



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
Minutes of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Scheduled for online conference, Monday 13 September 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).

**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 7:03 pm**

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for committee meeting held 9/08/2021. Proposed by John Rombi, seconded by, Richard Curd - Accepted.

Also, adoption of changes to July's committee meeting minutes (12/07/2021). Proposed by John Rombi, seconded by, Greg Bradford - Accepted.

**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. John was looking at a Google Drive account but came to the conclusion that it did not fit with what we needed, John is still investigating.

**4. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**4.1 Treasurer's Report:** Report from Andy, received 13/09/2021.

Macarthur Astronomical Society Financial report for the period to 31 August 2021. The Society main bank account balance as of 31 August was \$18404.71. The PayPal account balance was \$765.45.

Greg Bradford has a receipt for \$272.44 for business cards, Carol Slone has paid membership fee.

It is noted that PayPal Here is no longer valid and that the society will need to find another payment system before our 'live' meeting resumes. Andy to investigate a new device.

Moved by John Rombi, seconded by Phil Kidd - Accepted.

**4.2 Membership:**

Membership at the end of August 2021.

We have 128 Financial members that have renewed in total including 6 Hon. and 2 Assoc.

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.

James Wall possible double payment, John Rombi confirmed the double payment by James Wall and a refund will be issued.

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

#### **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.

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, currently all observing suspended due to COVID-19.**

##### **4.6.1 Stargard – viewing.**

Future dates.

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

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 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.**

#### **4.8 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. Recycle stations are back up and running.

#### **4.10 Storing all our display photographs – currently with Tony.** A home is needed and person to manage new photo publishing. The committee discussed leasing a storage space, John will get some pricing.

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

#### **4.11 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.

#### **4.12 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.

Two scopes currently available.

#### **4.13 New Business Cards**

2000 new business cards have arrived, Greg will work out how to distribute them to member that require them

#### **4.14 QR Code Compliance**

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

#### **4.15 2021-22 Membership Subscriptions**

Dave Manning raised the idea of not collecting membership subscription for the financing year 2021-22, the committee agreed unanimously that this was the correct response to the COVID-19 for our members. More discussion to follow and Greg Bradford to look if covered by societies By-laws.

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1** Roger Powell has suggested the committee initiate a set of MAS Astro-image of the Year awards, committee to about the conditions under which the awards will be issued

**5.2** Noel to report on QR codes at WSU.

**5.3** Greg Bradford has checked the by-laws into next years proposed membership fee structure, Greg to report and committee discuss.

**5.4** Astronomy 2022; \$25 posted to members.

**5.5** COVID management, looking forward; vaccination status, etc.

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

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – 19:00, online Zoom meeting.

### **7. CLOSE OF MEETING, 8:47 pm.**

Typed by Richard Curley on 13/09/2021.

Approved by, Richard Curley

Date, 09/11/2021