



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
Minutes of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Scheduled for online conference, Monday 12 July 2021 at 19:00

**Committee Attending in the online conference:** John Rombi (President), Noel Sharpe (Vice President), Richard Curley (Secretary), Andy Milton (Treasurer), Greg Bradford (Committee Member), Dave Manning (Committee Member), Phil Kidd (Committee Member), Roger Powell (Guest).

**Apologies:**

NOTE: The Government restrictions surround the COVID-19 pandemic prevent any face-to-face meetings or activities. This meeting was held by committee members in a "Zoom" conference with full interaction.

**1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7:06 pm**

2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for committee meeting held 14/06/2021 Proposed by John Rombi, seconded by, Richard Curley - Passed.

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

3.1 Cloud File Storage

3.1.1 We all agree on the need to store the society's digital assets in the cloud with some backup held by nominated committee members. A shared google account seems a good candidate, John to investigate.

**4. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**4.1 Treasurer's Report:** Report from Andy, received 6/07/2021.

MacArthur Astronomical Society Financial Report for the period to 30 June 2021. The Society main bank account balance as of 30 June was \$18361.71. The PayPal Account balance was \$807.93. As far as I am aware there are no outstanding amounts due to be paid to others.

It is noted that PayPal Here is no longer valid and that the society will need to find another payment system before our 'live' meeting resume.

Moved by John Rombi, seconded by Greg Bradford - Passed.

**4.2 Membership:**

Membership at the end of June 2021.

We have 126 Financial members that have renewed in total including 6 Hon. and 2 Assoc, 28 previous members from last financial year are yet to renew. Bryan Pablo has re-joined.

Dave Manning has come forward to become the society's new Membership officer after Henry's passing, the transition will be completed once all of Henry's materials have been collected.

The society acknowledges the tremendous work Henry leaves behind as Membership Officer for a long period of time, as a colleague and friend Henry will be greatly missed. Dave has big boots to fill!

James Wall possible double payment.

Moved by John Rombi, seconded by Dave Manning, - Passed.

#### **4.3 Merchandise:** no report as we have not had a forum. - On Hold

Currently Andy is storing the merchandise. Andy to source a merchandise table closer to 'live' forum start date.

#### **4.4 Forum Speakers – Via Zoom.**

Until further notice, all future forums will be held online via 'Zoom' web app. All presenters are keen and willing to participate online.

Remaining speakers for 2021.

July	Dr Jonty Marshall (ASIAA)
August	Emil Lenc (ASCAP)
September	Kirsten Banks (UNSW) PhD
October	Prof Tim Bedding (USYD)
November	Devika Kamath (MQ)
December	Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD)

#### **4.5 General Business**

#### **4.6 Regular Viewing – All regular Viewing is restricted due to Covid-19 pandemic to 20 people at Stargard and 10 people at The Forest cabin. - On Hold**

##### **4.6.1 Stargard – viewing.**

Future dates.

Please advise viewing dates for the year and last viewing date.

3<sup>rd</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> July

7<sup>th</sup> August & 28<sup>th</sup> August

4<sup>th</sup> September

2<sup>nd</sup> October 9<sup>th</sup> October & 30<sup>th</sup> October

6<sup>th</sup> November & 27<sup>th</sup> November

4<sup>th</sup> December & 25<sup>th</sup> December

Current hire agreement is for two night per month.

##### **4.6.2 The Forest viewing**

There is current no prospect for using the forest, this is not expected to change anytime soon. We will need to remove our cabinet out of the forest cabin, John will chase up access from Sydney University.

#### **4.7 Other Public Outreach**

4.7.1 The event on 15<sup>th</sup> May at The Australian Botanic Garden was well received, with separate sessions taking turns at the scopes. Dave displayed images on a large screen, this went well. One more event owing.

4.7.2 The event on 5<sup>th</sup> June at Governor Brisbane Observatory exhibition Parramatta Park was received and well organised, Noel Sharpe relayed about two hundred people attend and the organisers looked after MAS attendees. There is a possibility of more collaboration in the future.

4.7.3 Due to COVID 19, no mentoring this year, Phil Kidd contacted school and they are keen to start in 2022. We may be able to run a combined night later in 2021.

4.7.4 Broughton College has asked MAS to attend Science Day on 17<sup>th</sup> August, this will run for a couple of hours and MAS will provide a display with images and some scopes.

**4.8 Members' Trips** – None planed due to COVID-19. - On Hold

**4.9 Fundraising** - Return and Earn – TOMRA. Cards have been sent out and some donations have come thru, need to encourage membership to use card. Need to prime members to donate.

**4.10 Website, Facebook** – Chris is working on this, in progress - On Hold.

4.10.1 Richard Curley reported an issue where re-issuing a password from the website, Roger Powell need to authenticate the user again. Roger had update WordPress, Richard to test if password can be changed online.

4.10.2 There is no messaging system in the new website, Roger and Chris are looking at a solution.

4.10.3 The new photo gallery is working we on the new website, members are encouraged to upload new photos.

**4.11 Storing all our display photographs** – currently with Tony. A home is needed and person to manage new photo publishing. Still looking for assistance - On Hold

When the society starting meeting again we will look at printing new photos.

**4.12 Publicity and Secretary report** - On Hold

Mail checked, Bank statement dropped off to Andy, no other mail.

No publicity has been sent for future public forums or public observing due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Richard is storing MAS roll-up advertising stands.

**4.13 Loan Scopes.** - On Hold

The committee is looking to procure a solar scope for public outreach only. John to canvas if any member is interested in selling a solar scope. Currently on hold for a few months.

Three scopes to go to new members next Stargard, two scopes currently available.

**4.14 Zoom / Online Meeting** - On Hold

4.14.1 John needs to organise for at least one other person to be able to login in and administrate Zoom for the society's requirements. Decide Richard Curley to admin the IT part of meeting and Noel Sharpe to Host meeting in John's absence. Technical info to be passed to RC.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1** Greg Bradford raised the idea of business cards for committee members, MAS did have a generic business card before. Committee to further discuss.

**5.2** Noel Sharpe raised the issue of QR code compliance, society to review this closer to starting 'live' meeting.

**5.3** The society is considering purchasing a 20" Dobsonian Telescope to use at society viewing nights.

## **6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021 – 19:00, online Zoom meeting.

## **7. CLOSE OF MEETING, 8:39 pm.**

Typed by Richard Curley on 9/08/2021.

Approved by, Richard Curley Date 14/09/2021