

Accept Dr Dean would speak on
Radio Astronomy at Toduel Bank

Best Mr Hawarden would talk on
Sunday and Polesky Minors

Oct. It was hoped that Dr Felt
would speak on
in March Dr Fairall was to be
approached.

The meeting then closed at 9.40 pm

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on
Thursday December 20th 1973 at 8 p.m.

Chairman was Mr Molyneaux. Also
present were Messers. Hurley, G. and C. Larmuth,
Turk and Rockford. Apologies from Dr. van
Dugteren, Messers. Grimwood, de Kock, Saville
and Bondiotti.

Mr Hurley suggested that the chairman
of the Cape Centre, rather than a committee
member be the representative on the Council
Meetings. Agreed.

Re the 12" dome and its future, Mr G.
Larmuth said that the present dome cannot
be sealed, and the available sky for viewing
is too limited. Even with a good mirror, the
telescope would be too unwieldy. The dome
could be done in fibre glass. In addition,

the concrete pillar is too high, and there could be legal difficulties if a member of the public fell off the ladder. The present optics are mediocre.

The following points of agreement were reached :-

At the moment the 12" is useless. It should therefore be converted to a Cassegrain. The chances of a successful conversion are good. If there are any resultant awkward viewing positions for the public, an angle eyepiece will be obtained.

The present dome will be re-covered. A working party, consisting of Messrs G. + C. Larmuth, Molyneux, Turk, Rockford and van Dusteren was formed to take this first. Afterwards the 12" mirror will be re-figured and converted to a 12" Cassegrain.

Keys to the telescope will then be tightly controlled due to careless handling of the instrument and its housing during 1973.

Mr Turk suggested that the Society consider purchasing ^{cheaply} a number of second hand reflectors of about 4 1/2" diameter originally sold by Katz and Zinn but now idle in people's homes as a result of waning enthusiasm. These could be used for field trips by the Centre for occultations, etc. Mr Molyneux would notify Katz + Zinn of our interest in this direction.

Mr Hurley announced plans for observing Comet Kohoutek in Sea Point and Rondebosch for members of the public if it is as spectacular as predicted. He will contact Committee

members on 30th December if the comet develops

Mr Harding has arranged the February speaker. Mr Molyneux will confirm this. Prof. Warner will probably speak in March, and Mr Harding will confirm speakers for April, - May and June.

Mr Turk said that good use was not being made of our Centre library. In the next circular members will be informed that the library will be open from 7.30 p.m onwards on the night of monthly meetings.

Mr Rockford was appointed as MNASSA correspondent.

It was suggested that the Council be asked to print in the Centre Piece a full list of all members in the Cape Centre.

The secretary will obtain a list of members from Dr Fairhall. Dr Fairhall replied he does not have a list of Centre members. See Mr Samille.

It was decided to ask MNASSA to publish a list of Centre members if the Editorial Board does not publish a full list of society members.

The meeting concluded at 10.45 p.m.

Neil ^{11/12} 21.7.74.