

<b>DATE</b>	3 August 2011	<b>TIME</b>	19:15 – 21:35	<b>VENUE</b>	Mt Edmund Christian Brothers College Pretoria
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## ATTENDANCE

### Present

Michael Poll, (President), Ian Glass (Vice President), Matie Hoffman (President), Adv AJ Nel (Treasurer), Chris Stewart (Council Member), Lerika Cross (Secretary), Johan Smit (Chair, ASSA Pretoria Centre), Hubrecht Ribbens, Michael Fidos, Magda Streicher, Liezel Galloway, Len Homber, Alec Jamieson, CM Olivier, Percy Jacobs

### Apologies

Christian Hettlage Auke Slotegraaf Kechil Kirkham, Maciej Soltynski, John Saunders, Wim Filmalter, Brian Fraser, Tim Cooper, Chris Middleton

	<b>Agenda Points</b>	<b>Discussions / Decisions / Actions (in bold)</b>
1	Welcome and Apologies	M Poll welcomed everyone and opened the meeting. A special mention of welcome was extended to the out of town members: Ian Glass, Magda Streicher, Matie Hoffman, and members from Johannesburg.  Apologies noted are recorded above in the minutes.
2	2010 AGM Minutes	The minutes of the AGM 2010 held on 4 August 2010 were taken as read and accepted.
3	Matters arising	M Poll noted that Reference Item 9 from 2010, the outstanding Financial Statements were received and are covered in Item 8 of these minutes.  Agenda items tabled were accepted
4	Report on Council	<b>Report on Council</b>  M Poll presented his Report on Council. Acceptance of the report was proposed by I Glass and seconded by C Stewart.  <b>All reports will be placed on the website <a href="http://assa.saao.ac.za/">http://assa.saao.ac.za/</a> and in MNASSA.</b>
5	Reports of the Observing Sections	5.1 Comet & Meteor Section Report received from Tim Cooper was read by C Stewart.  5.2 Deep Sky Section Report received from Auke Slotegraaf was read by C Stewart.  5.3 Double Star Section Report received from Lucas Ferreira was read by J Smit  5.4 Occultation Sections (Lunar, grazing & planetary) Report received from Brian Fraser was read by M Poll  5.5 Solar Section Report. J van Delft resigned as Section Director during the year. No report was submitted.  5.6 Variable Star Section Report. Christopher Middleton, the Section Director, did not submit a report.  5.7 Cosmology Section Report received from Frikkie de Bruyn was read by AJ Nel.
6	Other Section Reports	6.1 Dark Sky Section Report received from J Smit and was read by J Smit.  6.2. Education & Public Communication Section Report received from C Rijdsdijk was read by J Smit

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		6.3 Historical Section received from Chris de Coning was read by M Poll.
7	Scholarships Report	7.1 ASSA Scholarships Convenor Report was received from M Soltynski and read by M Poll. 7.2 I Glass noted that one of the recipients, Renee Holzek, was also a Rhodes Scholar.
8	Financial Report	8.1 AJ Nel presented the 2010 /11 Financial Report. 8.2 M Poll noted that the financial statements of the previous years – up to 2009 - were only received in July 2011 and will be included with the current reports.
9	ASSET	<b>ASSA Endowment Trust Report (ASSET).</b> No report was received from the Trustees of ASSET. M Poll presented the extract from the minutes of the Council minutes of 16 July 2011:  <i>“The purpose of the Trust is to establish a fund of capital from which the interest earned can be used as a permanent benefit to the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa. The capital itself cannot be spent... Its audited accounts will be tabled at the Society’ AGM every year.”</i> <i>The last report published was presented at the July 2007 AGM, in respect of the year 2006. The “distributable reserve” was then stated to be R72 678.43. (Ref MNASSA 2007 October p186).”</i>  M Poll advised that P Cramb, on behalf of the ASSET Trustees (T Cooper, P Cramb, MA Gray, C Turk - Secretary) spoke to the trustees who agreed to have a discussion in August 2011 and will revert back to Council.
10	Election of Auditor	10.1 Council will need to confirm the election of an auditor and find out if Ronnie Glass will still be prepared to be Treasurer. 10.2 Council at its meeting of 17 July 2011 agreed to offer the Auditor: Ronnie Glass, Honorary Membership and the presentation will be handled in Cape Town.
11	Election of Office Bearers	11.1 The only Council positions that required a vote were the two Council Member positions for which four nominations were received – see the detail in the annexure to the minutes. 11.2 Voting papers were handed out and the votes counted while the meeting took a short break. The outcome of the voting was that M Soltynski and C Stewart were elected. The full Council for 2011 /12 – except for the Centre Chairs – are noted in the annexure.
12	Awards	M Poll announced and read out the citations for the following awards:  12.1 The Gill Medal was awarded to Dr Darragh O'Donoghue. M Poll read the citation. The medal and certificate will be handed to him at the AGM of the Cape Centre in Cape Town on 10 August.  12.2 A Long Service Award was awarded to Brian Fraser who had sent apologies for absence. M Poll read the citation. The certificate and a book voucher were handed over to L Cross to pass on to Brian.  12.3 President’s Award was awarded to Magda Streicher and M Poll read the citation and handed her the certificate.
13	Any other business	11.1 As no other business was raised, M Poll closed the formal part of the meeting and in closing wished the next Council well and expressed his willingness to assist Council on an ad-hoc basis in future, if required. 11.2 I Glass formally thanked M Poll for his two years as ASSA President and the extraordinary time and effort he afforded the business of council. Ian presented Michael with

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		a book voucher.
10	Next Council meeting	<b>Next general meeting proposed date – to be confirmed:</b> 27 August 2011 10:00 venue to be confirmed
11	Presidential Address	M Poll presented a well- researched and interesting talk entitled “Water in Space and Water on Earth”
	Closure	The meeting closed at 21.25

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair: M Poll

**Annexure to the minutes:**

List of Council Members 2011/ 12:

<b>Title</b>	<b>Nominees (Nominated by/ Seconded by – where applicable)</b>	<b>Council 2011/12</b>
President	Ian Glass unanimously elected by Council as President	Ian Glass
Vice President	Matie Hoffman (L Cross, J Smit)	Matie Hoffman
Treasurer	AJ Nel (Chris Stewart, Case Rijdsdijk)	AJ Nel
Secretary	Lerika Cross (M Soltynski, I Glass)	Lerika Cross
Member without portfolio	(1) Lia Labuschagne (B Fraser, A Slotegraaf) (2) Maciej Soltynski (L Cross, A Slotegraaf) (3) Chris Stewart (J Smit, B Olivier) (4) Kechil Kirkham (L Cross, C Hettlage)	Maciej Soltynski Chris Stewart