

Sunderland Astronomical Society

Date: 5th January 2014.
Time: 6:00 pm.
Location: WWT.

Attendees: John Lynch (JL), Ken Kirvan (KK), Martin Kennedy (MK), Paul Meade (PM), Roy Alexander (RA), Natalie Lowes (NL), Stephen Car (SC), Harry Henson(HH), Peter Wison (PW)

Apologies: Ian Aiken (IA).

	Description	Action	Deadline Date
	Minutes of Previous Meeting Minutes from previous committee meeting minutes were accepted.		
1	Jupiter Nights at WWT The following event items were outlined and discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitations to other Astro Societies • Speakers, Locations onsite • BBC Stargazing Live Calendars, etc. • Promoting & advertising events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Radio interview(s), etc • There was various discussions w.r.t. A discounted SAS membership for members signing up on the event date. It was agreed that there would be a discount of 20% on the day, for the SAS membership as an incentive to join the society. 	Dave Newton to order and receive BBC calendars, etc. Graham Darke to give radio interview if possible. PM to put article in(s) in Echo and other news papers.	28/12/13 As reqd. 08/01/14
2	BBC Invitation to Pavement Astronomy MK commented that alternative location suggestions from committee had been passed on to the BBC Darren Taylor (email dated 10/12/2013) i.e. The Sage car park, Metro Centre. other locations. Darren said <i>he has already been in contact with the Metro Centre who are willing to provide space inside – admittedly this wouldn't be used for looking at the stars but could be used by a group to promote astronomy and Stargazing!</i> Darren also said <i>"We are thinking that street astronomy may work well at around tea time and probably for just an hour or so – maybe midweek. It's possible that either Lynn or myself could accompany the astronomer(s). If this appeals to any of your group, please let us know and we'll try to help you find a suitable location."</i>	Actions TBD.	
3	Nissan (NSLC) Events The following Nissan events was outlined and discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jupiter Nights (8th Feb 2014) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ KB confirmed that invoice from last Jupiter nights event was still outstanding. ◦ 3 talks by were organised & booked (Dr Pete Edwards, RA, DN). Plus a back speaker(s) - bad weather contingency (NL,GD, PM). ◦ Other Planetariums were sourced and booked (08/01/14) by SAS due to cancellations/late bookings. ◦ Planned NSLC-SAS meeting date, to discuss logistics, etc would be on 10/01/2014 at WWT. ◦ Updated site plans for event. ◦ Advertising & Promotion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Possibility Radio interview to promote event with Newcastle Radio/Sun FM. 	KK to be the POC & invite and liaise vendors. MK to arrange speakers. SAS sorted planetariums. JL, PM. KK, MK, RA to attend. MK updated plans and sent to GC & JL on 22/01/14 Ask GD/DN if they are willing to do this.	30/11/13 As reqd. 13/12/13 08/01/14 10/01/14 22/01/14 As reqd.
4	Visits & Events JL asked PM for outline on Visits & Events in Jan/Feb. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scouts/Brownie– Visit to Cygnus observatory, 7th to January, PM 	PM to confirm dates/ times for visits/events,	As reqd.

SAS Committee - Meeting Minutes

	Description	Action	Deadline Date
	<p>commented times were TBC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nissan Jupiter Nights event on 8 February from 6pm. 	arrange/liaise with event organisers.	
5	<p>Funding for Observatory Dome/Mount replacement, etc No further progress updates re: funding applications.</p> <p>JL commented about the shortlist of come possible companies for various funding streams.</p>	<p>RA to lead, MK/JL assist when/where necessary</p> <p>PM/MT to draw up short list and start draft of letter. <i>Action Still Outstanding!</i></p>	<p>08/02/14</p> <p>30/11/13 To be Completed</p>
6	<p>Projects SAS Large Dob Telescope Making Project. HH gave a progress report commented that they started work on the secondary mirror housing. Update (12/01/2014): Don Simpson (DS) attended the workshop on the 12th and donated 20" & 18" mirror blanks for future SAS telescope projects.</p> <p>SAS Shed at WWT(with sliding roof) JL commented no further updates on the Shed.</p>	<p>JL to obtain confirmation of location as and when required.</p> <p>DS and others TBC.</p>	<p>30/11/13</p> <p>Date for shed build TBC.</p>
7	<p>Website Updates Suggestions from committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Fund Raising" webpage, with maybe some sort of visual indicator on the webpage the show the current funds raised, etc. A "Reviews page", on the website. The idea being various Astro kit, apps, software could be reviewed & rated by SAS members. 	<p>IA completed Useful Links section, with updates from MK. Suggestions for other useful links welcomed. Other actions in due time.</p>	As Reqd.
8	<p>Purchases & Miscellaneous The use of lanyards with our new SAS membership cards was discussed. After, discussions it was agreed to purchase the low cost versions initially, with the possibility of getting more professional looking lanyards at a later date (with possible donation from former committee member).</p>	<p>MK to source and purchase line yards, membership card holders.</p>	08/01/14

Any Other Business

- JL commented that SAS had received another **NASA Certificate of Appreciation (2013)** and if we could scan and print out a couple of copies for SAS notice board this and for events.
- The subject of Raising donations (for the Mount & Dome) at events was raised. After discussions it was decided to purchase several donation buckets for events. PW to source and purchase.

Date & Time of next meeting - Committee Meeting: 2nd February 2014, 6:00pm at WWT.

Schedule meeting brought forward due to Jupiter Nights Nissan event occurring on the 8th February.