

## SIGMA AGM– Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

ITEM	SUBJECT	LEAD
1	<b>Apologies</b> No apologies. <b>Other</b> Pete welcomed the Membership and Committee to the Meeting and explained the format of the AGM. For the resolutions to be passed they must be approved by a quorum, which is 20% of membership, this is 13 people with a membership of 65, 21 people vote so the meeting has a quorum. <b>Minutes of the last meeting.</b> The minutes of the last AGM were read and approved.	Pete
2	<b>Matters Arising.</b> No matters arising	All
3	<b>Chairman's Report</b>	Pete

Well, 2020/2021 has been another very successful year for SIGMA, although the virtual meetings are not our preferred method of meeting they have given several advantages; these include being able to offer them to a wider audience, not just our affiliated clubs but we now have members from as far a field as Salisbury, additionally we have been able to attract speakers from further afield, in future we do plan to continue the online meetings but the methods still need to be decided upon and is principally dependant on the Hall's internet connection. Pete suggested that he was not alone in missing the observing which has been banned under the restrictions of the pandemic, Pete hoped that come the Autumn we should be able to meet again to observe. Pete suggested that the range of speakers in the last year had been excellent largely thanks to Donna's expertise in organising matters, which sees presentations already planned for 2022. Pete informed the gathered members that Donna was stepping down as event coordinator at this AGM and thanked her for her superb efforts in this role. Pete went on to thank Donna and Dave for their many years of help organising the meeting teas and refreshments. Pete then explained that Donna's position as event organiser would be taken over by Chris Stradling and welcomed Chris back to the Committee. Chris is based in Lincolnshire with work, the virtual meeting format used by the Committee will allow him to fully take part. Pete suggested that club outreach had proved very difficult in the last year but Zoom does allow us to offer online talks to any organisation wishing a talk on Astronomical based themes.

THANKS

I know this is a dangerous thing to do as it is inevitable that I shall forget to thank someone. I therefore apologize in

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advance for those I have missed out.

Pete start with the committee and said the team worked well together and everything worked seamlessly:

DONNA- I know I have already mentioned you, but it's a very important job that she has done over the past several years.

RICHARD- For all the secretarial work he does with preparing the agenda and writing up the minutes. And for the support he gives me in the background with many things, to many to list here, that keeps the club running. Also the help with hosting the zoom meetings, along with ....

MICK- You'll be amazed how just much goes on in the background of a Zoom meeting, Chat, Q&A, and ensuring presenters have their mic turned on at the right time.

Mick I also want to thank you for the fantastic job you are doing as membership secretary. By keeping precise records of meeting number and the membership database ensure that members receive important information and emails and no one is missed out. Also he liaises seamlessly with the treasurer with regards to the collection of membership fees.

Additionally I would like to thank Mick for the Moray Sky at Night section of the meetings and contributing the information to the Newsletter.

STUART – I must thank you for the sterling work you are doing, and have done now for many years as treasurer. There never seems to be any anomalies in the accounts. Which just goes to show what a great job you are doing.

Also, I thank you for the Space News section you put together and present at the monthly meeting. Anyone who has ever put a talk together will know that it's no small feat and takes a lot of planning and time.

If that isn't enough he is also SIGMA's press officer ensuring the clubs info is included in both local and national publications.

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KEVIN- You are an integral part of the committee, and I like to think of you as the ideas man. You always come up with some superb ideas that would be probably be missed if you weren't here. Additionally the outstanding work you do with the Christmas quiz every year especially this year with it's virtual format..

HELEN - There are many jobs involved in running a Club like ours and Helen provides much of the mortar between the bricks to keep the club functioning and her tasks include running the website and Flickr pages, arranging the brochure printing and many other key tasks.

Chris – Thanks for rejoining the Committee and offering to take up this vital club role.

BILL AND TIM - I would like to thank the club presidents for their input, and for giving me a nudge now and again to ensure I keep things right. Pete commented that their role is a real asset to the club and their wisdom of running the club is priceless.

Pete went to thank the visiting speaker for their superb talks.

Pete thanked the affiliated clubs for allowing SIGMA to join their virtual meetings and also thanked their members for supporting our meetings. Pete felt that the cooperation between the North of Scotland clubs had allowed them to succeed and improve in these difficult times.

MEMBERS - Finally, I want to thank you the members, for you continuing support, (and you membership fees) that allow us to continue arranging superb speakers both old and new for you. And, for turning up to the meeting whether that is in person or online.

We constantly have 60 to 70% of the membership at meeting which is outstanding. This has in fact been noticed by many visiting speakers who have commented on what a vibrant and active club SIGMA is. That can only be down to the people we have in it. Pete suggested the online format and Youtube presentations have allowed everybody to see the meetings.

With that I will now hand over to Mick for the Membership secretary's report.

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### 4. Membership Secretary Report

Mick

Once again, we are losing members and gaining members as the year progresses so although numbers are up (by1) on the 2020 figures at the time of the AGM, we are now at over 65 members.

Membership breakdown is as follows:

<b>Membership Totals at 28/04/2021</b>		
<i>Members in 2020</i>	69	
<i>Notified as not renewing in 2021</i>	0	
<i>Failed to renew in 2020</i>	7	
<i>Total not renewed</i>	15	
Life Members	6	
Free Membership (Auditor & Sandra B)	2	
New Members in 2021	3	
Members renewed for 2021	54	
Total Membership 2020	65	

<b>Membership Breakdown</b>		
CHILD	0	
CONCESSIONARY	31	
ORDINARY	26	
LIFE	6	
FREE	2	
Total Membership 2021	65	

More members have renewed this than last year the better in terms of income, cost spread, social interaction and

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pool for volunteers. Please get recruiting, or dragging along that interested friend.

### 5 **Budgets and Accounts.**

Stuart

Stuart described the Income and expenditure for the Y/E Dec 2020. These are available to members on request.

### 5(a) **Membership Fees**

It was recommended to keep membership rates for 2022 at 2021 rates.

Ordinary - £24

Concessionary - £18

Student - £12


Child - Free

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### 6 Club Programme 2021 Programme Update and 2022 Events

Donna

(a) Donna outlined the program of talks for the remainder of 2021 and for 2022

		<b>2021</b>	
<b>FUTURE EVENTS</b>			
<b>2020</b>			
<b>Jul 3rd</b>	<b>David Warrington</b> (Scottish Dark Sky Observatory) <i>Scottish Dark Skies</i>	<b>Jan 8th</b>	Speaker TBC
<b>Jul 4th</b>	<i>BAA Webinars, 2 talks in place of cancelled event</i>	<b>Feb 5th</b>	<b>Ken MacTaggart</b> (Highland Astronomical Society)
<b>Aug 7th</b>	<b>Graham Young</b> (University of Dundee) <i>The Solar System</i>	<b>Mar 5th</b>	<b>Maciej Winiarczyk</b> (CAS/wildnorthskies.com)
<b>Sep 3rd-9th</b>	<i>Orkney Science Festival, Online</i>	<b>Apr 2nd</b>	<b>Denis Buczynski</b> (BAA Comet Section)
<b>Sep 4th</b>	<b>Ken Rice</b> (Royal Observatory Edinburgh) <i>Finding Planets Around Other Stars</i>	<b>May 7th</b>	<b>Lyndsay Fletcher</b> (University of Glasgow)
<b>Oct 2nd</b>	<b>Hugh Hudson</b> (University of Glasgow) <i>Astronomical Dimming</i>	<b>Jun 4th</b>	<b>AGM</b> & <b>Matjez Vidmar</b> (Royal Observatory Edinburgh)
<b>Nov 6th</b>	<b>Pauline McRae</b> (Highland Astronomical Society) <i>Ice Giants</i>	<b>Jun 26th</b>	<i>Rescheduled BAA Event, full day of talks</i>
<b>Dec 4th</b>	<b>Christmas Quiz Night</b>	<b>Jul 3rd</b>	<b>Solar Observing &amp; Equipment Night (plus food!)</b>
		<b>Aug 6th</b>	<b>David Paterson</b> (Dundee Astronomy Society)
		<b>Sep 3rd</b>	<b>George Fraser Memorial Lecture</b> <b>Prof Charles Cockell</b> (University of Edinburgh)
		<b>Oct 1st</b>	<b>Dr Alec L. MacKinnon</b> (University of Glasgow)
		<b>Nov 5th</b>	<b>Simon Cuthbert</b> (AGH University, Poland)
		<b>Dec 3rd</b>	<b>Christmas Quiz Night</b>

### 7. Resolutions

A21.1 To accept the Minutes of the AGM 2020: Mick O'Donnell proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Kevin Stocks, 21 for, none against

A21.2 To Accept the Accounts for 2020: John Worthington proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Derek

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Watson, 21 for, none against

A21.3 To Maintain Membership Rates for 2022 at 2021 Rates: Jean Stocks proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Malcolm Bradley, 21 for, none against

A21.4 To appoint Peter Sherman as Chairman: Helen Williamson proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Alan Tough

21.5 To appoint Richard Oakley as Secretary: Tim Schroder proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Ann Holmes 21 for, none against.

A21.6 To appoint Stuart Brooks as Treasurer: Mick O'Donnell proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Tim Schroder 21 for, none against.

A21.7 To appoint Helen Williamson, Michael O'Donnell, Chris Stradling and Kevin Stocks as Committee Members; Tim Schroder proposed this resolution and it was seconded by Alan Tough, 21 for, none against

### 8 **AOB & Comments**

There were no issues raised under AOB. Tim Schroder (President), thanked the Committee for their excellent management of the club, he thought 2020/21 had been quite a year with a full year of virtual delivery, he thanked the Committee for the vast amount of work involved in holding and organising the online meetings and commended them on the friendly and professional style adopted. Additionally Tim thanked the Committee for working together and making the meetings enjoyable and business like, finally he thanked the members for keenly supporting the group.

9. The AGM finished at 20.04