

Sunderland Astronomical Society

Date: 12th July 2015.

Time: 6:00 pm.

Location: WWT.

Attendees: Michael Tweedy (MT), Paul Meade (PM), Martin Kennedy (MK), Karen Hutchinson (KH), David Bedham (DB), Chris Duffy (CD), Harry Herron (HH), John Lynch (JL), Jacqui Gray (JG), Ken Kirvan (KK), Kris Dawson (KD)

Apologies: Natalie Lowes (NL), Sophie Jenkins (SJ), Roy Alexander (RA), Peter Stokel (PS), Owen Lowery (OL).

Item No.	Item Description	Deadline Date
1	Minutes of Previous Meeting Minutes from previous committee meeting were accepted.	
2	Open Action Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT 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. • MT looked but could not find any waivers/conditions imposed from Charity Commission re: placing meeting minutes into password protected SAS members area on website. So MK make it so. • CD to produce Equipment Hire Record & SAS Loan Equipment Audit to be scheduled for September. • PM to produce/update the a quick and dirty "Outreach Monitoring Form". Would be useful when filling in the endowment feedback forms for example how many SAS members attended, how many kids attended the event, etc. • HH/DB/GD – report on any Dob telescope/mirror progress updates. • MT requested from the committee members their full names, full address details and phone numbers, etc required for the charity commission trustees record. • MT requested to password protect the minutes on the SAS website and periodically disseminate to SAS members. A global password was deemed acceptable and would be changed periodically. • MT commented Givey, PayPal have been setup. Just Giving SMS Text service is still active. 	Sept 2015 Sept 2015 Sept 2015
3	Visits & Events For events this/next month, see SAS Website Events Calendar /SAS Facebook group page for details. Summer External Visit for SAS members - Edinburgh Observatory has not been successful due to being unable to book an appropriate date. International Astronomy Show in October was discussed for this/next year. Possible CERN visit was discussed. Bright Sparks events organised for January 2016, as long as there is no clash with BBC stargazing Live. Cambridge School Astronomy visit was discussed, on Sat 26th July, travel costs would be inclusive. MT to visit North Shields event, re: "fact-finding" w.r.t. possible observing session in October (similar to St Mary's Light House). Nissan has invited SAS to Community Family Festival at Nissan on the Sunday, 9th August 2015 from 10am. Attendance was discussed. JL commented on previous commitment & SAS would need to be improved. MT asked for a show of hands and 3/4/ committee agreed to support on the day. Sale of SAS merchandise is a possibility. Times TBC.	
4	Shed Roof repair MT wish to say a big thank you to HH & the repair-team (various SAS members) on behalf of the committee and the society for their efforts in the roof repairs. The majority has now been completed.	
5	Portable All-Access Pier MT commented that the portable disabled access peer was now completed. Discussions on the press release of the Pier with Newcastle Building Society took place. Discussions on an opening-ceremony were discussed with a suitable Disabled-celebrity. PM to coordinate opening ceremony.	

SAS Committee - Meeting Minutes

Item No.	Item Description	Deadline Date
6	<p>Fundraising for Observatory dome, etc. MT commented that he had completed initial draft of the community foundation application and was available for review/input between committee members. A named plack was going to be produced for the pier to advertise the company that donated the materials for the portable pier.</p> <p>MT PayPal and Givey payment mechanism have been setup for our Facebook group page and SAS website. MT asked MK to organise/develop appropriate webpage and donation buttons. on website, etc.</p> <p>MT the down-selected dome manufacturer from Ireland. This was agreed by committee.</p> <p>JL suggested that we need to consult WWT management in order to give them a heads up on any possible any possible transport (on-site) and possible access issues regarding the delivery of the dome (as the dome is delivered in one piece). It was agreed this would be dealt with in due time after appropriate funds raised.</p> <p>MT outlined from total funds raised so far for the Dome. KK agreed to break down funds in the SAS accounts (Dome, All-Access Pier, Multi-media Equipment, etc).</p>	<p>Sept 2015</p> <p>Sept 2015</p>
7	<p>Fundraising Bike Ride 9th August 2015 & Other Events MT commented that due to a number of members not being able to take part, and also due to fundraising lack of momentum suggested a possible postponement of the bike ride. As was best for it raise as much funds as possible. The fundraising bike ride was discussed and committee decided to postpone the bike ride until September/October this year or next year. Graham Darke suggested an alternative, possible walk. However, the distance from Derwent Reservoir observing site to the Observatory was questioned. MT suggested possible do it as relay? JL asked about an alternative, Messier Marathon, which was discussed.</p>	

Any Other Business

JL enquired about dates for the BBC SGL event. MK to contact BBC POCs asap re: possible dates.

JL also commented about the date of Jupiter Nights events, & possible gate charges w.r.t. SAS fundraising. This was discussed and agreed. Dates TBC once BBC SGL date given

However, it was commented & agreed by all that the appropriate TV broadcasters (BBC/ITV) would need to be contacted in good time and it would essential in get them promoting/advertising the event in order to obtain similar turnouts to this year's Jupiter Nights events.

JL- Ethernet cables between dome and WWT was setup. Also a Ethernet CAT5 connection form the WWT/Dome to Shed for live view. Committee voted to go ahead with this.

KH - organising the trip to Iceland (*not the shop*:-) in order to see the Northern lights, etc. Quotes received, three night trip leaving from Edinburgh) open to any members, flight and accommodation £349. If KH can get 10 or more people there could be a possibility of £10 to £20 off the price. KH to confirm a dates and provide details to be posted on the SAS website/SAS Facebook webpage.

PM suggested FAQ/Beginners information web-pages/appropriate astro-video-links on the SAS website.

HH suggested committee members contacting their local school/appropriate organisations w.r.t. outreach.

Kris Dawson (KD) commented that he has some barriers available and Committee welcomed these and agreed that they would be useful for crowd control, etc. Kris to arrange.

Date & Time of next Committee Meeting: 9th August 2015, 6:00 pm at WWT(Cafe).