



## Foredown Tower Astronomers Committee Meeting

Held at The Foredown Tower on 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Present: John Davies (JED) – Chairman & Sec  
Peter Fishenden (PF) – Treasurer  
David Inman (DI) – SAGAS Represe  
Mike Feist (MF)  
Anne Moore (AM)  
Jerry Day (JD)

Meeting opened 14:05

JED commented that finding speakers that the society could afford was becoming increasingly difficult. Without a larger membership the speaker's fee could not exceed around £35 and many speakers needed at least this to cover their expenses etc.

DI commented that we should not adopt a negative attitude towards the long term viability of the group. JED and PF commented that they were just being practical and were committed to keeping the group going, but had to accept the reality of the situation.

After discussion it was decided that an obvious way of decreasing outgoings was to talk to Emmaus about the society's donation each 6 months. If this could be halved or reduced to £20 then there would be an extra £10 - £15 per meeting for speaker fees.

Action: JED to talk to Emmaus.

Member talks were also a way of avoiding any speaker fee and also enjoyed by the group. It was decided to try to encourage the likes of Barry and Alan to make a short talk that could be integrated to presentations by PF, JED or others.

DI suggested that speakers could potentially be sourced through Sussex University, but the society had lost touch with the academics there.

Action: JED to try to re-establish links.

A discussion was had regarding how best to promote the society. Events were being posted to the website & facebook page, but DI felt we should still produce the A4 poster each month. Adding events to the SAGAS diary was discussed also, but it was felt that the SAGAS site was so out of date there may be little point.

Action: DI to produce poster. Display locations TBA.

A local school had been in touch to see if the society were interested in running a parents & children astronomy evening. After discussion it was decided that the group did not have the resources to run such an evening and that we should graciously decline.

JED informed the meeting that Will Joyce (Society President) had said that he would require payment for future talks. After discussions it was decided that with the group being currently so small there was no real need for a President.

Action: JED to inform Will of decision.

Meeting Closed: 15:30 (approx.)