

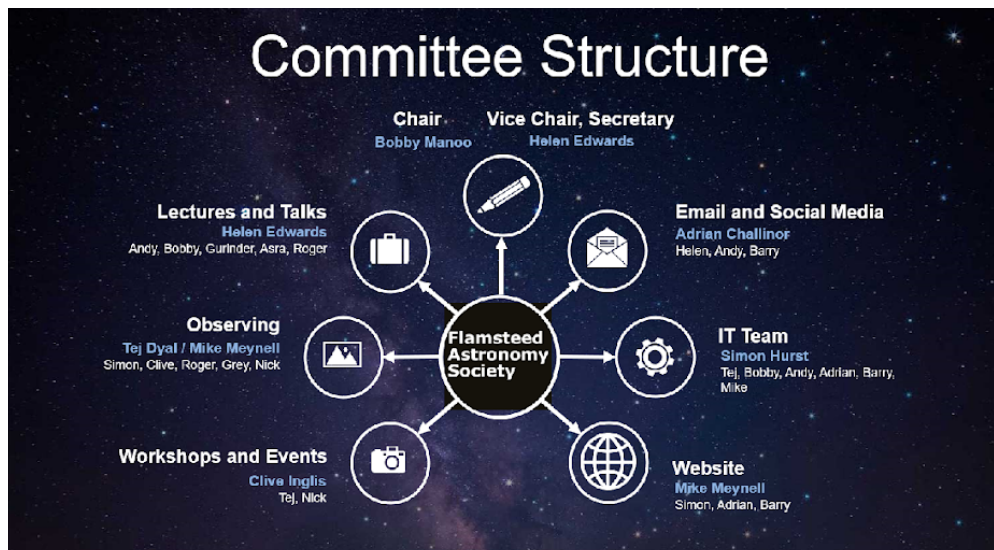
| Minutes of 23 rd AGM | | | FAS |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Date: | 12 Sep 2022 | Chair: | Bobby Manoo |
| Time: | 19:00 GMT | Secretary: | Helen Edwards |
| Venue: | NMM Lecture Theatre / Zoom Conference | Author: | Bobby Manoo |
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Introduction

- Bobby welcomed participants in the theatre and also those who were logged on via Zoom.
- Producers of the Astrophotography video were thanked and members encouraged to submit their photos.
- A minute's silence was observed due to the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Bobby reminded the audience that a book of Condolences has been opened in the Foyer.
- There was confirmation that a quorum had been reached with a total of 71 in attendance and the AGM was called to order by the Chair.
- Apologies for absence were sent in by Peter Rammel, Paul Noakes, Mike Meynell and Mark Jeffery.
- There were no matters arising out of the minutes of the previous AGM which was held on the 9th September 2021. There was agreement by show of hands to accept the minutes.

FAS Committee Structure

- Bobby began by presenting the Committee Structure which was put in place last year when he took over as Chair. This new structure was designed to enable the team to work together in the post pandemic environment and allowed focused groups based on the various events that were undertaken by the Society.
- The structure presented is shown below



- The structure consists of Six coordinators working together with the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.
- Bobby thanked the Committee for the work done over the past year and the effort which was put out during challenging times.
- Work done over the past season and plans for next season will be outlined during the next section of the AGM.

Lectures and Talks Team

Prior Season

- 10 Main Lectures were held successfully with 7 being done over Zoom and 3 in Hybrid format (In Person and Zoom)
- Four (4) out of Five (5) History of Astronomy Talks were held.
- There were 2 special talks on the same night during the trial of the Hybrid format

Next Season

- 10 Main Lectures are planned
- 5 History of Astronomy talks are placed and these may revert to 'In Person' talks rather than on Zoom.
- Special Talks will also resume with the Astronomy News and Sky this Month where members can register their interests to deliver these.

Observing Sessions

Prior Season

- We were only able to plan for three (3) Blackheath Observing Events and two were cancelled due to weather. The one which took place was the first since the Pandemic and this was very well attended and turned out to be quite an enjoyable event for all in attendance.
- We were able to hold two (2) Solar Observing sessions out of the three (3) which were planned.
- There were three (3) sessions with the Great Equatorial Telescope (GET). Two (2) of them were replaced with talks due to poor weather conditions.

Next Season

- Eight (8) sessions with backup dates have been carded for Blackheath Observing.

- Solar sessions will be carded towards the start of the 2023 and advertised.
- GET Observing sessions are also being planned and will be advertised once confirmed.
- Other Observing sessions in Dark Sky areas are being planned and these will be advertised to members once confirmed.

Workshops and Events Team

Prior Season

- We did one Sketching Workshop over Zoom which was well received and we will look at repeating this in person over the next season.
- There was also a visit to the Globe collection at the Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre (PPMC). This event was also well attended and very informative.

Next Season

- Over the next season, we will plan workshops on Astrophotography, Telescopes, sketching among others.
- We are also looking at resuming trips to other UK Observatories.

Media and Comms Team

- The FAS email mailbox is being managed by Adrian Challinor and he will be continuing with this in the next season.
- We have been using our Twitter accounts and this is proving to be useful for many of our practical events.
- Consideration is being given to the question of if we need other Social Media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook and TikTok. It is not likely that these will be used but there will be a consideration.

IT Team

A lot of work was done over the past months by a joint team consisting of FAS Committee Members and the ROG Team. This joint team has put in a lot of effort in order to derive and implement the Hybrid format that we are using today. Bobby called out the following team members and thanked them for their hard work and dedication.

FAS TEAM :

- Simon Hurst
- Bobby Manoo
- Tej Dyal
- Andy Sawers
- Barry Cassels
- Adrian Challinor

ROG TEAM :

- Louise De Villers
- Richard Shields
- Chris Kruger
- Sarah Foster

Administration

Membership

Bobby updated the meeting on Membership numbers and presented the graph shown below.

- We had an annual increase from 416 to 468
- Consistent rate increase over the years.
- Focus will be put into outreach for young adults (16-18 years)
- Bobby thanked the ROG membership team for managing the overall membership process :
Chloe Shepherd, Sarah Foster, Tessa Mo, Kishani Taylor



Finances

Contributions for 2021 – 2022

FAS has made a positive contribution to the Museum which is helpful due to the Covid impact and the reduced tourists at the Museum over the last two years.

Contributions for 2022-2023

Funding will be directed more towards Main Lecture costs, workshops, Observing events as we move towards the 'new normal'

Website Team

Bobby reported that over a year ago, the Committee decided to update the FAS website. This was done in three phases and was updated entirely through the efforts of the Committee members. The following outlines the three phases of the upgrade program.

- 1) Revise Content of previous Website:
Poly Philippou, Bobby Manoo, Andy Sawers, Malcolm Porter
- 2) Website Group was formed to agree design and technology
Adrian Challinor, Mike Meynell, Bobby Manoo, Simon Hurst

3) Design, Build and Test

Mike Meynell with feedback from Website Group on amendments. The Implementation of the site was done by Mike Meynell and Simon Hurst

Bobby thanked the team for the work done on the website and introduced a Website Launch video which was shown to the meeting.

ELECTIONS

Bobby thanked the current committee consisting of the following members:

Bobby Manoo (chair)
Helen Edwards (vice chair)
Adrian Challinor
Clive Inglis
Tej Dyal
Barry Cassels
Simon Hurst
Mike Meynell
Grey Liple
Nick Phillips
Andy Sawers (co-opted)
Gurinder Lall (co-opted)
Roger Geeson (co-opted)
Asra Jilani (co-opted)

The meeting was informed that Andy Sawers will be stepping down from the Committee and Bobby thanked Andy for his long service to FAS including serving as Chair for five (5) years.

Moving forward, Bobby has proposed the following committee:

Bobby Manoo (chair)
Helen Edwards (vice chair)
Adrian Challinor
Clive Inglis
Tej Dyal
Barry Cassels
Simon Hurst
Mike Meynell
Grey Liple
Nick Phillips
Mark Jeffery (new elected member)
Gurinder Lall (new elected member)
Roger Geeson (co-opted)
Asra Jilani (co-opted)

Bobby introduced the two new proposed elected committee members.

Mark Jeffery

Mark Jeffery was born in Catford. He grew up there, worked there and is now retired while still in Catford. During his working years, Mark had the privilege of leading a technical team that was working on Physics Curriculum development where he also learnt Astronomy.

When he was 10, his father gave him a small drawer tube telescope and since his first look at the moon, he has been completely taken up with observing the Cosmos. He has been visiting the Royal museums all his life, and has had membership gifted to him each year, for about 10 years now.

Mark has been very helpful in assisting committee members on several of our events and indicates that he is happy to be involved in pretty much anything that can help promote astronomy through the Flamsteed.

Gurinder Lall

When Gurinder was very young she told her parents that she was going to be a scientist and go to the moon. Although that did not happen, she wished for the world of Star Trek adventures.

Gurinder is a keen landscape and astro photographer and an Aurora chaser. She has thoroughly enjoyed being a Flamsteed member for around six years and has had the opportunity of being a co-opted committee member for the past year. She mentions that this has been a great 'behind the scenes' experience.

The Election Moderator, Martin Male was then introduced to conduct the elections.

Martin explained that the election will take place by voting over Zoom for those streaming and also in person by show of hands for those in the Lecture Theatre. The combined voting will be presented.

Election of Committee Members

- The election of the Committee was proposed by Barry Cassels and was seconded by Parbatee Manoo.
- The vote was unanimous and there were no objections.

Election of Officer – Vice Chair

- The election of the Vice Chair was proposed by Jessica Kempner and was seconded by John Williams.
- The vote was unanimous and there were no objections.

Election of Officer - Chair

- The election of the Vice Chair was proposed by Adrian Challinor and was seconded by Helen Edwards
- The vote was unanimous and there were no objections.

The new committee and officers were congratulated and best wishes extended.

AOB

- There were no AOB's recorded for this meeting.

Bobby congratulated the Committee members and thanked the members for the confidence placed in managing the affairs of the Society.

The AGM was brought to a close at 19:35