021, 1:30pm

Via Zoom

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Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting of the Waikato VHF Group Inc. will be held on

Sunday, 30th May 2021, 1:30pm

Via Zoom

AGENDA

The purpose of this meeting is to transact the following business:

Item 1 Discuss and vote on approving an update to our constitution (refer to notes following in this newsletter). In preparation for this meeting, please read through the attached constitution draft, and bring your comments/suggestions to the meeting. As a financial member of the Waikato VHF Group Inc, your attendance at this meeting is requested please in order for us to fulfil our constitutional requirements (clause 7.3.4 refers).

Item 2 Review and vote on a remit submitted by AREC (pages 26/27 of March/April 2021 Break-In). Please have your Break-In at hand for this meeting.

Zoom limits calls to 40 minutes duration, so please test your connection **prior to the meeting** start time to avoid hold-ups once it commences <https://zoom.us/test> When carrying out this test, you may be asked to download and run a file to run the test meeting.

If you're unable to attend this SGM, we will appreciate your prior vote either in support or opposing each resolution above. Please email the Secretary at branch.81@nzart.org.nz with your apology and votes prior to 30 May 2021.

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Repeaters/Beacons

The Waikato VHF Group owns and maintains a number of repeaters and beacons in the greater Waikato and Bay of Plenty area. These are available for sponsorship for a period of 1 year. Please see <http://zl1is.info/sites.html> for a list of repeaters, beacons & links that are currently available for sponsorship. If you are interested in sponsoring one of them, please contact our Secretary (ZL1GWP) or Treasurer (ZL1TAT).

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2021 Constitution Update

At the Waikato VHF Group's 21 March 2021 AGM, two suggestions were tabled:

1. introduce a Student class of membership, with a \$15 membership fee suggested,
2. reduce the number of financial members required to form a quorum at our meetings. VHF Group membership has reduced since the peak of around 40 when our constitution was last updated, and on more than one occasion we've not meet our existing quorum requirement in order to transact business.

Our present (2009) constitution has now been reviewed, and the following amendments proposed. These changes are highlighted in yellow in *CONS21V1-R01_Draft1.pdf* attached with this newsletter. Where existing text is being replaced, the original text in this draft is shown struck out, with replacement text following and highlighted in yellow.

| <u>Clause</u> | <u>Proposed amendment</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 5.1.1.7 | Added clause defining Student Members classification. |
| 5.2.2 | Added text to clause to cover changes to membership classification, eg; moving from Student to full Member, or adding a partner where a Member becomes part of a Family Membership etc. |
| 5.3.4 | Added clause defining process for accepting late payment of a subscription. We've (not recently) had instances of a prior member paying late in the year, expecting their payment to continue membership in the following year, eg; pay alternate years only as a means of reducing their subscription cost. |
| 6.1.2 | Additional words added to emphasise the meaning of this clause. The last sentence prevents someone being elected to the Executive or Committee if they've not been a member of the Group during the twelve months leading up to that general meeting. |
| 6.2.6 | Additional text inserted to clarify meaning of this clause. |
| 6.4.4 (e) | Clause amended to cover phasing out of cheques and for new process using electronic payments requiring two 'approvers'. |
| 7.1.1 | Change interval for committee meetings from "three monthly" to "four times per year" so a delayed meeting falling outside a particular quarter isn't excluded. |
| 7.1.2 | Added text covering having to delay our AGM due to exceptional circumstances (eg; pandemic as occurred in 2020, although in that case Government enacted special one-off legislation overriding an organisation's constitutional requirement to hold their AGM by a specified date which had become impractical). |
| 7.1.3 | Reduce number of members needed to request a Special General Meeting from ten to eight, to recognise our lower overall membership than when our constitution was written. |
| 7.2.1.1 | Reduce quorum required for a General Meeting from ten to eight financial members, again to cover our lower overall membership now. |
| 7.2.2 | Add sentence to further clarify what can take place at a meeting should a quorum fail to be achieved. |
| 8.7.1 | We don't currently hold a Common Seal (suspect it was lost in 1980s when an early secretary lost our records, and we haven't required one in at least thirty years) so this clause is amended to cover the current situation. The Government's response to the Law Commission 2015 report suggests in 21b on page 13 "new Act should not require every society to have a common seal" https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/2889-new-act-for-incorporated-societies-pdf |

Waikato VHF Group 2021 SGM to be held on Zoom

To join this meeting and vote, please ensure your subscription is paid before Friday 28 May.

While we're unable to meet face to face, our Annual General Meeting has been scheduled to be held using the video conferencing application Zoom. You've likely seen TV coverage of people meeting on Zoom, from schools to Parliamentary Select Committees. If you've not used Zoom yourself, don't worry, joining a Zoom meeting is straight forward, the process will go like this:

1. Our president David ZL1DGK will most likely host this AGM as Chairman ("host" in Zoom speak), and via the link below, you're invited to attend provided you've paid your 2021 membership;
2. To join our Zoom meeting (commencing at 1.30pm on Sunday 30 May), simply click on this link which has an embedded password

<https://zoom.us/j/91089851610?pwd=aEd4VittUVZKVzcxWUNXTWFCb0xZUT09>

Meeting ID: 910 8985 1610

Passcode: 8apfAY

3. If Zoom is already installed on your computer, you'll be taken directly to the Join Meeting log-in screen. Otherwise Zoom will first prompt you to download and save the file, then run it to install the application (your computer operating system will likely ask you to agree to that download and installation, follow the prompts). Depending on your computer's default web browser, you may then be prompted to open Zoom.
4. Next, you'll be given the opportunity to Test your Audio and Video and resolve any issues prior to joining the meeting. This is a good idea if you haven't used video conferencing before.
5. At the Join a Meeting log-in, type in your name plus callsign (this becomes your screen name displayed during the meeting), then click "Join Meeting". You can join with or without your camera on (we'd prefer to see you), plus you should join with audio (otherwise we won't hear you). At this point you'll go into a "waiting room", from where the host admits you to join our meeting as a "Participant". Please be patient to be admitted.
6. To minimise background noise, the host will "Mute participants on entry". When you want to talk, hold down your Space Bar while talking (just like a microphone PTT switch). Your outgoing audio is indicated on the green microphone icon displayed in the lower left of the Zoom window on your screen. While muted, the microphone icon has a diagonal red slash through it.
7. For maximum use of screen space, click on "Gallery View" in top right-hand corner of Zoom window.
8. As we're using the free version of Zoom, our meeting time used to be limited to 40 minutes, however Zoom is presently auto-extending that limit. Around 40 minutes in, you might see a message pop up advising the "host has extended the meeting".

To see a demonstration of joining a Zoom meeting, view this 1 minute video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIkCmbvAHQQ>

and / or an alternative 4 minute video... https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FRK_3z1dhps

Using Zoom. The company's website recommends a minimum 1 Mbps download speed for group calls. Doing group video calls in 1080p HD resolution requires at least 2.5 Mbps upload and download speeds. ADSL and VDSL should cope OK, and fibre on a typical broadband home internet plan will be no problem.

Test your internet speed: <https://www.chorus.co.nz/speed-test>