

Trustees Annual Report 2022-23

The Huddersfield Astronomy Society is registered as a CIO in England. Our registration number is 1178943.

Our registered address is 14 Southlands Kirkheaton.

HAS was founded on 22nd November 2018 taking over the assets and responsibilities of a previous unincorporated association, the Huddersfield Astronomical & Philosophical Society [registered as a charity in the UK registration number 507817].

Trustees

The following personnel are currently registered as Trustees of HAS:

Robert Williams	President HAS
Gain Lee	Observatory Director HAS
Susan Mary Wylie	Secretary HAS
Justine Brown	Digital Content administrator HAS
Dereck Tasker	HRUFC member

As some of the Trustees have now served a 3-year term since the formation of HAS as a CIO, they are duly available for re-election as Trustees at the 2023 AGM, which took place on 16th January 2024.

Robert Williams offered to resign in rotation and at the AGM on 16th January 2024 was duly re-elected as a Trustee by unanimous vote

Organisational Structure

HAS operates with a group of Trustees – as listed above – who are responsible for ensuring that HAS meets its aims and objectives.

Presently [January 2024] we operate with trustees who volunteered from within the membership of HAS. It is our intention to recruit new Trustees from outside our Organisation, in accordance with our Constitution, as we develop deeper links with partner organisations.

The current Trustees are also members of the Society's Committee.

During the period June 2022 to June 2023 HAS resumed most of its face to face meetings as COVID restrictions allowed.

In addition the Trustees agreed to set up and run a digital messaging service so that decisions requiring a quick resolution could be performed as well as a better means to communicate important activities that the organisation wished to undertake.

Since November 2019 we have continued to build partnerships with two other organisations as detailed below:

a) The Huddersfield Rugby Union Football Club based at Lockwood Park, Huddersfield, HD4 6EN, who we hire a room from to provide facilities to hold meetings and from where we run an Introductory Astronomy Course at least one per year. We have made a commitment to this organisation to continue to utilise their premises for our Meetings for the next 12 months at the minimum.

b) YWT Stirley, Hall Bower, Huddersfield, HD4 6RP, who we are starting to develop and observe the site with, in partnership with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. In the past twelve months HAS has been part of a number of joint events at the YWT Stirley site and has begun a significant project to install a dedicated observing facility at the site which we hope will be a long term project coming months.

Aims and Objectives

HAS has a defined set of aims and objectives:

a) To help facilitate the observing of the objects of the night and daytime sky using suitable equipment obtained by grant funds supplied by outside organisations

b) To promote the understanding and observation of the night sky by the people of Kirklees

c) To help cultivate links to community and educational organisations in Kirklees who have an interest in learning about the Night Sky

d) To promote the aims of objectives of our umbrella organisation the Federation of Astronomy Societies, of which HAS is a full member

We remain committed to these aims and objectives

Achievements and Performance

During 2022-2023, the Astronomy Society made changes to its development plan as outlined in the Trustees Annual Report for 2021-2022.

We have resumed face-to-face meetings and continue to see enquiries about our activities grow.

We have also undertaken a small number of outreach activities with youth organisations and this remains an important facet of our Aims and Objectives as described above.

We completed an Introductory Astronomy Course in Autumn 2023 and are planning to start a further Course in February 2024 – if there is sufficient demand for it.

This has been key to improving our cash flow over recent months and will be essential to continue our recovery during the months ahead.

The completion of a significant phase of building and installations works at YWT Stirley in the past few months, including a substantial financial commitment by HAS, will – the Trustees hope – have a transformative effect on our organisation as well as The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust at Stirley in the near future.

HAS has begun a program of joint events with YWT Stirley in recent months, which have significantly raised our profile and we hope to continue and build on those foundations in the months and years to come.

Financial Review

Mr Rob Wylie remains in the role of Treasurer of HAS.

Mr R Wylie has full control of all financial affairs of HAS, including liaising with our financial accountants and as a signatory on the HAS bank account.

We have completed the application to Inland Revenue to be accredited for Gift Aid which is now fully integrated into our accounting system.

We have also broadened our financial acumen embracing digital methods of gathering payments.

Since we restarted Membership fees in Spring 2021 the Trustees are encouraged by the retention of established members as well as an influx of new members from course retentions and interested parties new to the organisation.

We hope that this will help us continue to expand our membership

There are no funds held by a custodian trustee.

Huddersfield Astronomy Society
Accounts for year end 30th June 2023

Income and Expenditure

	2023	2022
Income		
Donations	£190.21	£1,000.00
Membership subscriptions	£879.70	£890.30
Lectures, Course fees & demonstrations	£2,091.00	£1,736.00
Refreshments	£948.25	£385.00
Bank interest	£0.00	£0.00
Sale of equipment	£0.00	£0.00
Other income	£0.00	£0.00
	£4,109.16	£4,011.30
Expenditure		
Rent	£2,400.00	£2,400.00
Course running	£58.60	£8.00
Equipment purchase	£0.00	£1,224.00
Lecture expenses	£62.00	£112.00
Federation of Astronomical Soc	£30.00	£30.00
Public Liability Insurance	£32.00	£28.00
Refreshments	£808.21	£164.10
Office costs	£0.00	£296.32
Accountancy	£0.00	£0.00
Legal fees	£0.00	£0.00
Website costs	£336.00	£321.92
Maintenance	£1.59	£100.00
Utilities	£0.00	£0.00
Observation site building costs	£2,597.76	£0.00
	£6,326.16	£4,684.34
Deficit /Surplus for the Year	-£2,217.00	-£673.04

Balance Sheet

Assets

Bank account	£13,655.49	£16,177.23
Cash in hand	£583.81	£279.07
Tangible assets reduced 10% p.a.	£1,368.00	£1,520.00
Rent prepaid	£1,893.00	£1,893.00
	£17,500.30	£19,869.30

Liabilities

Creditors	£0.00	£0.00
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Net Current Assets

£17,500.30	£19,869.30
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Club Reserves

£17,500.30	£19,869.30
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Approved by Board of Trustees

Signature:.....

Name:.....

Date:.....

Rent

Prepaid 2020	£1,800.00
Paid in Year	£1,520.00
Less: Creditor 2020	-£325.00
Less: Prepaid 2021	-£1,200.00
2021 charge s/be	<u>£1,795.00 ??</u>

Utilities

Paid 2021	124.97	Was the £124.97 included in the I & E 2020?
Less: Creditor 2020	-124.97	
2021 charge s/be	<u>£0.00</u>	

Bank & Cash

Bank b/f	£18,847.91
Cash b/f	£99.00
Deficit for year	-£1,817.57
	<u>£17,129.34</u>

Bank c/f	£16,923.14
Cash c/f	£206.20
	<u>£17,129.34</u>