

Newbury Astronomical Society

Committee Meeting 28.04.2021

Apologies: Jonathan Saunders

Present: George Sallit, Kath Nurse, David Boyd, Ann Davis, Steve Knight, Tony Hersh, Peter Bendall, Alan Wyles, Chris Douglas, Mark Gray, Richard Fleet, Steve Harris, Chris Hooker, Nicky Fleet, Julie Armstrong

Minutes: To discuss at this meeting

Review Zoom meetings: Agreed to continue for one more year. Options: 1. Full time back at Mencap 2. Hybrid meetings i.e. Zoom and Hall 3. Continue only Zoom.

Presuming we have Government permission it has been agreed that we can go back to the hall in September.

Ann pointed out that she may have difficulty getting speakers for live talks at the Hall and so it was generally agreed that a hybrid version would work best during these uncertain times.

There was concern too that some of our members from both beginners and the main meetings do not join up with Zoom meetings. This will be investigated to discover reasons and help where possible. George will include this issue on his Chairman's report along with plans for future membership, holding personal details, any changes to their details, and how we should charge membership fees (if at all) for the coming year.

Recording lectures to YouTube was considered not important but George will carry on for a few months and revisit then

Future meetings: We have a speaker for June.

Agreed to carry on through the summer as last year.

AGM: George proposed that we continue as last year i.e. : keep the same committee, this was agreed by committee but added that if anybody would like to join the committee they will need to be nominated. There will be more detail in the Chairman's report. Peter will report finances for this year.

Finance: Peter informed the committee that our current Insurance company do not wish to renew our cover of our technical equipment. It was agreed after discussion that we would not take out an insurance for the coming year as our equipment is aged now, we will 'self insure'

AOB: Ann will ask St Marys Church if the y will open in September, if so we could book the hall for our beginners meetings from then.

Kath suggested that presuming we can meet in person on a Saturday in the summer that we hold a buffet meal at Deanwood Golf Course for a celebratory reunion, presuming members are interested. There will be a cost but not too much. They are holding a deposit from us that we could not use last Xmas. Kath has made initial enquires and it seems quite possible, now awaiting a firmer response.

Chris Hooker has been asked by RAL if we can support their summer virtual event on Friday 8th August. It will possibly involve a talk or two and a question and answer session. Committee agreed to help.

Steve H said there will be a summer event on 27th June at Henwick Green, Thatcham as previous years. Some members expressed an interest in helping.