

Abergavenny Astronomical Society : General Meeting : Monday 26th January 2026

Agenda

- 1. Receive abbreviated minutes of last meeting, 9th March 2020**
- 2. Chairman's report**
- 3. Treasurer's report**
- 4. Report from other sections**
- 5. Matters that need to be addressed**

Election of Officers

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer (Signing rights for the bank account needs to be confirmed; presently it requires two signatures, Nick and Carol, to sign cheques)

Meeting formats/content

- 6. AOB**

Chairman's report

The Society has not held an AGM since 2020. In the first instance this was caused by the COVID pandemic when the Society joined Usk Astronomical Society for online meetings.

After the pandemic the Society had to find a new meeting place due to long term renovations at the King's Head. The Society is very grateful to the King's Head pub for the years that they supported the Society. The upstairs room in the Hen and Chickens has recently been renovated so the Society once again returned there for meetings on the third Monday of the month.

As the Society slowly started up again, many old members returned, some we did not see again and thankfully we have picked up some new members along the way.

Before the long break it was normal to have visiting speakers, mostly arranged by our then secretary Carol Murdoch, many thanks for the sterling work she did over many years. Carol is no longer active in the Society and most meetings have been presented by Kevin or Nick. This is not a stable long-term solution and one of the agenda items is the format of the meetings going forward.

We have also not had a treasurer since before the 2020 so Nick has also been acting in that role, again a longer-term solution is required.

We have returned to a state where we have around 15 attendees at meetings, which is pleasing to see and close to the numbers we had traditionally.

It has been decided that now the Society is back on its feet the time has come to resume normal administration activities such as an AGM and election of officers.

Treasurer's report

Prior to the pandemic the society charged a membership fee and a fee at each meeting. This money mostly went towards external speaker's expenses. As we have not been using external speakers it has not been necessary to make any charges for membership.

The Society has little by way of physical assets, an old projector and a screen.

The bank balance as of January 2026 stands at £2563.49. There was a £10 donation in 2026 but apart from that there has been no change to the balance since the 2020 AGM.

Website

The website is mainly used for notification of upcoming meetings. It also provides access to various documents including AGM minutes, general information, signing up to receive emails and a record of some of our presentations.

The average number of visitors over the last year was around 1,700 per month. This, of course, will include sites that analyse web content, bots, as well as those genuinely interested in AAS.

We also get a share of spam messages selling web services, "personal" services, prescription drugs, Diplomas and degrees etc, mainly from Russia, and other "hard to refuse" offers. It isn't causing a problem at the moment, most such messages go automatically into the BIN.

The email list currently numbers 149 addresses.