

NAS Committee meeting 7th March 2018

Present: George Sallit, Chris Douglas, Richard Fleet, Chris Hooker, Mark Gray, Jonathan Saunders, Peter Bendell, Nicky Fleet, Ann Davies, David Boyd, Steve Harris, Tony Hersh, Kath Nurse

Apologies: Steve Knight, Alan Wyles, Chris Dole

Minutes: Accepted

Matters Arising: Telescope evening has been postponed as Steve could not get the evening he'd chosen. Donnington Primary School event to go ahead on the 14th March and Didcot School on 19th.

Xmas meal on 15th December will be at the Hilton Double Tree again as other suitable and affordable venues could not be found. Peter will send the deposit soon.

Nicky has completed a Stargazing Etiquette sheet which was used very successfully at the event at Burbage. We agreed that this should be used as standard at our outreach events and also thanked Nicky for a her work on this.

Talk at OP home is to go ahead, Ann to fix a date soon. David, Ann, George and Steve agreed to attend.

Last Main Meeting : After being let down by the planned speaker it became a members evening which was very successful. Ann is working on a replacement for Dr Alexander so that the subject can be covered. She is also hoping to get Mark Radice who works in the Aerospace industry to do a future talk to us. Unfortunately the most recent meeting was cancelled due to severe weather.

Beginners Meeting: Reviewed comments to follow

Next Meeting: Dr Chris Pearson, Ann is firming up arrangements

Beginners: What we do and don't know about our Galaxy. George will do Apogee / Perigee. Steve and David will talk about what we do know. Nicky is still keen for more people to come forward to give a short talk.

Forthcoming events: Leicester Space Centre for Society outing. Agreed that we will subsidise children by paying for entry to members children/grandchildren. Date set for 23rd June

Winchester W/E Info will be sent out from office. Reminder to take display boards and material used from Excel event. There will be a Bring and Buy sale

Fun day at Thatcham 24th June

Thatcham Festival 13th October for 2 weeks.

Review of members Survey:

There were 23 results with widespread results. Examples are that some would like 5 minute presentations, more visits, observing evenings, less scientific? Starting time was questioned which was discussed by committee. It was agreed that 7pm should be the start beginning with 'What's up' so that late comers won't miss the talks. It was also agreed to stop at 8.15pm giving people more time to chat, teach telescope use and to observe if clear. This would also allow for people needing to leave earlier than 9pm.

There was a discussion on how best to utilise Society telescopes. Kath will produce a register of our assets to include costs of replacement where possible.

Membership Review: Winchester Science Centre now has our leaflets. Waitrose has our club as one of its charities with collecting this month. Tony continues to keep a spreadsheet of our outreach work to be updated each month.

Finance: FAS membership has been paid for the coming year. We agreed to reduce NAS subs to half price for anybody joining now for this season. Kath to ask Phil Williams if he will repeat auditing for this year. (Now agreed) Peter will send £200 to Hilton Double Tree as deposit for this years' Xmas meal on 15th December. (Now done)

AOB: Burbage was a successful event, there were 89 attendees with good feedback from Helen. They have thoughts of doing it again next year. Liz Broomfield asked if we could do a similar event at Fawley, North of Shefford, Richard is checking who would be able to help.

George discussed the 50 year anniversary of the Apollo Landing. It was suggested that Steve Mullaly has a slot in the second half initially to test his ideas of organising a day of celebration.

FAS emails, SAGAS are doing the groundwork for their new policies. Agreed that it would be useful to receive feedback. George will send an email to them with our ideas.

George has been on the Charities Commission website and found that decisions can be made via the committee on number of trustees. He also found job descriptions for some of the roles of committee members. The governance page of small charity requirements to be discussed at next meeting.

Mark Gray asked about how best to use the microphone and it was agreed that it should be used by all speakers.

Kath will be away for the June meeting and the September meeting so asked for someone to collect the keys from Mencap on those days. Ann agreed to do so. Tony has kindly agreed to write the notes for the AGM on Kath's behalf.

Nicky has heard that the Out and About magazine is going to be quarterly and they would like a write up from the society for each copy.

Next meeting: April 10th