

Monday 17th December 2018

Present:- Mike Kirkham (MK) Chair, Richard Young (RY), Joan Brame (JB) , Phil Leigh, Nigel Osborne (NO), Tom Sharman (TS), Linda Harper(LH) notetaker

Apologies: James Dale

2. Previous Minutes

Minutes from meeting on Thursday 15th November agreed as a full and accurate account. To be uploaded to website. Noted that item 7 will in future be Observatory Group Update.

3. Actions

TS has been unable to source an A1 poster of the Sun, all so far unsuitable. Has one for the planets which is OK but was sent un laminated, firm to replace with laminated copy.

Equatorial Mount presentation from PL has been distributed to members.

MK has written to thank David Murton for his help at Star Party in October.

Ickworth NT, MK has been in contact, they would still like to explore working with the AAA, will be followed up in New Year, MK and RY to meet with them.

RY has offered to help MK with his talk to WI on 9/1/18

MP completed purchase of Telescope from neighbour. Considered to be a good purchase, just needs a cap for the end. Cap to be purchased.

Action missed from previous minutes, JD asked TS to contact those members who kindly donated images for him to use at Star Party to ask permission to use same at future events. This has been done – Complete. Filed in drop-box.

4. Finance

General account:

Amount as of 28th October 2018: £682.28

- Anticipated outgoings (est. to year end): £160.75

- Pending income (est. to year end): £25.00

Projected balance at year end (31st Dec 2018): £546.53

- Restricted funds: £269.29 (remaining TC grant)

- Unrestricted funds: £277.24

Restoration account: - No new transactions

- Amount as of 28th November 2018: £1608.19

- Pending income: £115 (R.Y. talk fee x2, observatory visit + RY donation)

- Restricted: £1000 (AC)

Funds for Observatory Project: £2723.19

We have £269.29 to spend on AAA equipment and resources before the end of March 2019.

5. Programme and Planning update

Programme for New Year as follows:-

10/1/19 Mars (MK)

24/1/19 The Sun (RY)

7/2/19 Backyard Astronomy (Adam and Nigel)

21/2/19 Indoor Astronomy (RY) Suggested that members should bring with them any books etc that they find useful/helpful. LH to e-mail members. (LH)

7/3/19 Astrolabes, items to make these can be purchased on-line.

21/3/19 Update on Moon in preparation for Star Party.

RY and PL will meet in New Year to plan further events especially with a view to the lighter nights.

The possibility of having outside guest speakers was briefly discussed, needs further thought.

6. Events Planning group

Internal:

.AAA, The Athenaeum, Athenaeum Lane, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1LY
e-mail: secretary@3a.org.ukW: www.3a.org.uk

Following group discussion it was decided that the date of the March Star Party be brought forward a week which will mean that the Moon will be visible for part of the evening. Therefore the dates for the 2019 Star Partys will be:

22nd/23rd March 2019

25th/26th October 2019

PL to confirm these dates with Dwaine Gray – Head Ranger. Also Ian Clarke, manager at the Apex and WOWS. (PL)

External Events:-

The Giant Moon and Museum of the Moon, there has been no confirmation of this event going ahead so no further update at present.

First Light Festival – Lowestoft. MK to circulate e-mail to committee to seek thoughts and views on whether this is an event we could consider being involved with. (MK)

Now that Hubert Kerry has left the committee there was discussion on how to fill the role he undertook as Events Planning lead (external), MK asked TS if he would be interested in taking on the role, TS will consider.

At the same time the role of Resources lead since Brian Shepherd left was mentioned with NO being asked if he was happy to continue to take on this role.

7. Observatory Group Update

RY, Roy Proctor, Kevin Chapman (Breams), Mr Samson-building officer responsible for Athenaeum and Christine Leveson – Heritage Officer for SEBC have met together and visited the Observatory to look at the work to be done (referring to the Heads of Terms) and the work already undertaken.

Mr Samson has some concerns regarding the handrails installed, the voids to be enclosed and the method of securing the trap-door to the Observatory in an open position.

He and Kevin Chapman from Breams will continue to discuss the areas of concern and hopefully come to a agreed solution.

However the Heritage Officer is happy with the proposed work to be done.

3

RY has been in touch with the Telescope Restorer and is to send the presentation of the project used at events to him. He is still keen to carry out the work. (RY)

The question was asked by MK as to how quickly the money from the Athenaeum Club could be accessed, RY has spoken to the club and as soon as we are able to demonstrate that the work has started then the money will be available.

As previously discussed RY will arrange a meeting with the Town Trust and AAA Chair and Treasurer for introductions/discussion. MK, RY and JD from AAA will attend together with Peter Riddington and Margaret Charlesworth from the Town Trust. (RY)

MK reported that the January edition of WOWS will have a full page article on the Observatory Project.

8. Outreach

16/1/19 Bury Beavers – not confirmed. All other bookings as previous. No new bookings. National Trust, Festival of Light discussion ongoing.

9. Resources

NO has not yet found suitable lockable metal cabinet but in preparation agreed by all present that up to £40 could be spent on purchase. JD to be advised.

MK to e-mail JD re inventory of resources. Then can begin to develop the idea of loaning telescopes out to members for short periods. (MK)

10. IT

MK reported that social media interest in AAA is growing.

Observatory Group meeting notes are now on website for members to view.

Committee members have been updated on website.

11. Publicity and Marketing

Ideas raised for members to take pop-up banners with them when giving talks to outside groups. To take posters into Sneezums/Jessups to be displayed along side telescopes. MK will take banner to Moyses Hall to be a permanent display when not needed for event. (MK)

RY asked about the possibility of jackets with the AAA logo on for wearing at events or day to day. Possibly a fleece with embroidered logo. Further consideration needed. (MK)

LH asked if this item needs to remain on agenda, MK will consider.

12. AOB

General discussion to check all in place for Xmas members meeting on 20/12/18.

LH asked if members wanted agenda sent out routinely as is standing agenda. All agreed not needed unless there were additional items under AOB to be discussed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date and time of next meetings: All Thursdays. 7.30 start for members. 7.00 for Committee.

Committee	Members
17 th January 2019	10 th January 2019
14 th February 2019	24 th January 2019
14 th March 2019	7 th February 2019
11 th April 2019	21 st February 2019
9 th May 2019	7 th March 2019
6 th or 20 th June 2019	21 st March 2019
	4 th April 2019
	18 th April 2019
	2 nd May 2019
	16 th May 2019
	30 th May 2019
	13 th June 2019
	27 th June 2019

Page/Item	Action	Action by	Status
9/10/18 P1	Check any opt-outs and deselect from list on mailchimp	JD	Ongoing
15/11/18 P5	Research and purchase A1 size educational posters - (Moon/Sun/Planets)	TS	Complete
15/11/18 P2	PL to send presentation notes on Equatorial Mounts to sec for circulating to members	PL	Complete
15/11/18 P3	MK to write to thank David Murton for his work at Star Party	MK	Complete
15/11/18 P3	MK to phone Ickworth NT for further information on their request.	MK	Ongoing
15/11/18 P5	MK to ask members for volunteers to help with his talk to WI on 9/1/19	MK	Complete
15/11/18 P4	MP to follow up purchase of telescope from neighbour	MP	Complete
15/11/18 P5	Continue to explore Insurance options for resources	JD	Ongoing
17/12/18 P2	LH to email members to ask them to bring books etc that have been useful/helpful to meeting 21/2/19	LH	New
17/12/18 P3	PL to confirm dates of 2019 Star Partys to Dwaine Gray and Ian Clarke, manager at the Apex	PL	New
17/12/18 P3	MK to email committee members to seek views on whether or not we could/should be involved with First Light.	MK	New
17/12/18 P4	RY to send presentation of Observatory to Telescope Restorer for information	RY	New
17/12/18 P4	RY to arrange meeting between AAA officers and Town Trust members	RY	New
17/12/18 P4	MK to email JD re:- inventory of assets in preparation for loan arrangement of scopes etc.	MK	New
17/12/18 P4	MK to have AAA pop up banner put on display in Moyses Hall	MK	New
17/12/18 P4	MK to make enquiries about possibility of AAA jacket/fleece	MK	New

Appendix 1 Pending resources.

5.5.1 Prospective purchases for the AAA

(To be kept as a rolling list on the agenda will need costings for each at some point)

- Telescope eye pieces
- Three types of lenses
- Barlow 2x
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