

CAS UKMON Report to CAS Committee Meeting 15/01/2021

This report covers activities between the 1st October 2020 and the 14th January 2021 of the CAS Meteor Observation Camera 2 located as part of the Society Observatory at National Trust Dyffryn Gardens.

Camera 2 captured 34 meteor trails in October. No meteor trails were captured during November or December 2020 due to a failure of the system, more details on the failure are recorded later in this report. The system was returned to operation on 31st December 2020, the data for January is being acquired but not yet available for processing.

The CAS website CAS_UKMON entry has been updated to the end of August 2020 for Camera 1, end of October 2020 for Camera 2 and today for this report and general information.

The UKMON central database has been updated to the end of August 2020 for Camera 1 and the end of October 2020 for Camera 2.



Camera 2 – Fireball OLY Magnitude -4.1 16th October 2020

During the period November – December 2020 the UKMON system at Dyffryn Gardens failed to capture any meaningful images, in fact aside from the annotation they were all background black with no foreground white or captured event. Initially the settings on the PC were checked, and the system left. The condition repeated so I decided to remove the whole system PC to camera including any cables to test more fully than possible in daylight at Dyffryn Gardens. Initial thoughts were that the camera had failed.

With the system removed from the Observatory it became evident that the cabling (power/signal) had been damaged with a portion of one cable missing. The damaged section of cabling was from a length which was inside the observatory. With the cable temporarily repaired the camera was tried independently from the PC, it worked.

The external camera enclosure was repaired where cable glands were missing or damaged and cleaned. The system was then reassembled with the PC and the system tested over two nights with good results. On the 31st December 2020 the system was reinstall at the Observatory, prior to which redundant / surplus cabling was removed. I will review the operation in February when I hopefully collect meaningful data for January.



Test Event Record Example 30/12/2020



Test Event Record Example 31/12/2020

Edward Cooper
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14th January 2021