
Wednesday 10th July 2024

Present:- Mike Kirkham (MK) Chair, Peter Corbett (PC) Treasurer, Joan Brame (JB), Lillas Haye (LHe), Nigel Bond (NB), Nigel Osborne (NO), Paul Foreman (PF), Linda Harper (LH) Secretary

1. Welcome and apologies

MK welcomed Paul Foreman to his first full committee meeting.
Noted apologies received from Lloyd Hughes

2. Previous Minutes

Agreed as accurate account, can be posted to website.

3. Actions

MK to make enquiries re visit to Greenwich. - Discussion and agreed that unless anyone keen to take this on then to mark as complete. Complete
NO to update Inventory and Catalogue of Equipment. To be completed once shipping container in situ. Complete
LHe to ask for volunteers to help out on stand at Spring Fayre. Complete
PC sent PLI and invoice to organiser of Spring Fayre. Complete
MK to encourage members to submit astro-photos for website. No response so far but will continue to encourage members to do so. Complete
Plastic table coverings and clips for use at Spring Fayre purchased. Complete

4. Finance

PC has circulated latest financial update.

Financial year ends July 31st, hire of Hall paid July to December, no other major outgoings.

£800 received from attendance at Spring Fayre.

Currently we have almost 50 members. New membership year will start from 1st September.

Financial Update – 8th July 2024

General Account: £2,237.60

- Balance Last Update (18/03/2024): £1,816.95
- Outgoings
 - Table Cloth Clips – 24 Pcs (Peter Corbett): £6.49-
 - Heavy Duty Polythene Sheeting (Peter Corbett): £8.99-
 - Whepstead Hall Hire – July to December 2024: £246.00-
 - AAA Website - Easily (Mark Proctor): £32.99-
 - Stickers / Pencils / Work Sheets – Spring Fayre (Lloyd Hughes): £11.90-
 - Speaker Fee – Paul Fellows (Nigel Bond): £60.00-
 - Speaker Fee (Keith Townsend): £100.00-
 - Speaker Fee - Paul Fellows (Nigel Bond): £60.00-
 - Crystal Solar System Ball (Peter Corbett): £6.99-
 - Step Stool with Handrail (Peter Corbett): £45.99-
- Income
 - Coffee Pot: £150.00
 - Membership (x 4): £50.00
 - Spring Fayre (Our Bury St Edmunds BID): £800.00

Cash: £56.10

- Coffee Pot: £56.10 (see below)

Liabilities: £0.00

- (none)

Total: £2,293.70

Coffee Pot

- Balance Last Update (18/03/2024): £79.51
- Takings: £109.10
- Re-stock: £26.51-
- Heating: £3.00-
- Guests: £39.00
- Badge Sales (Spring Fayre): £8.00
- Bank Cash: £150.00-

5. Members Programme

Programme in place for rest of 2024 although some dates and speakers in December still to be confirmed. NB distributed programme to all present.

It was noted by NB that on several occasions new people come along to meetings but then never return. There was discussion around this, such as should we follow up with them to try to find out reasons, agreed not something we want to do.

Also discussion around how to accommodate new members with little knowledge within the programme, what is the best way to do this, difficult to know best way.

The members programme has been in place for 2 years now and most topics have been covered, agreed by all present that it can be restarted with obvious flexibility when observing season arrives.

NB asked if it would be possible for a non-member of committee to assist around what practical/ technical sessions are appropriate and how to get them into the programme. Suggested that Steve Richards may be good person to ask.

NB will prepare draft programme for 2025. 1st meeting to be 08/01/25 (Action NB)

PF raised the suggestion of having speakers via a platform such as Zoom as we have internet access at the venue. Agreed to approach Phil Leigh to do test presentation.

6. Events

Nothing to be discussed at this time

7. Storage Container

MK advised the meeting that following an application he made on behalf of the AAA to the local County Councillor - Karen Sunes he received notification that an award of £800 from her locality budget has been agreed, which is to be used towards the purchase of container.

Further discussion around which option of container we would prefer, reference made to previous proposal document. Options being Single Use or multiple use and obviously older. Cost of single use will be in region of £2000+ but need to factor in additional costs of delivery, laying foundations, insurance.

MK will talk to Sue Perkins, Chairman of Whepstead Community Committee as they are also looking to buy a container, may be possible to lower cost if such as delivery done at same time. (Action MK)

8. Resources

Nothing to be discussed at this time

9. AOB

PC advised meeting that he has been in contact with James Dale and he is happy to act as scrutineer for accounts ready for AGM in October.

Committee Meeting Dates for 2024

Wednesday 18^h September
13th November

Action Plan			
Page/Item	Action	Action by	Status
11/1/23 P3	MK to look into cost of visit to Greenwich possibly schedule for 2024	MK	Complete
11/1/23 P3	NO to update Inventory and Catalogue of Equipment.	NO	Complete
20/3/24 P3	LHe to ask for members willing to help out on stand at Spring Fayre	LHe	Complete
20/3/24 P3	PC to send copy of PLI and invoice to organisers of Spring Fayre	PC	Complete
20/3/24 P3	MK to encourage members to send Astro Photos to be posted on website	MK	Complete
20/3/24 P3	NO to look at options for clear plastic coverings and clips for use on tables at Spring Fayre	NO	Complete
10/7/24 P3	NB to prepare draft members programme for 2025 from start date of 08/01/25	NB	New
10/7/24 P3	MK to contact Sue Perkins – Chair of WCC to discuss project.	MK	New

