

Teesside Astronomical Science Centre

Trustees Annual Report for the year 2020-2021

This report covers the period from 1 July 2020 to the end of our seventh financial year on 30 June 2021.

Teesside Astronomical Science Centre (TASC) was established in 2014 to act as an independent organisation to operate the Wynyard Planetarium and Observatory taking over management of the facility from Stockton Borough Council (SBC) who withdrew from running the Planetarium. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered as Charity No 1156793.

Chairman's Report

This year has continued to be highly unusual, because of the Covid pandemic. At the start of the year we were under the strict first Covid lockdown and the Planetarium and Observatory were closed with no presentations or other events taking place. There were occasional visits to ensure the safety of the buildings and thanks are due particularly to Peter Hanna and Simon Gotch for undertaking these visits.

The discussions with Stockton Council about site improvements, particularly in the coal-drop area continued into the summer. Although we had reservations about the lighting that was proposed as part of this, we supported the development and commented on the Planning Application on the basis that it is deliberately planned that the lighting will be switched off at dusk.

During the year, following an initial suggestion by CaDAS members and a subsequent independent approach by the family via Stockton Borough Council, we were asked if we could rename the Observatory as the Jack Youdale Observatory. The Trustees considered this and following approval from SBC agreed this and arranged for the signage on the Observatory and Planetarium to be changed to reflect the new name to meet what would have been Jack's Birthday in March 2021.

As the Covid pandemic developed we trialled and ran a small number of presentations online using the Zoom service. Although successful as such we found it difficult to reproduce the planetarium experience on line and there was limited demand for these.

The Planetarium and observatory Fire Alarm and Intruder Alarm systems we updated to meet current requirements and equipment was purchased to improve Covid safety in the Observatory.

Discussions on renewal of our lease from Stockton Borough Council we started well in advance of the then current lease expiry date (December 2021).

Finance

At the start of year the balance was £28487 and at the end £22525. With no live presentations our income was limited to £681. Expenditure including on new equipment was £6643 so we had a current deficit of £5962. Overall our finances remain healthy, although thus far we have not had to spend significantly on specific Covid 19 related matters.

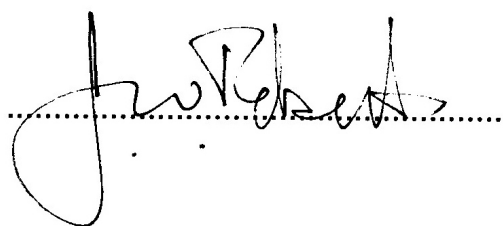
At present we do not have a formal policy on reserves, but generally aim to retain a minimum of 3 months expenditure as a reserve. Throughout the report year, actual reserves substantially exceeded this minimum figure.

List of Trustees who served throughout the year from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

Name	Office
John Gargett	
Simon Gotch	
Peter Hanna	Treasurer
Jon Mathieson	Communications Officer and Membership Secretary
Jonathan Roberts	Chairman
Jürgen Schmoll	Secretary

Simon Gotch and John Gargett were re-elected as Trustees at the 2020 AGM.

Approved by the Trustees on 25 April 2022 and signed on their behalf by the Chair of trustees Mr Jonathan Roberts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Roberts', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

J W Roberts 25 April 2022



Teesside Astronomical Science Centre (TASC)		1156793		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date Jun-20	To	Period end date Jun-21	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
					-
					-
Internet Receipts	434			434	3,541
Special Interest	232			232	1,724
Cadas room fee	-			-	330
Member's Subs	-			-	24
Donations	15			15	221
					-
Small Business Grant	-				10,000
					-
					-
					-
					-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	681			681	15,830
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-				-
					-
Sub total	-				-
Total receipts	681			681	15,830
A3 Payments					
					-
Insurance for Trustees and Volunteers	259			259	245
Travel Expenses for Volunteers	54			54	478
Building Insurance & Utilities	491			491	628
Equipment (Projectors PC Software)	2,342			2,342	1,994
New Fire and Security Systems	3,497			3,497	-
					-
					-
					-
					-
Sub total	6,643			6,643	3,345
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
					-
					-
Sub total					-
Total payments	6,643			6,643	3,345
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,962			- 5,962	12,485
A5 Transfers between funds					-
A6 Cash funds last year end	28,487			28,487	16,002
Cash funds this year end	22,525			22,525	28,487