

Newbury Astronomical Society Minutes of meeting 5th September 2017

Apologies: Tony Hersh

Minutes of previous meeting: Accepted, no matters arising

Next Meeting: Damien Peach. Microphone will be there as it should be for all meetings. 2nd half Some eclipse pics along with options of Chris Hooker on Mercury, Chris Dole some day time Mercury shots and Richard who has meteor videos and Aurora shots

Beginners meeting 20th Sept. If there are new people a welcome and explanation of NAS to come first. Moon shadows. Reports from 2017 eclipse. Steve H suggested phenomena that goes on alongside an eclipse. Alan W can do something

Next Beginners 18th October: Local Astronomers of note

Steve H will, in future months, introduce astronomy over the year

Forthcoming Events: Starts with the New Scientist Event which will be attended by Ann and David (with BAA) Chris Hooker, Tony Hirsh, Nicky and Richard. Nicky's son Jason is working on the graphics for this. George suggested that the team present their work to the members at a future meeting.

Wash Common Brownies, 4th October. Steve H and Peter to do.

Chris Dole is talking to Beavers on 4th Oct.

Thatcham week Festival on 7th October with Gazebo on the green followed by a talk in the council offices on the 11th. Steve H happy for anybody with telescopes to come along if clear weather. After a previous incident where gazebos were blown around by the wind got him thinking about insurance cover. He will check with the organisers to ensure we are covered.

Winchester Science Centre, Chris H confirmed that Jenny Shipway, our contact, is leaving and as yet we don't know what her replacement intends for the future.

Future Programme: All well at present

Finance: Subs remain the same at £20 or £15 for retirees and £10 for students/children

Peter has paid a deposit of £200 toward xmas dinner to the Hotel.

Membership from last session is 86, it was agreed it would be good to increase this number, Steve H suggested that a telescope evening to the public might help.

AOB: We need a new projector screen, Steve H will explore costs, it was agreed that a good quality one would be worthwhile. It may be worth exploring cost of new projector too in case we should soon need one, the existing one is very old.

It was agreed that it would be worth recording all of our outreach events, this would help us justify our charitable status and show just how much we do. All upcoming outreach events could be emailed to Kath who will collate for website.

Ann thought it a good idea to ask for collection at Waitrose, she will get a form.

Beginners Pack was discussed and felt by most that it was unnecessary, the membership card and our website gives enough information. George asked again that we wear our badges at meetings so that new members can recognise the committee. Kath will provide ones for new committee members

Chris H wrote a summary of the talk from the AGM but did not get much feedback from the committee. If he is to continue to do this he needs feedback before it goes on the website. We must also remember to acknowledge any pictures we use from the Web

T break rota, volunteers to be asked at the beginning of meetings. It was suggested that we use paper cups at the beginners meeting as we do have to do the washing up there, the main meeting has a dishwasher so not such a problem. Committee members should offer help in the kitchen.

FAS, future is uncertain but generally felt that their insurance cover is likely to continue in any case.

Tony H has requested that we organise future committee dates. We will try this on the proviso to add a meeting if and when necessary. Dates below.

Chris Douglas explained that he is mostly unavailable for October but has the agenda and meetings up to date. Mark Gray will cover when Chris is not available. They will arrange this between themselves.

Richard and Chris H went to Sagas meeting and reported a good turnout.

Please note Alan Wyles email is: alanwyles@hotmail.com

Preliminary dates for future meetings : 17th October, 21st November, 16th January, 6th March.

Next Meeting: 17th October at Anns house.