
Wednesday 12th January 2022

Present:- Mike Kirkham (MK) Chair, Richard Young (RY), Nigel Osborne (NO), Peter Corbett(PC), Joan Brame(JB), Peter Bruce (PB) Linda Harper (LH) Secretary.

1. Welcome and apologies

MK welcomed all to the first meeting of 2022
Apologies received from Phil Leigh

2. Previous Minutes

Agreed as an accurate account, minutes to be posted on website.

3. Action

MK has contacted Mark P, he has confirmed with MK that he is happy to continue with the updating and technical aspects of website but needs content to be provided by committee and/or members. PB will take over this aspect and notify Mark P as necessary.

Agreed to start new Facebook page on website which will be public facing only, PB will develop this. (No group page as need for this superseded by 'WhatsApp' group)

RY asked about his monthly podcast and was it still needed. Agreed that need to find out the number of visits and then make a decision. (MK)

PB has contacted various Astronomical Societies to ascertain any benefits for affiliation with them.

Royal Astronomical Society – no reply

British Astronomical Society – No benefits, £50.50p annual fees. Are affiliated with Dark Sky Society.

Federation Astronomical Societies- Sent list of benefits and available guides. £45 annual membership, offer Public Liability Insurance for £28. PB tasked with looking into these further. (PB) Ongoing

PC Advised that at present due to finances this membership was not possible.

1

MK has e-mailed Dwayne Gray regarding insurance for Star Party's and third party liability, no reply to date, he will follow up, Ongoing

LH has sent out e-mail to members who have not renewed membership or been in contact, their contact details have been removed from circulation e-mail list. Complete

Community Restart Programme, grant has been awarded and received. Complete

Safeguarding issue has resolved itself, however agreed that all policies need reviewing and revising where necessary. Complete.

4. Finance

a) Treasurers update - The general account stands at £3677, however this includes the restart grant of £2500 so available funds are £1177. The situation is fairly good but there is little spare money once outgoings have been taken into account.

The remaining money left in the Restoration Account has been transferred into the general account, but the Restoration account has not been closed.

b) Subscription progress - There are 24 paid up members in group to current date.

c) Community Start up Grant – In progress to source and buy new equipment where possible from a single supplier, ideally locally. MK advised meeting that although we do not have to prove we have purchased items identified in the grant application, CAS ask that they are invited to attend a meeting to see what the new equipment is being used for.

Financial Summary 10th January 2022

Restoration Account: £0.00 (£113-57 transferred to General Account)

General Account: £3,632-95

- Balance Last Update (10/11/2021): £924-38
- Outgoings
 - o (none)
- Income
 - o Transfer from Restoration Account: £113-57
 - o Membership (1 x £25 / 1 x £40): £65-00
 - o Coffee Pot: £30-00
 - o West Suffolk Council – CAS* Grant: £2,500-00

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Cash: £44-32

- Coffee Pot: £19-32 (see below)
- Membership: £25-00

Total: £3,677-27

Liabilities

- Whepstead Community Centre – hall hire Jan to Jun 2022: £284-00
.AAA, The Athenaeum, Athenaeum Lane, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1LY
e-mail: secretary@3a.org.ukW: www.3a.org.uk

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- CAS* Grant – purchase equipment: £2,547-32 (based on research as at 21/09/2021)

Coffee Pot

- Balance Last Update (10/11/2021): £42-20
- Takings: £25-55
- Paid into General Account: -£30-00
- Xmas food/drink: -£18-43

*Community Action Suffolk - Suffolk Community Restart fund

5. Members Programme

The programme is in place up until March, RY has finished his presentations on the zodiac, NO still to do DSO of Taurus/Gemini. RY will then do presentation on how the 12 zodiac signs match with the 12 months of the year.

Other suggested subjects for presentations are Circumpolar constellations, Intro/revisit of Types of Telescopes and mounts.

Visit to Cambridge – NO still unable to get any reply to his enquiry so assume no f2f visits taking place at present. (Ongoing action)

6. Events Programme

Star Party's, Whitsun Fayre, National Trust.

Agreed Star Party in March unlikely to be held.

Whitsun Fayre – possibly going ahead but date changed due to Queens Platinum Jubilee bank holiday, will be one day only.

National Trust – MK will make contact to assess likelihood of any events being held that we may be involved in. (MK)

Possibility of being invited to have a stand during the Food and Drink Festival in August.

7. AOB

a) Restoration of Athenaeum Observatory – MK has a meeting next week with Jo Rayner (via Zoom), he will ascertain if there has been any change in position from the Council regarding the restoration.

* Noted that the website needs amending to remove details on Restoration Committee and Friends details. PC has a new membership form for the website so will advise Mark P of this at same time. (PC)

b) AGM- discussion was had re the need to have AGM and if so when it should be held. Agreed that financial year be changed to 31/3/22, this will allow time for accounts to be seen by scrutineer. (James D). AGM can be scheduled for May. Membership year to remain at 1st September.

c) Committee member recruitment – still one short on committee, 9 members needed

d) Committee member roles – due to being one short of committee, member roles have become unclear, so brief discussion to clarify roles.

3 Officers – MK Chairman, PC Treasurer, LH Secretary. RY Vice-Chairman

Other roles – NO - Resources

PL - Events

JB - Membership support

PB - Communications

? - Role to be determined when in place

e) James Dale - Card and Gift, James is aware that we have this and has said he will try to attend a meeting, if not may need to consider posting or a delivery to him.

Action Plan			
Page/Item	Action	Action by	Status
19/5/21 P3	MK to contact Mark P and Peter B regarding updating of website.	MK	Complete
25/9/21 P4	PB to look into benefits from being affiliated to known astronomical body	PB	Ongoing
25/9/21 5	MK to look into issue of insurance cover when providing event for third party	MK	Ongoing

20/10/21 P1	E-mail to members to get in touch and advise details to be removed from circulation list	LH	Complete
20/10/21 P3	MK to chase up Restart Grant progress	MK	Complete
21/10/21 P4	MK to contact/discuss with Mark P the safeguarding issue raised at committee meeting.	MK	Complete
12/1/22 P1	MK to find out how many visits to Podcast made on website.	MK	New
12/1/22 P1	Revisit and review existing policies and procedures.	All	New
12/1/22 P2	NO to continue to enquire re Visit to Cambridge Observatory.	NO	Ongoing
12/1/22 P3	MK to make contact with National Trust	MK	New
12/1/22 P4	PC to contact Mark P re updates to website.	PC	New

