



Scarborough & Ryedale Astronomical Society

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Friday 19th May 2023, 8.00pm

East Ayton Village Hall

In attendance:	Nick Duffy (ND) (Chairman)	Paul Merritt (PM)	Jonathan Mortimer (JM)	Phil Scaling (PS)
Craig Dixon (CD)	Kathy Nichol (KN)			

Agenda Item	
1	Welcome 1.1 ND welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2	Apologies for Absence 2.1 Apologies for absence were accepted from Janine Merritt, Howard Watson, Earl Howarth, Keith Worsell, Neil Graham.
3	Minutes of last meeting 3.1 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, proposed ND. Seconded PM.
4	Matters arising 4.1 Honesty Tin for Refreshments – had not been placed, one present now. 4.2. Thanks to Kathy Nichol for organising refreshments. 4.3. Dalby Committee – No movement on this, restructure has been chaotic and communication poor to say the least.

	<p>4.4 NYMoors Committee – 1 Meeting has been held, no further meeting notifications.</p> <p>4.7 Unistellar Scope – purchased and proving to be a great purchase, especially for outreach.</p> <p>4.8 Sale of Telescopes – Nick L has purchased the 16” Meade Lightbridge and the MN190 has been retained and is currently on loan to Craig D.</p>
5	<p>Secretary’s Report</p> <p>5.1 ND presented the Secretary’s report, included as Appendix A.</p>
6	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>6.1 ND presented the 2022/23 Treasurer’s Report and the Starfest 2022 report, included as Appendix B.</p> <p>6.2 Summary: The excess expenditure over income for the year was -£835.47. As of 7th May 2023 the society’ bank account has a balance of £7429.19.</p> <p>6.3 ND stated that the price of Starfest registrations has gone up this year due to increase costs and due to Forestry England requiring 10% of all registration fees.</p> <p>6.4 ND remarked that the society now has PLI cover for £10 million – as this is required by Forestry England</p>
7	<p>Election of Officers by the Membership</p> <p>7.1 ND explained that the procedure is for all committee members to stand down and for the new committee to be voted in. Committee member Earl Howarth had indicated they were stepping down this year.</p> <p>Resigning 2022/2023 committee: Chairman – Nick Duffy Secretary – Neil Graham Treasurer – Neil Graham Ordinary Members – Jonathan Mortimer, Phil Scaling.</p> <p>7.2 Nick Duffy proposed as Chairman by PS, seconded by JM.</p> <p>7.3 Neil Graham proposed to retain Secretary role by JM, PS seconds.</p>

	<p>7.4 Neil Graham proposed to retain Treasurer role by PS, CD seconds.</p> <p>7.5 ND invited further nominations for ordinary members, Craig Dixon nominated. PS seconds.</p> <p>7.6 New 2022/2023 committee:</p> <p>Chairman – Nick Duffy Secretary – Neil Graham Treasurer – Neil Graham Ordinary Members – Jonathan Mortimer, Phil Scaling and Craig Dixon.</p>
8.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>8.1 NG proposes to rename the observatory domes located at the Dalby Visitor Centre in remembrance of John Harper including a suitable plaque. All agreed.</p> <p>8.2 ND suggests a reorganisation of the Discord server to better reflect the category of conversations</p> <p>8.3 ND suggest purchasing or making a solar filter for the Unistellar digital telescope</p> <p>8.4 JM asks if the use of home-made solar filters affects the societies PLI cover</p> <p>8.5 ND asks whether imaging workshops suggested by other members could be held after regular monthly meetings – is there a time limit on use of the village hall?</p> <p>8.6 ND suggests more ad-hoc observing sessions – communicating them out using Discord or WhatsApp. Suggestions are needed for accessible but dark locations for these – PS suggests Sinnington farm (although accessibility is an issue), CD suggested Broxa forest site opposite the car park at the top of Reasty Bank.</p> <p>8.7 ND commented that the star chart on South Bay is in a state of very bad disrepair – ND to investigate restoration options with North Yorkshire Council.</p> <p>8.8 PS asks for suggestions for speakers at this year's meetings – suggests looking further afield for speakers we have not used before. ND suggested reaching out to York University, PS will try to reach out to York Astro Society again. ND to investigate inviting speakers from the Open University.</p> <p>8.9 CD confirms that he wants to purchase the Skywatcher MN190</p>
9	<p>9.1 Meeting closed at 21:45</p>