

BAAT Council meeting
12 - 4 pm, 23 September 2017
24 – 27 White Lion Street, London N1 9PD
Approved minutes

Present

Council members. Nicki Power (Vice-Chair), Simon Richardson (Hon. Secretary), Catherine Stevens, Frances Walton, Ami Woods, Tim Wright (Chair).

SIG Representatives. Sarah Challenger (Region 7, Wales), Claire Louise Leyland (Educators), Andy Ridley (Creative Response), Nabila Azam (Art Therapy, Race and Culture)

In attendance. Val Huet (Chief Executive Officer, BAAT), Alex McDonald (Social Media and Advertising Officer, BAAT), Joan Woddis (Vice-President, BAAT).

1. Apologies for absence and approval of minutes

1.1. Apologies. Mary Rose Brady (Director of Operations, BAAT), Emer Douglas, Emily Farrugia, Whittaker Scott.

1.2. Corrections to the Minutes for the Council meeting on 1 July 2017.

The minutes were accepted without need for corrections.

2. Matters arising

Minutes for the Council meeting on 1 July 2017.

2.1. Possible deregulation of the Arts Therapies (point 3.1). Members of the professional associations have been made aware of the proposal by Professor Harry Cayton, CEO of the Professional Standards Authority, to a parliamentary Health Select Committee that the arts therapies be deregulated. A joint response has been sent by the arts therapies associations. Val Huet is to meet with Susan Rastrick, Allied Health Professions Forum (AHPF) Professional Officer to discuss the situation. The trades union Unite has also pledged support if the proposal is taken forward.

2.2. Visit to Roehampton University (point 3.3). Tim Wright and Val Huet visited the course to speak to trainees and meet with Jonathan Isserow and Michele Wood, course leaders.

2.3. Attachment and the Arts 2018 (point 4.2). BAAT is waiting to hear back from Bessel Van der Kolk's secretary to say if he will be available to give the keynote address at next year's Attachment and the Arts conference.

2.4. Grenfell Tower fire (point 4.8). Frances Walton gave a short report on the efforts to provide therapeutic support to survivors, relatives of the victims, and local people who

witnessed the event. The current focus is on ensuring responses are provided in a co-ordinated and professional way. The local NHS Trust is setting up posts to work specifically with people affected by the incident and will be providing staff with training in working with trauma. A full report on the situation and how therapy services were provided will appear in a forthcoming issue of BAAT Newsbriefing.

2.5. Arts Therapists pay structure in schools (point 4.9). Mary Rose Brady and Val Huet are continuing to meet with the other arts therapies associations and the trade union Unite to develop a pay structure for arts therapists who work in schools. This will then be used to negotiate with the Department of Health and the Department of Education.

2.6. Regional Network Co-ordinator (point 12). Alice Thornley from BAAT Region 8 has contacted Val Huet to say she would be interested in taking on the Network Co-ordinator's role, with a probable start date of March or April 2018.

3. Chair's report - Tim Wright

3.1. BAAT Psychosis Task and Finish Group. Tim delivered a presentation on the group's work at the ISPS conference in Liverpool on 31 August.

3.2. Consent guidelines. As agreed at the Council meeting on 1 July, Council is to work with the Educators on developing new placement consent forms that take into account changes to data protection law. The working group's first meeting will take place in the Autumn.

3.3. Special Interest Groups online presence. Guidelines have been drafted on how BAAT logos and other organisational identity should be used on social media, such as SIG Facebook pages or Google groups. Members of BAAT SIGs speaking at conferences or other events should make clear they are doing so in a personal capacity and not as a representative of the association.

3.4. European Art Therapy Federation (EATF). A document outlining the EATF's aims and objectives had been circulated to Council prior to the meeting by e-mail, so that a decision could be made on whether BAAT should accept the invitation to join the EATF. Following discussion, the consensus was that BAAT should not proceed with this.

3.5. IJAT Inscape, Editor. The post of editor of IJAT Inscape runs on a three-year cycle and is coming up for renewal. The current editor, Whittaker Scott, has indicated that he does not want to apply for a second term in the post. The recruitment process for a new editor will begin in the new year.

3.6. Art Therapy apprenticeships. Tim will be co-chairing the Trailblazer working group that will look at how art therapy apprenticeships are to be implemented.

4. Vice Chair's report - Nicki Power

Nicki had not submitted a report but has been focusing on work with the Art Therapy and Learning Disability SIG, the special Learning Disabilities issue of IJAT Inscape, and starting work on the December issue of BAAT Newsbriefing.

5. Chief Executive Officer's report - Val Huet

5.1. Attachment and the Arts 2017. The conference is on 6 October at Regent's University. Demand has exceeded expectations with over 200 people already registered to attend.

5.2. Big Lottery funding bid. The application for funding for the PTSD project with Combat Street was unsuccessful at the first stage. BAAT is look for alternative funding, which might include making an application for a £15K research grant from Art Council England so as to run a smaller part of the PTSD project.

5.3. Digital Media and Grief research funding bid. Val has been invited to be a co-applicant for a Wellcome Trust bid led by a psychologist.

5.4. Art Therapy groups with care leavers. A research bid for a project at the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead was successful. £2.4K will be paid to BAAT for the time Dr Sue Holttum (BAAT Research Officer) spent helping to prepare this bid. Whittaker Scott is working on a protocol for the project to be submitted at the end of September.

5.5. Financial report. BAAT has a new accounting and auditing system that has brought much greater precision to monitoring its financial situation. At present the association has a surplus of £30K but, once outstanding payments to Taylor & Francis (publishers of IJAT Inscape) are settled, it will be breaking even.

5.6. Art Therapy apprenticeships. Following a meeting on 12 September, Health Education England has agreed funding to develop the apprenticeships project. This will offer a way into the profession for people who could not otherwise afford to do the training. Apprenticeship posts will be established in the NHS at Band 3 or 4 and the employer will also pay for the apprentice to be released one or two days a week to attend an art therapy training course. Val is working on a factsheet for employers and potential applicants.

5.7. CPD workshops at the Wellcome Trust. Val will be collaborating with Solomon Szekir-Papasavva, Engagement Officer at the Wellcome Collection, to run two free CPD workshops at the Wellcome Trust using the Adamson collection. These will be advertised in the BAAT Bulletin in due course.

5.8. BAAT website and visibility of sessional workers. Val explained that the directory of private and sessional practitioners is currently behind a password, as job agencies and other organisations had been using it to gain contact information and then target BAAT members. Council discussed how the website might be set up so that art therapists looking for sessional work can advertise their availability safely. It was suggested that SIPPSIG (Self-employed, Independent and Private Practice SIG) should be consulted on how to proceed.

5.9. BAAT workforce survey. The survey questions are in the process of being completed and a link to the Survey Monkey page will be sent out to members in due course.

5.10. BAAT Research Officer. Val highlighted the main points from the report submitted by Dr Sue Holttum on her activities between March and September 2017, which was included in the Council meeting pack. This covered Sue's work on research funding bids, her work with the BAAT Psychosis SIG on developing guidelines for art therapy with psychosis, publications, and research supervision and clinics.

6. Director of Operations report - Mary Rose Brady

Mary Rose had sent her apologies. Her report was circulated with the Council meeting pack.

7. AGM 2018 planning

The date of the next AGM was set for 19 May 2018 in London (venue to be confirmed). Val Huet suggested it could be time to rethink the AGM format, particularly whether it should revert to a full day. She also asked Council members to be ready to take an active part in planning and organising next year's meeting. A possible theme for the AGM was the work of the Special Interest Groups, maybe with a series of stalls and poster presentations.

8. Update of Supervision Survey and Newly Qualified ATs Survey.

8.1. Supervision Survey. There have already been over a hundred responses to this survey in just a few days. In answer to the question of what is most needed in a supervisor, the main responses have been: someone who makes it feel possible to talk about mistakes and facilitate learning, and someone who engenders trust.

8.2. Newly Qualified Art Therapists Survey. Nearly ninety four per cent of respondents had found some work and seventy per cent had found work as an art therapist. Working time averages between twenty and thirty hours per week and is generally made up of several part time or sessional jobs. The survey results also included respondents comments on their personal experience of looking for work.

9. New Data Protection law.

Changes to the laws on data protection will affect individual practitioners and organisations. BAAT is working to ensure that it can provide art therapists with advice and information on how to meet the new legal requirements.

10. Art, Personal Representation on social media and the HCPC

Val Huet updated Council on a request from a training course about how to proceed with an applicant trainee who met the course criteria, but whose website of their art practice contained personal material relating to sexuality, identity, and gender roles. The concerns related to another case in which photos on a trainee's Facebook page had resulted in their placement being suspended. Council discussed how BAAT might advise courses to proceed. Suggestions were that courses should encourage trainees to be aware of how placement settings might react to personal material on websites; to help the trainee reflect on the difference in boundaries and role between an artist and art therapist; and to ensure trainees have a clear understanding of disclosure and what they share with clients and colleagues.

Action: Val to develop some draft guidelines to send to trainings and the HCPC for discussion and feedback.

11. Newsbriefing report - Nicki Power

Nicki is developing some author guidelines to bring to Council. One aim is to help people who are unsure how to prepare and develop an article. She is also working on a system to monitor who sends in articles to ensure there is a balance of authors in each issue.

12. IJAT Inscape - Whittaker Scott.

Whittaker had sent his apologies. His report was circulated with the Council meeting pack.

13. Service user involvement - Ami Woods

13.1. Evidence Based Co-Design (EBCD) in a Mental Health setting. The Researchnet group are continuing to work with the London Ambulance service. The group ran training sessions on EBCD in July and are going to provide further training in October and December.

13.2. Recovery Café. Researchnet and the Deputy CEO of Oxleas NHS Trust visited a newly opened recovery café in Tooting. The group was very impressed with the model it provides for supporting service users in the community and are planning to set up a recovery café within Oxleas NHS Trust.

13.3. Publication of co-produced research. Two recently published articles, one in the 'Journal of Intellectual Disabilities' and the other in the 'American Journal (Annals of Family Medicine)', have featured co-produced research involving the Researchnet group.

13.4. BAAT Dual Experience group. Val Huet and Amy are working to reactivate the group. A meeting is being planned and there will be a call-out for new members in the e-Bulletin.

14. BAAT Website and Social Media - Alex McDonald

Alex gave Council an overview on the traffic on BAAT's social media platforms. More people are opening the e-Bulletin and clicking on the items in it, while the BAAT pages on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter all show increased numbers of followers. Alex highlighted the social media posts which have attracted the most interest since the last Council meeting in July. She also reported on the work of BAAT's social media ambassadors, with Creative Response, the Museums and Galleries SIG, and Art, Race and Culture in particular making effective use of their social media platforms to promote and publicise their work.

15. Regional Groups and Countries

15.1. Regional Group Network Co-ordinator. Alice Thornley has expressed interest in taking on the role in the new year (see point 2.6 above).

15.2. Scotland. A report by Patricia Watts (BAAT Professional Officer, Scotland) was included in the Council meeting pack. Emily Farrugia had sent her apologies.

15.3. Wales. Sarah Challenger talked about the difficulties the new co-ordinators are having in rebuilding the regional group. There are considerable logistical challenges to be overcome to ensure meetings are accessible for members across Wales. The group is currently trying out running 'parallel' events so there is one in the north and south of the country. Video conferencing has been tried but there were technical issues which made it unreliable.

15.4. Northern Ireland. Jayne McConkey reported on the NIGAT Summer School in August, which had a range of presentations. The regional group's co-ordinators are working on the programme for the coming year, with a particular aim of offering training events that art therapists working in Northern Ireland would otherwise have to travel to London to access.

16. Special Interest Groups

16.1. Creative Response. Andy Ridley updated Council on the changes to Creative Response's organising committee. The SIG holds regular study days organised around a particular theme with art making time too. It has a closed, moderated Facebook group on which questions about practice can be discussed. The SIG will be presenting at a Health Education introductory workshop about art therapy and people living with cancer. A new book, edited by Michele Wood, on art therapy and end-of-life care is also being produced.

16.2. Self-Employed, Independent and Private Practice (SIPPSIG). Catherine Stevens fed back on the review of the BAAT Code of Ethics the SIG has been doing from the point of view of private practitioners. Suggested amendments have been sent to Val Huet, which will be put to a vote by the membership at the next AGM. 'Art Therapy in Private Practice', edited by James West and with chapters by SIG members, has just been published.

16.3. Art Therapy and Learning Disability. Nicki Power reported the SIG would next be meeting in November in Hertfordshire. Much of its recent effort had been focused on producing the special issue of IJAT Inscape (Volume 22, No. 2) and the SIG had received lots of positive feedback on this. The SIG's Google group has recurrent technical issues so members are considering changing to a closed Facebook group.

16.4. Educators. Claire Louise Leyland fed back on the group's last meeting at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in June. She reported on some of the Educators initial concerns about the proposed Apprenticeships scheme (see point 5.6 above) particularly around maintaining standards of practice. Claire Louise added that these worries had been allayed now there was a clearer understanding of the apprenticeship scheme and how it would run.

16.5. Art Therapy, Race and Culture (ARC). Nabila Azam has taken on the co-ordinator role and the SIG is working to establish a settled steering group. ARC is hoping to recruit more active members and is planning a programme of meetings and events for 2018. A new website has been set up and there is also a Facebook page which is open access but does not include posts about clinical practice. A new Google group has also been established.

17. Dates of the next Council meetings

9 December 2017
24 February 2018
19 May 2018 (AGM)
30 June 2018
22 September 2018
1 December 2018

18. Any Other Business

Val Huet suggested it would be useful to review the work of the Art Therapy Practice Research Network (ATPRN) at a future Council meeting. It felt timely to consider how the ATPRN's role had changed since it was initially set up in 2000 and to think about how the support it offers members with researching their practice could be developed and updated.

19. Elected Council members

19.1. Council members tasks. Tim Wright talked about the value of Council being able to discuss various matters and agree responses to urgent issues through e-mails between Council meetings. He requested that people respond to e-mails, even if it is only to say that they feel unable to comment on a particular subject. There is no expectation that Council members will have experience across all the issues BAAT deals with, but it is useful to know that e-mails have been received and read. Val Huet added that feedback and suggestions from Council members is particularly helpful when BAAT is asked to give the profession's response to various issues, as it generally gives a good indicator of how the membership as a whole feels about the subject.

19.2. Supervision guidelines review. The review has highlighted how workplaces are changing, becoming increasingly complex, and practitioners are having to manage working with often highly distressed or disturbed clients. Because of this, it is becoming increasingly evident that an important guideline will be that supervisors should avoid supervising people working in clinical areas they do not have direct experience of working in themselves. The supervision guidelines review working group is concerned this may prompt a defensive reaction from some supervisors, particularly where this is the situation with regard to some of the people they are currently supervising.

19.3. Research conference. Val Huet reported that planning for the conference is now beginning. Events like this usually have a topic or central theme, as this gives a clear area of focus which can help with promoting the conference and encouraging people to attend. Val suggested that trauma could be a possible theme, as this is increasingly something that art therapists are working with. Nicki Power thought co-production would also be a strong theme as many people are now using this in their work. Val said there will be a call out for papers followed by a paper selection process. The conference will be specifically about art therapy (rather than arts therapies) practice. The aim is for it to be held in late summer or early autumn of 2018.