



## Scarborough & Ryedale Astronomical Society

## Committee Meeting Minutes

*Tuesday, 9th October, 2018, 7.30pm*

*Home of Sheila Anderson*

<b>In attendance:</b>	Neil Graham (Secretary)	Sheila Anderson (Treasurer)	
	Phil Scaling	Howard Watson	

Agenda Item		Action
1	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b></p> <p>1.1 SA welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>1.2 Apologies for absence were accepted from MT.</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting</b></p> <p>2.1 The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.</p>	
3	<p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p>Actions from the previous meeting (numbering according to actions):</p> <p><b>Actions carried forward from 6th December 2016</b></p> <p>15.1 NG to email MT to see if costed proposal for the rotating drum has been produced. If not produced, SA moves to abandon the proposal due to the costs likely to be involved.</p> <p><b>Actions carried forward from 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017</b></p> <p>7.2 Carried Forward – Door strip to be fitted at North dome W/C 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018</p>	<p>MT/NG</p> <p>MT/NG</p>

	<p>7.3 NG has fitted bespoke bolts to dome doors however they do not function smoothly when fitted due to the thin metal distorting when tightened in place. Rigid steel bolts to be sourced.</p> <p><b>Actions carried forward from 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017</b></p> <p>3.1.5 NG to contact JM again regarding the return of the eyepieces. No response since March 2018.</p> <p>3.1.10 Complete</p> <p>7.2 Complete</p> <p><b>Actions carried forward from 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b></p> <p>11.3. NG to email JC to see if Society archives recovered from MJ.</p> <p><b>Actions carried forward from 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b></p> <p>5.1 NG to email BM to see if Finderscope fitted/O ring replaced.</p> <p>10.2 Carried forward</p> <p>10.4 Completed - Decision made to not add a further contact method when existing mailing lists exist for observing announcements</p> <p>10.5 NG /MT to fit telrad to Meade W/C 22 Oct 2018 (if still required).</p> <p>10.6 Emails regarding the donation of equipment do not make it clear if the ST102 was included in the donated equipment and no-one has any knowledge of it being in SARAS' possession. Emails did say donor was retaining a small amount of equipment. NG to amend society inventory.</p> <p><b>Actions carried forward from 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b></p> <p>8.2 Completed</p> <p>8.4 Completed</p> <p>9.2 Completed</p> <p>9.3 Completed</p> <p>9.4 Completed</p> <p>9.5 Completed</p> <p>9.6 Completed</p> <p>12.3 Completed</p>	<p>NG</p> <p>NG</p> <p>NG</p> <p>NG</p> <p>NG</p> <p>NG/MT</p>
4	<p><b>Treasurer Update</b></p> <p>4.1 SA reported that income from StarFest 2018 registrations amounted to £2690 and the raffle raised 116.60 leading to a total income of £2690 Expenses (excluding Forestry Commission fees) for StarFest totalled £1007. Income over expenditure = £1799</p>	

	<p>The forestry commission have yet to invoice for the field/marquee hire at £960 + £275 for car passes totalling £1235.</p> <p>4.2 The balance of the Society' account is £10452, including £1235 for FC, leaving £9217.</p>	
5	<p><b>Dalby Astronomy Centre</b></p> <p>5.1 NG reports observatories are ready for the observing season following all the refurbishment/repairs over the last year.</p> <p>5.2 Dome keys to be cut for committee members to ease accessibility if NG/SA not available to open domes.</p> <p>5.3 NG reports Dark Sky Discovery plaque has been affixed to notice board between domes.</p> <p>5.4 NG reports storeroom has been re-arranged to re-house StarFest fence posts no longer able to be stored by HS.</p>	
6	<p><b>Starfest 2018</b></p> <p>6.1 NG reported StarFest was a huge success with 100 attendees. Positive feedback received from a number of attendees during the event and via feedback forms as well as offers from attendees to assist with running the next event.</p> <p>6.2 NG has indicated changes will be made to welcome pack documents to better explain automated barrier/code system.</p> <p>6.3 NG to revise field layout/setup instructions to make it easier to set up. 6 people minimum will be required to set out field as 4 was not enough to set field out efficiently</p>	
7.	<p><b>StarFest 2019</b></p> <p>7.1 Following the financial review of StarFest 2018, it was agreed that StarFest be held in 2019 as it is still a profitable event for the society. Non-FC running costs should be reduced in 2019 as items such as propane gas bottle will not be required.</p> <p>7.2 NG reports that he intends to implement a nightly visitors option at £10 per night in an attempt to attract more of the SARAS membership to StarFest 2019, who are interested in the event but do not wish to/are unable to camp. Vehicles would be parked over the road/in Dixons Hollow to avoid issues of car headlights. Nightly Visitors would be able to leave at whatever time they wished having paid the barrier fee.</p> <p>7.3 Dates for StarFest 2019 confirmed with the forestry commission as Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019 to Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. Previous attendees to be sent the event dates by NG prior to registrations opening.</p>	

	7.4 StarFest registrations to open in January 2019	
8.	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>  8.1 NG reports that with its last 2 uses, the society projector is displaying lines on the image. Replacement projector with modern connections/LED technology to be sourced within a £300 budget. NG to source.  8.2 NG reported the Society powertank requires a new battery as no longer holding charge however currently no telescopes require battery power. SA proposed the powertank be offered for sale to the membership at a reduced rate indicating a new battery would be required.  8.3 NG to measure the Meade LX200 for a custom cover to be made as current plastic cover is attracting condensation. PS/SA to enquire in Malton for cover made of Caravan cover material once measurements received	NG   NG   NG/SA/ PS
9.	<b>Ayton Talks</b>  9.1 PS to approach Hull University/Stuart Atkinson/Jurgen Schmoll/Membership etc to fill January guest speaker slot  9.2 PS to arrange speakers for March/April as above	PS  PS
10.	<b>Christmas Meal</b>  10.1 Date suggested as 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 at the Downe Arms, SA to enquire on availability/pricing.	SA
11.	<b>AOB</b>  11.1 HW proposed a rota be put in place for public viewing nights, to remove the expectation that the same people would be there every time and also to remove the reliance on JH to give tours/talks at each event. NG to draft.  11.2 HW also proposed that a "Chairman's script" be created to assist in opening the event when welcoming the public to observing nights. This would also assist in the winding down of the event in having an pre-identified person who can start to bring the event to a close. NG/HW to draft  11.3 HW proposed a society member be identified at each meeting to voice a vote of thanks for guest speakers at the conclusion of presentations	NG  NG/HW  HW
12.	<b>Date of next meeting</b>  12.1 Date and venue of the next meeting is Tuesday 22 <sup>th</sup> January 2019, 7:30 pm at the home of HW.	
	Meeting closed at 9.40pm	