

Sunderland Astronomical Society

Date: 2nd February 2014.
Time: 6:00 pm.
Location: WWT.

Attendees: John Lynch (JL), Ken Kirvan (KK), Martin Kennedy (MK), Paul Meade (PM), Trev Johnson(TJ).

Apologies: Ian Aiken (IA), Roy Alexander (RA), Natalie Lowes (NL), Stephen Car (SC), Harry Herron(HH), Peter Wilson (PW)

Note: *Scheduled meeting brought forward due to Jupiter Nights Nissan event occurring on the 8th February.*

	Description	Action	Deadline Date
	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting Minutes from previous committee meeting minutes were accepted.</p>		
1	<p>Jupiter Nights at Nissan at (WWT), 10th & 11 Jan JL asked for feedback comments from the Jupiter Nights event at WWT A number of comments were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are possibilities for expanding to other observation areas if required in future events. • More effective WWT staff stewarding i.e. crowd control (public), especially queuing outside Observatory and better instructions to the public to use of Observing Area3 (Picnic Area). • The donation buckets were great success, but could of been used more effectively on Saturday night, but this was difficult at times due to the size of the public turnout. • The vendor's areas were too small for what they required. On Saturday this also impacted on the size of SAS reception area that was available and also may have affected possible sale of SAS items/donations/etc. Also, on Saturday, due to the sheer size of the public turnout the usual meet & greets at the SAS Reception desk at busy times was sometimes difficult to control. • Red LED lights worked very well. It was decided that more RED lights would be required leading up to Observing Area 3, (Picnic Area). • Craft area had a very successful/busy Saturday night. • Radio Astronomy worked well, but could have been advertised more at SAS reception desk. However, this was also due to WWT staff crowd control w.r.t. public. • There is a need for a blown up illustrated map with site overlay of the site at the SAS reception desk and another further down the corridor of WWT. 	<p>HH to source and purchase more RED lighting.</p>	<p>As Reqd.</p>
2	<p>Jupiter Nights at Nissan, 8th Feb The following event items were outlined and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee discussed what went on at the SAS-NLSC meeting to discuss event logistics, etc on 10/01/14 at WWT. • Gary Collin had agreed to provide a small donation for SAS services and expertise w.r.t. help in event organisation, etc. • Gary Collin had offered to donate the costs for SAS Fundraising rolling stand, if SAS came up with a design and pass to him. • Invitations to other Astro Societies • Speakers, & Locations onsite were discussed. • Use of BBC Stargazing Live Calendars, etc. • Update 06/02/14: Three planetariums were now booked by Gary Collin(NSLC) due to possible issues with Teesside Star Lab planetarium that was resolved at the 11th hour. • Promoting & advertising events. 	<p>RA, MK, JL, PM , KK to assist where reqd.</p> <p>MK to arrange speakers. SAS sorted planetariums.</p> <p>GC book planetariums</p>	<p>02/01/14</p> <p>20/01/14</p> <p>06/02/14</p>

SAS Committee - Meeting Minutes

	Description	Action	Deadline Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Radio interview(s), etc. Graham had commented that he would be willing to be available. POCs and information passed on to Gary Collin (NLSC) for further actions. • Event contingencies were raised at the meeting. However, it was decided to deal with any contingencies as they arise at the event. • Under authorisation from Gary Collin (NLSC), HH purchased 10 sets of Red LED lights and was refunded for them by Gary Collin (NLSC) • Gary Collin (NLSC) had been passed further IOP PoC details for further Contact/Invites. 	HH to purchase Red LEDs	20/01/14
3	<p>BBC Invitation to Pavement Astronomy MK raised the query about inquiries from BBC re: Pavement Astronomy in N.E. However, it was decided as there was not a full committee member turnout at the meeting it was best discussed at a later date.</p>	Actions TBD.	
4	<p>Visits & Events MK inquired about the possibilities of an event at WWT during National Astronomy Week (NAW) on the 1-8th March, possibly 8th March may be a good date. And with the planned International commemoration ISAN 7 of John Dobson on 8 March it could be a good time to do an event as there will be other astronomical societies up and down UK running events. BBC may also be interested, BBC Things to Do website, etc. However, JL commented that due Kielder Star camp running from the 26th Feb – 2nd March it may be difficult to get uptake/interest. However, Q). How many SAS members would be attending the Spring Kielder Star Camp? JL asked PM for outline on Visits & Events in Feb:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 05/02/2014 Herrington school • Thursday 06/02/2014 Group of Beaver Scouts/Cubs • Saturday 08-Feb-14 Jupiter Nights (Nissan) • Saturday 15/02/2014 Bright Sparks • Friday 21/02/2014 Dawdon 2nd Seaham Air Scouts 	Actions TBD. PM to confirm dates/ times for visits/events, arrange/liase with event organisers.	As reqd.
5	<p>Funding for Observatory Dome/Mount replacement, etc Further progress re: updates were being made w.r.t. Community Endowment Funding application. JL commented about the shortlist of come possible companies for various funding streams.</p>	RA to lead, MK/JL assist when/where necessary PM/MT to draw up short list and start draft of letter. Action Still Outstanding!	18/02/14 To be Completed
6	<p>Website Updates No further comments/discussions at this meeting.</p>	Actions outstanding from January Meeting and to be addressed when time available.	As Reqd.
7	<p>Purchases & Miscellaneous TJ offered to provide donation for membership lanyards, etc. Costs would need be itemised and provided at next meeting if possible.</p>	MK/KK to itemise lanyard costs.	15/03/14

Any Other Business

MK enquired about possible action plans/arrangements re: Chris Lintott T&A. It was decided at meeting until SAS have response from Chris regarding arrival/return date nothing more could be arranged.

Date & Time of next meeting - Committee Meeting: 9th March 2014, 6:00pm at WWT.