



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Scheduled for online conference, Monday 13th  
December 2021 at 19:00

**Committee Attending in the online conference:**

John Rombi (President), Noel Sharpe (Vice President),  
Richard Curley (Secretary), Andy Milton (Treasurer),  
Dave Manning (Membership Officer), Greg Bradford  
(Committee Member).

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.

Issue	Date	Details	By
1	19 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Draft, issued to attendees for corrections and comments.	RP
2	21 <sup>st</sup> February 2022	Draft, issued to NS and GB in response their comments	RP
3	23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2022	No further amendments. Final issue.	RP

## 1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES

The meeting opened at 7:05 pm. Apology: Phil Kidd.

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for committee meeting held 08/11/2021. Deferred.

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

### 3.1 Storage.

#### 3.1.1 Digital assets

John is investigating the storage of the Society's digital assets in the cloud. *Google* is the likely app suitable for our requirements. Carried forward to early 2022.

#### 3.1.2 Tangible assets

Equipment storage has been established at *Narellan Self Storage* – 20 Exchange Parade, Narellan (locker C70) to store equipment, photographs, historical records etc.

The five keyholders are John Rombi, Noel Sharpe, Greg Bradford, Dave Manning and Tony Law.

Tony, John and Greg installed shelving in the lock-up on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

John has asked members with MAS property to arrange a drop-off with a keyholder at the facility.

An inventory will be prepared later, after the transfer of items is complete.

#### 4. REGULAR BUSINESS

**4.1 Treasurer's Report:** The financial report for the month to 30 November 2021 was circulated on 12<sup>th</sup> December by AM.

Bank:	\$15,738.56
PayPal:	\$216.68
Term deposit:	\$21,209.73
TOTAL:	\$37,164.97

During the period \$1,250.00 was transferred from the society account to PayPal. This enabled a number of payments to be made through PayPal; including \$750.00 for a solar scope acquired from Tony Law. The second hand scope will not be capitalised by the society.

Members were informed at the Forum on 6<sup>th</sup> December that membership fees for the 2022/23 year would be waived for memberships prior to that date. Unless the Society chooses to run a large event, the funds we have should be more than adequate to cover all normal activity and events without any membership income.

Acceptance moved John Rombi, Seconded Noel Sharpe. Carried.

#### 4.2 Membership

Membership is currently 139 members in total including 6 Hon. and 2 Assoc.

Acceptance moved by John Rombi, seconded Richard Curley. Carried.

#### 4.3 Merchandise:

No report as we have not had a forum.

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

#### 4.4 Forum Speakers

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

The November Forum was cancelled as Devika Kamath had to withdraw.

December: Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD) *"From the Quantum to the Cosmos"*.

January 2022: Devika Kamath, February: Brad Tucker.

#### 4.5 General Business

#### 4.6 Regular Viewing

All regular viewing is restricted, due to Covid-19 pandemic. The attendance cap will be 50 members or as otherwise directed by NSW Health regulations.

#### **4.6.1 Stargard viewing**

The next Stargard sessions are scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> December, 8<sup>th</sup> January & 29<sup>th</sup> January.

On 15<sup>th</sup> January a workshop is scheduled for new members.

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

There is no prospect for using the Forest and 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**

Public nights expected to resume in April 2022. Schools are keen to restart mentoring.

#### **4.8 Members' Trips**

None planned due to COVID-19.

#### **4.9 Fundraising**

Return and Earn TOMRA. Cards have been sent out and some donations have come through.

#### **4.10 Publicity and Secretary report**

Mail checked, Bank statement dropped off to Andy.

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.

#### **4.11 Loan Scopes.**

One scope currently available for loan.

The Society has procured a solar scope for public outreach only. It is not intended that a solar scope would be loaned out, due to safety issues and the need to have it available for events.

#### **4.12 Membership Subscriptions**

Members have been advised that membership subscriptions will be waived for the financial year 2022-23.

#### **4.13 Annual MAS Astrophotography Awards**

Judges would be Greg/ Dave/ Phil.

#### **4.14 COVID management**

MAS Covid 19 response and procedures are governed by current NSW Public Health Orders.

Currently, members wishing to attend Stargard will be required to check-in on-site using the Service NSW QR code and show proof of full vaccination or exemption to a MAS Marshall.

Noel has obtained a QR code from Service NSW for MAS members to logon at Stargard.

Vaccination certificates will be required.

#### **4.15 Observatory Site**

JR discussion with Chris Schultz regarding Appin Coal site. BHP were informed that MAS has withdrawn its interest in the site.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

Following a discussion between Roger and Greg about the need to keep the Webmaster informed of events and changes to the running of the Society, Roger suggested some minor changes in the By-Laws which Greg incorporated into an amendment and circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. The committee approved the amendments, effective immediately.

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

Monday 14th February 2022 at 19:00, online Zoom meeting.

#### **7. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

#### **ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES**

As incoming Secretary on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022, I was tasked with preparing the minutes of the December committee meeting which I did not attend.

I have been advised that it was a short meeting, mostly routine.

I have based these minutes on the November minutes; some brief notes received from Richard Curley on 14<sup>th</sup> February; recollections sought from each of the remaining committee members present, including comments which were received from Noel and Greg.

The minutes have been prepared in good faith but accuracy is not guaranteed.

Roger Powell  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2022