ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVING SYSTEMS
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Annual General Meeting

Held from 1400 to 1515 hrs on Wednesday 29th June 2011
at the University of Exeter

The Minutes of the meeting

1. Attendance and apologies
11 attended – Steve Colwell, John Prior, Suzy Bingham, Mike Brettle, Mark Dutton, Keri Nicoll, Dick Saffel, David Moore, David Bullock, Jeremy Wingate and Tim Legg.
Apologies were received from Stephen Burt, Ian Strangeways, Paula Taylor, Peter Redgrave and Mike Molyneux.

2. Minutes of last AGM
The minutes of the last AGM (9 July 2010) were tabled and accepted by the meeting. All actions had been completed.

3. Chairman's report
The Chairman, Steve Colwell, provided a report, as follows.

"Since the last AGM we have had 2 SIG committee meetings and I have represented the SIG at 3 meetings of the RMetS Meetings Committee.

During the last year we have held two meetings, a joint UAV demonstration day in October and a meeting about meteorological measurements from satellites in March.

I am organising a meeting on the 5th October on Transmission, presentation and archiving of meteorological data"

4. Treasurer's report
The Treasurer, Mike Brettle, provided the accounts for the period 10 July 2010 to 29 June 2011 and the following report:

"Overall our financial position is healthy and there have been no major developments since the last AGM.

The interest rate on our deposit account is only 0.05%! However I do not see any reason to take money out of this account as it is not needed for any foreseen expenditure and interest rates are generally very low throughout the economy.

The meeting on UAVs on the 23rd September 2010 cost £66.19. This was to cover tea and coffee. There was no other cost involved.

The meeting ‘Measuring surface meteorological variables from satellites’ on the 23rd March was financially administered by the main society with no cost or income to us.

The cost of this AGM meeting will be £56."
Membership has remained stable at 62 (61 last year).

I propose that we carry on with membership fees at the current level.

Our capital reserves are healthy and I would like to remind you all that we can pay reasonable expenses if required to allow meeting organisers to invite speakers who otherwise may not attend.”

The accounts were accepted by the meeting and thanks expressed for Mike’s management of the SIG’s finances and memberships.

5. Newsletter Editor’s report
The Newsletter Editor, Mark Dutton, provided a report, as follows.

“It is now approximately 12-months since I officially took over the position of Newsletter Editor from Andy Overton. During this year (2010/11) I have produced two Newsletters in line with Group policy. I have been supported by contributions and articles from committee members for which I am most grateful.

The manufacturer’s news continues to be well supported and recently we have also seen a small increase in research news. Hopefully this will continue.

Possible future articles:
- Weather Observation Website (WOW) – Aidan Green, Met Office
- Weather in Sports (maybe for the Spring 2012 edition)
- WMO/ISO progress – Paul Fransioli
- REACH Academy project – Temperature measurements at various points close to a building in Camborne (Met Office and Exeter College) – Forwarded by John Prior
- Berlin European Met Society meeting report (Sept 2011)“.

More research news items would be desirable and it was suggested that abstracts of relevant papers could be included. The work that Mark does as Newsletter Editor was noted and appreciated.

6. Future Meetings
Arrangements are being made for the following meetings:

Transmission, presentation and archiving of meteorological data
Date: 5 October 2011
Venue: BAS, Cambridge
Organiser: Steve Colwell, BAS
Comments: Arrangements are progressing well - speakers have been found from the Met Office, Campbell Scientific, BADC and Davis instruments and a tour of the BAS facilities will be offered. A registration fee of ~ £10 is expected, to cover lunch costs.

Meteorological measurements for dispersion models
Date: March 2012
Venue: Manchester Metropolitan University
Organiser: Mike Bennett, MMU
Comments: Likely to be during the week 26 to 30 March.
Weather observations for sport
Date: October 2012 (main RMetS meeting on a Saturday)
Venue: Somewhere connected to the London Olympics
Organiser: Keri Nicoll, Reading University
Comments: The Institute of Physics are interested in a joint meeting, either in Spring or Autumn 2012. Our preference is for the autumn, as facilities and speakers are more likely to be available then, whilst there will still be considerable interest in the Olympics. Various options for speakers are being pursued, including some sports personalities who are RMetS contacts. Apart from the Olympics, there are opportunities for observations for other major sporting events such as Wimbledon tennis, motor racing and golf tournaments. **Actions**: Steve Colwell to continue to liaise with the Paul Hardaker and the RMetS meetings committee, Keri Nicoll with the IoP and Suzy Bingham with potential Met Office speakers.

Proposals for meetings in 2013 and beyond were then discussed, as follows:

The committee had been considering organising –
- Observations of planetary atmospheres (possibly joint with British Astronomical Association)
- Future measurements for climate monitoring (with the example of the US Climate Reference Network)
- Developments in lightning detection (covering data systems and user applications, as a follow-up to the meeting held in 2002)

7 & 8. Election of Committee & Officers
During the year, unfortunately Mike Bennett has had to leave the committee because of work commitments. Attempts are being made to find another representative from academia (**Action**: Mike Brettle to pursue suggestions). John Prior is also leaving wef this AGM, with Suzy Bingham now representing the Met Office. Steve Colwell expressed thanks for his support to the SIG. All other members are willing to carry on. David Bullock from Vaisala has accepted an invitation to serve on the committee, and was welcomed.

The meeting approved the following members to serve as the Committee and Officers of the Group for 2011/2012:

Steve Colwell        BAS (Chairman)
Mike Brettle         Campbell Scientific Ltd (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)
Suzy Bingham      Met Office (Meetings Secretary)
Mark Dutton          Environmental Measurements Ltd (Newsletter Editor)
David Bullock        Vaisala Ltd
Stephen Burt         Fellow RMetS
Keri Nicoll              Reading University
Dick Saffel         Campbell Scientific Ltd
Ian Strangeways   Terradata Ltd
9. Any other business
Steve Colwell noted that recently the SIG committee had provided input to the survey of the RMetS web site and made various suggestions to improve the utility of the SIG’s pages.

10. Date and venue of next AGM
To be discussed at the next committee meeting (October 6\textsuperscript{th}).

John Prior
Secretary
11 July 2011