

Sunderland Astronomical Society

Date: 12th October 2014.
Time: 6:00 pm.
Location: WWT.

Attendees: John Lynch (JL), Paul Meade (PM), Martin Kennedy (MK), Ken Kirvan (KK), Natalie Lowes (NL), Stephen Carr (SC), Harry Herron (HH).

Apologies: Roy Alexander (RA), Ian Aiken (IA), Peter Wison (PW).

Open Actions:

- KK to provide accounts (new format) for past 2 years (last and previous season) for BIFFA application (required for November 2014).
- MK to contact GC (NSLC) regarding future events.
- PM to contact WWT management and inform them of dates for Jupiter nights 23/24th Jan 2015.
- JL to ask WWT management if current notice board could be increased in size as the current notice was now too small for SAS notices/pictures/etc.
- HH/DB/GD – report on telescope build updates.
- HH/DB – report t on shed build updates.
- Graham Darke to provide the necessary adjustments for primary mirror for mirror coating of telescope project.

	Description	Action	Deadline Date
	Minutes of Previous Meeting Minutes from previous committee meeting were accepted.		
1	Outstanding Action Review All actions outlined above were still outstanding.		
2	Visits & Events PM went through events & visits from events diary for the next 3 months. North Pennines AONB stargazing event on 20/11/14 further information was being requested. SAS invited to attend stargazing event at Stonehaugh on 4/11/14 hosted by Forestry Commission, further information was TBC. JL commented that the East Herrington school visit was planned as part of the Endowment Fund list of schools and was to be scheduled. Kielder Forest Star Camp - October 22 nd to 26 th . All electrical hook- up pitches were booked. Non-electrical pictures still available. Contact Lynn more information on bookings/cancellations. MK - had received reply form enquiry from BBC POC that BBC stargazing live would be running in March 18th, 19th and morning of the 20th to coincide with the solar eclipse. PM to inform WWT management for SAS supporting event at WWT on the 21 st March. MK - awaiting reply from Gary Collin (Nissan) w.r.t. SAS participation at NSLC events this year and next.	PM to confirm dates/ times for visits/events, arrange/liaise with event organisers. PM to inform WW T management of SAS event on 21/03/15. MK to make enquiries with GC.	As reqd. As reqd. As reqd.
3	Funding for Observatory Dome/Mount replacement, etc Endowment Fund - Community Foundation. MK reported that RA had received no replies from enquiries on Facebook competition, so far. It was suggested that if committee members had any possible interested schools that they should try and contact them in the meantime w.r.t. enquiring interest in visits to schools.	Committee make enquiries where possible to possible schools.	None

SAS Committee - Meeting Minutes

	Description	Action	Deadline Date
	<p>RM reported that Byers Green School visit had went well and had asked if they could provide feedback form.</p> <p>Other Fundraising Streams It was mentioned that BIFFA fundraising application process was to be started in November 2014.</p>	<p>RM to provide feedback form for visited school.</p> <p>KK to provide accounts for past two years(new format) required for BIFFA Application</p>	<p>ASAP.</p> <p>Nov 2014</p>
4	<p>SAS Project - Shed HH/DB dome shelving to be put up. Purchase of some internal lights required. HH mentioned that there was a need to get more volunteers for the shed build/maintenance, as it was currently mostly HH & Dave Beedham (DB). The committee agreed more volunteers were required & suggested possibly of using text alert service to announce when work was taking place and to get further volunteers. HH to ask Michael Tweedy (MT) about this.</p>	<p>HH//DB/JL the progress shed build/maintenance.</p>	<p>As Reqd.</p>
5	<p>SAS Project - 18.5 " Dob Telescope HH/DB the box section of the primary mirror progress was ongoing. Re: primary mirror, Graham reported he is still working on the figuring of it. And it is taking longer than he thought.</p>	<p>Graham Darke to provide the necessary adjustments for primary mirror.</p>	<p>As Reqd.</p>

Any Other Business

It was suggested that the provisional date for the AGM be moved to the third week of November. After discussions, a vote, it was decided that it would take place from 6 pm on 16 November 2014, before the lecture.

RM asked if there should be a requirement for one year membership on the committee for certain "named officer" posts (for e.g. Treasurer. etc) in order gaining further insight into what was required, etc. This was discussed at length and a decision will be made in due course.

HH commented that he contacted the Washington Galleries with regarding SAS fundraising astronomy events. He said they were definitely interested in an event around this time next year.

As RA not present for meeting, MK raised RA's comments w.r.t. unfounded rumours. After discussions and assurances given amongst committee, JL & committee wanted to state on record, that committee had no knowledge of any form of "plot"/"hidden agenda" from SAS and/or the Committee w.r.t. RA. JL and committee members also commented if people did have any grievances with any SAS members there should be transparency, and they should approach the committee openly and it will be discussed and sorted out.

MK reported that he had been approached by Michael Tweedy who was interested in the upcoming chairman role. Also there are two SAS members interested in joining the committee (Richard Graham, Sophie Jenkins). An AGM notice would be posted on the website.

KK commented that he been approached by a couple of SAS members that the newsletter has had no updates for some time. MK commented investigations are being made into the possibility of using an [eNewsletter](#) on the website/email were ongoing.

Date & Time of next Committee Meeting: 09th November 2014, 6:00 pm at WWT.