



South Downs Astronomical Society

President:

Founder and Vice-President: Geoffrey Buss

SDAS Committee Meeting 26th November- 7.30pm via Zoom

Present:

Trevor Pitt – Chair

Maddy Johns - Treasurer

Roger Burgess – Newsletter Editor

Barry Redman – Membership

Gary Beadle – Outreach/Observing

Peter Burt – Committee

Mark Ford - Committee

Anthony Van Bick – Committee

Lisa Lacey - Secretary

The meeting was quorate and commenced at 7.40pm

1. Apologies for absence

None

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

These were reviewed and agreed

3. Matters arising

GDPR policy to be updated to include addition about membership list being kept on a computer and a paper list being held securely at the home of the Treasurer. Once updated to be shared with John Green for adoption – LL to action

4. Planning for speakers

Bob Bravington – Dec (confirmed)

Lillain Hobbs – Jan (Confirmed)

Neil Philipson – Feb - tbc

Gary Poyner - March – tbc

Ian Sharp – April – tbc

5. Meeting Structure – Hybrid meetings

The committee confirmed that they feel the hybrid meeting structure is going well. At the last meeting there were 16 in person attending and some online too however, it was hoped that there might have been a larger turn out but it was accepted that it may have been due to the date (5th November).

6. Society finances. Membership fees 2022

Membership forms have been sent out with newsletter. There is to be no change in membership fees this year. There is still to be no raffle or refreshments at present, but the committee is looking into whether this will be possible at the January meeting and will need to ask Janet and John if they are able to provide refreshments if permitted. Action: need to confirm with John Green that hall hire is still £60 as previously agreed



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No change in finances since the last meeting. Appendix B (finances up to and including 30 November 2021)

7. GDPR regulations and personal data held in the society

Already covered at section 2

8. Dealing with Covid measures

Committee seeking to gain permission for a buffet for the December meeting with tea and coffee, mince pies etc. There is still a requirement to wear a face mask unless exempt apart for speakers who are permitted to remove masks when speaking.

9. Observing and outreach events

Observing events – none have been organised due to covid. There are currently concerns about sharing equipment in order to comply with covid restrictions. Guidance from SAGAs is to wipe down equipment with Isopropyl alcohol after each use. Ideas about how to circumnavigate these issues include hooking up the astrophotography camera to a video/camera in order to reduce damage to equipment through the use of isopropyl alcohol. Other ideas include asking observers to bring their own eye pieces for observing purposes. Discussion about how to make observing events known about include posting on Facebook to advise of possible dates and times subject to clear skies.

Outreach – nothing to report at present

10. Publicity and website

TP has reviewed the website and has made some suggestions about updating the website and has shared this with RB for action. RB confirmed that he has actioned these suggestions. The loan and selling of equipment section to be removed from the website as has not been utilised in the last 3 years. Astro-photograph section on the website has now been updated and shared on the Facebook page. The committee continue to invite members to submit their photographs to RB for publication.

11. AOB

- a) LL to send approved minutes to RB for publishing on website
- b) PB confirmed that he has spoken with the library about loan telescopes and they do not offer these any more but they are will to look after any telescopes that we are willing to loan out
- c) AVB enquired about the scope GB has and GB confirmed he will return this to the society at the AGM
- d) Short talks to be co-ordinated by TP.
- e) Review SDAS equipment held by the planetarium. Action TP

12 Date and place of next meeting

Friday 28th January 2022 – 7.30pm online via Zoom

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Pitt'.

Chair South Downs Astronomical Society