

Minutes of a Committee Meeting of SAstroS held on

Wednesday 12 April 2023 at 4.00 pm

At The Island Hall

Present: Anthony Beaumont (AB) (Chairman), Reg Guille (RG) (Secretary), Jo Birch (JB) (Treasurer). Invited to attend for Item 5: Edd Stone (ES) (Present), Harry Rauser (Apologies).

1. To approve the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 7th December 2022.

The Minutes were approved.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 7th December 2022.

6. AOB (b). AB said that he would speak to Conseiller Sandra Williams to further the discussions with Chief Pleas in relation to increasing their role in maintaining Sark Dark Skies Status. RG informed the meeting that Chief Pleas had approved the paper put before it on the 19th January 2023.

3. Current Bank Balance.

JB reported that the current balance was £2209.42. A reduction on the previous amount in December due to the purchase and installation of the 12-inch Meade Telescope.

4. Date for AGM.

The date set was Tuesday 13 June 2023, in the Board Room of the Island Hall.

Afternote: Room booked.

5. New Telescope - Problems.

AB invited ES to summarise the problem areas with the new telescope. ES said they were possible software issues and a small instability (wobble). Chris Blythe was thanked for his many hours spent on the installation, along with other guides who had assisted him.

After some lengthy discussion, where the help by Jean Dean (Secretary of the Guernsey Astronomy Society) was noted, it was decided that AB and ES would speak further with Jean Dean regarding solving the issues and if unsuccessful to speak to the supplier directly.

AB spent some time in discussions with ES and Harry Rauser to better understand the issues with the handset. After much discussion the problem seems to have been resolved.

6. AOB:

a. Jean Dean, of Guernsey Astronomy Society, has kindly agreed to keep SAstroS informed of their events and talks at the Guernsey observatory. Any member of SAstroS is welcome to attend and to participate in the starwatching sessions at their observatory, though it does of course mean an overnight stay in Guernsey. Jean sends them to JB who forwards them to members. ES said that he would try to get there soon for one of their talks.

b. ES asked permission to conduct some work on the old 10-inch Meade that we had replaced. He noted that a large quantity of water escaped from the base when the telescope was lifted off the plinth. Permission was given. RG pointed out that there is a Meade Tri-Pod and a further 10-Inch Meade stored in the observatory, and which could be made use of.

The meeting closed at 5.40 PM.

Secretary

