

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE HOME OF
MISS K HAMPSON ON 16 FEBRUARY 1998

PRESENT: R Clifford, K Hampson, L Hearmon, P Hawkins, J Watson

APOLOGIES: R Roth

1. J Watson welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 19:40.

2. Matters Arising

Our February meeting was discussed, mainly the problems experienced with it. J Watson has been in touch with St Charles, with no satisfactory response, about the problem of us not being able to get into the room at the school on the night of our meeting, not to mention our library being moved & things missing out of it. We have been asked by St Charles to submit an inventory list of things missing. K Hampson has already compiled a rough list.

- J Watson will write a letter to the headmaster to strongly express our grievances.

3. Planning

Our March meeting will be given by J Watson on the life cycle of stars accompanied by part of a video relating to the subject. This will probably be spread over 2 meetings, however, not necessarily consecutive.

- As our April meeting falls in the school holidays the meeting will be later, on the 15th & the committee meeting on the 20 April.

4. Membership

1 new member: Jean-Paul Lassel

5. Correspondence

Incoming Mail:

S & T March, newsletters from Dbn, Jhb & Zim have been received. A response to J Watson's letters to Pmb TLC & Lotto have been received. Both offer no assistance at the moment but the TLC will send applications forms some time & Lotto require some proof that the society is exempt from tax which will be looked into.

6. Treasurers Report

Bank Balance R1393,42

- 3 more members have paid their subs for the year.

- R100 was received from H Tumner for old S & T's that he bought.

- P Hawkins suggested we write to NBS on an official letter head asking them to lessen their monthly fee.

- Also he asked if it's possible to have our AGM earlier in the year, K Hampson will write to A Gray to apply for this.

7. Stardust

It will be mentioned in this edition of Stardust that members will need to bring their own mugs to the meeting, as ours are missing from the library cupboard.

8. Library

- P Hawkins has donated 2 books: Amateur telescope making - Advanced (no's 2 & 3).

- With regard to the library cupboard at St Charles, which was in a mess, K Hampson & L Hearmon have made a start to tidy it up.

9. PRO

K Hampson will contact Ms M Joubert, the contact person for The Year of Science & Technology campaign, to ask about acquiring funds for the society.

- K Hampson is to get in touch with B Lawrence to ask her help in organising a star party. J Watson suggested that a sub-committee be appointed to arrange this.

- It was discussed who else we could approach for funds. P Hawkins suggested the Std Bank as they support Art & Culture.

10. Instruments & Observatory

The concrete pouring on the weekend of the 31 January was a great success, all the work was done & fun was had by all those who came & helped.

- Electra Manufacturing has been given the job & the steel is being assembled.

- Next job will be to paint the steel & the weekend of the 14 & 15 March has been set aside to do this. Members will be asked to bring a paint brush, cloth cleaning materials ect with them.

- H Buchler still to be approached about helping with the telescope mountings.

- R Clifford showed us photos of his paintings to be displayed at the observatory, these were commended by the committee as well as all his hard work with the observatory construction.

11. Education