



BAAT Council meeting
12 - 4 pm, 25 February 2017
24 – 27 White Lion Street, London N1 9PD
Approved minutes

Present

Council members. Tobias Arnup, Simon Richardson (Hon. Secretary), Whittaker Scott, Ami Woods, Tim Wright (Chair), Catherine Stevens, Frances Walton.

SIG Representatives. Tia Terefe (Addictions), Diana Kagiava (Creative Response), Melissa King (North Art Therapy in Education), Katrina Milhagen (Educators).

In attendance. Mary Rose Brady (Director of Operations, BAAT), Val Huet (Chief Executive Officer, BAAT), Alex McDonald (Social Media and Advertising Officer, BAAT), Patricia Watts (Professional Officer, Scotland), Joan Woddis (Vice-President, BAAT).

1. Apologies for absence and approval of minutes

1.1. Apologies. Emer Douglas, Nigel Durkan, Jane McConkey, Nicki Power.

1.2. Corrections to the Minutes for the Council meeting on 10 December 2016. Minor amendments were made to the wording of points 3.1, 3.6, 13.1 and 13.3.

2. Matters arising

Minutes for the Council meeting on 10 December 2016.

2.1. Brexit (point 2.1). A formal position statement is now on the BAAT website.

2.2. HCPC regulation of the arts therapies (point 3.1.1). Tim Wright is to convene a meeting of the Chairs and CEOs of the arts therapies associations to discuss how to respond if the Professional Standards Authority makes a formal proposal to deregulate the arts therapies.

2.3. Supervision Guidelines review (point 3.3). A working group has been set up to decide on how to consult with the membership on the supervision guidelines.

2.4. Research Strategy (point 3.5). A BAAT Research Committee is being formed to enable communication between key UK-based art therapy researchers.

2.5. BAAT Research (point 5.3). Patricia Watts met with the Teapot Trust charity in January to advise on how they can develop NHS-equivalent ethics procedures for their applications for research funding.

2.6. IJAT Inscape (point 10). Applicants for the associate editor post on the editorial board are to be interviewed early in March.

2.7. Update on BAAT remuneration policy (point 17.2). Tim Wright continues to liaise with Christine Kelly (Head of HR at Coram) on how to develop BAAT's remuneration policy.

3. Chair's report - Tim Wright

3.1. BAAT Psychosis Task and Finish Group. The group met on 20 January to review its aims and terms of reference. The overall aim is to produce a book to peer reviewed standards on what constitutes safe and effective art therapy practice with psychosis.

3.2. BAAT Research Committee. Tim chaired a telephone conference call with potential members of the committee in January to discuss what will be its Terms of Reference.

3.3. HCPC registration of the arts therapies. Tim and Val will set up a meeting with Dave Munday, UNITE officer and will feedback to the arts therapies professional bodies.

3.4. Formulation for health multi-disciplinary working party. Neil Springham has been invited to represent art therapy on this working party, which is developing a toolkit via Health Education England. He will be co-opted on to Council so he can provide updates on what the working party is doing.

4. Vice Chair's report - Nicki Power

Nicki sent her apologies prior to the meeting. Her report was circulated with the Council meeting pack.

5. Chief Executive Officer's report - Val Huet

5.1. BAAT courses and conferences. The London-based short and foundation courses and the Manchester foundation course have recruited to full capacity. The BAAT courses in Scotland have been harder to recruit for but heavily promoted on social media and in the e-Bulletin. Planning has begun for the 2017 Attachment and the Arts conference.

5.2. BAAT e-learning courses. The digital platform is still being tested. The e-learning courses will not be art therapy specific but will cover topics that people setting up in independent practice or as self-employed will find useful.

5.3. ARTiculate and Diploma courses. Val asked Mary Rose Brady to report to Council on the new initiative, ARTiculate, and provide an update on the Diploma in Working with Children in Art Therapy course. See Director of Operations report, point 6, below.

5.4. BAAT Research. Val referred to the report by Sue Holttum, included in the Council meeting pack. Val and Sue are working on redeveloping the funding bid on art therapy with PTSD, continuing with the bid for art therapy with Depression, and Val is resubmitting a bid to the Johnson Trust for art therapy and work-related stress in hospices.

5.5. Financial report. The agency accountant doing the financial report left before it was fully complete but Simi Valecha, Business and Marketing Manager, has been working on finalising it. Overall, BAAT is in a good financial position although the final report may show a slight loss because of the spending required to update IT and online resources.

Action: BAAT Council to vote on the accounts by e-mail once they are complete.

5.6. BAAT website and visibility of sessional workers. Val explained that access to the BAAT members area is password protected to prevent external organisations from taking members' data for marketing purposes. However, art therapists who work sessionally are concerned this also prevents potential employers from finding them. Council discussed how this problem might be resolved without compromising data security. Katrina Millhagen suggested consulting the membership to gain consensus on how best to proceed.

5.7. Level 6 and 7 Apprenticeship scheme. Val and other arts therapy association CEOs have been in discussion with Beverley Harden, Associate Director of Education and Quality at South Health Education England, about a proposal to develop art therapy assistant posts, probably at NHS Band 4 or 5. There is an £18K funding budget available for one of the professional bodies to do an evaluation of the proposal. BAAT has indicated it would be ready to take on this project, subject to approval by Council.

Action: Council members voted unanimously in favour of BAAT taking on the project.

6. Director of Operations report - Mary Rose Brady

6.1. ARTiculate. This short course was set up to provide extra skills for staff who may use art as part of their work with clients in educational settings. Some art therapists working in this sector have expressed concern that ARTiculate will undermine their work and threaten jobs. However, the course emphasises it is not an art therapy qualification and feedback from attendees has been that they understand better how art can help clients and the need for properly trained staff to provide art-based interventions.

6.2. Diploma in Working with Children in Art Therapy. The course is progressing well, with positive feedback from students and the course programme supported by a range of guest tutors. The Art Therapy in Education special interest group suggested it would be useful to offer a part-time / two-year version; this will be recruiting for students to start in September 2017 and considerable interest has already been expressed.

7. AGM 2017 planning

The venue is Newport University City Campus in Wales and representatives from the Welsh parliament have been invited to attend the meeting. Council discussed the programme for the second part of the AGM. Topics suggested included being research-active and research-aware, how to represent the profession in public arenas, and how jobs are shifting from the NHS into the third sector. Val Huet will contact people about giving these presentations and once names are confirmed Alex McDonald will start promoting the AGM on social media.

8. Newsbriefing report - Nicki Power

Val Huet gave feedback as Nicki had sent her apologies. There are to be three issues in 2017 as the Winter 2016 issue was published in January. Alex McDonald will promote some of the articles on BAAT's social media platforms. Author guidelines are being prepared to support new writers and these will be uploaded to the website in due course.

9. IJAT Inscape - Whittaker Scott.

9.1. Art Therapy and Learning Disabilities, Special Issue. This has now been finalised and the special issue will be Volume 22.2 of IJAT Inscape, which will be published in June 2017.

9.2. Copy flow. There are now nine articles, which have been accepted for publication. Some have been published online already but, because of the Special Issue, they will have to wait until September or December 2017 to be published in hard copy. Whittaker is including an explanation of this situation as part of the acceptance letter sent to authors.

9.3. Editorial board. The meeting postponed from 25 November 2016 was held instead on 13 January. The next editorial board meeting is to be arranged.

10. Service user involvement - Ami Woods

10.1. Evidence Based Co-Design (EBCD) in a mental health setting. The next event, to be held on 8 March, will involve showing service user films to the ward staff team.

10.2. Researchnet. The group will work with the London Ambulance Service on developing best practice when responding to emergency call-outs for people in mental health crisis. Borderline personality disorder (BPD) is one of the top three reasons for 999 calls.

10.3. Lived Experience trainings. Two Researchnet members with lived experience of BPD will run a teaching session for arts therapies students at Roehampton University in March. The University of Hertfordshire MA in Art Therapy course has invited Ami to attend its new forum which will develop lived experience training to be part of the course.

10.4. BAAT Dual Experience group. Val Huet and Ami are planning for the next event. Alex McDonald will work with them to develop guidelines for practitioners considering putting personal experiences of using services on social media.

11. BAAT Website and Social Media - Alex McDonald

11.1. Social Media Platforms (SMPs). Alex updated Council on the traffic on BAAT's SMPs, which showed big increases in followers on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter since September 2015. The new Instagram and Pinterest pages have 676 and 515 followers respectively.

11.2. Social Media Team / Ambassadors. Lex Bagust and Kat Panayi are now covering BAAT's SMPs seven days per week, posting content prepared by Alex. Some of the special interest groups still do not have social media ambassadors.

11.3. IJAT Inscape. Alex continues to work with Taylor and Francis, publishers of Inscape, to raise the profile of the journal with a rolling programme of free-access articles relevant to BAAT campaigns or other art therapy related events.

12. Regional Groups and Countries

12.1. Regional Group Network Co-ordinator. Tobias Arnup has been consulting with Alex McDonald about how to set up closed social media groups. Regional Group Co-ordinators have flagged-up concerns around a number of issues including working in rural areas, how to support members, particularly newly-qualified therapists, and what can reasonably be expected of Regional Co-ordinators around handling and publicising work opportunities.

12.2. Scotland. Patricia Watts is reconfiguring BAAT Scotland and working to increase involvement in it. An AGM meeting has been arranged for 6 May and the aim is to recruit a team of people who will facilitate meetings. Patricia has attended BAAT regional group meetings and found concern about the low level of engagement from members. She is organising a development day to facilitate peer support and tackle some of the issues around attendance. Patricia has also been working to establish contact with professional bodies including NHS Education Scotland, Allied Health Professions Forum Scotland, and the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland.

12.3. Wales. Val Huet asked Tiffany Care about being Wales representative on Council but she has family commitments. Val is due to visit the course in Newport on 4 April and will talk about being on Council and the value of there being a representative for Wales.

12.4. Northern Ireland. Jayne McConkey sent her apologies prior to the meeting. Her report was circulated with the Council meeting pack.

13. Special Interest Groups

13.1. Addiction. Tia Terefe talked about the SIG's event on 27 May, which will have Martin Weegman as guest speaker. Most tickets are sold but there are still a few places left. The SIG's next regular meeting is on Saturday 4 March.

13.2. Creative Response. Diana Kagiafa reported the SIG's next event will be a study day on 29 April. It is very active on social media and is doing community meetings on VSee (which is more secure than Skype).

13.3. North Art Therapy in Education (NATE). Melissa King gave an overview on the group's recent meetings, which are held in Manchester Art Gallery and use some part of the current exhibitions within the session. The last meeting was about self-care and restorative practice.

14. Dates of the next Council meetings

23 September 2017

9 December 2017

15. Any Other Business

No further issues were raised for report or discussion.

16. Elected Council members

16.1. HCPC Fitness to Practice process – feedback and response. Val Huet gave Council an overview of a 'case to answer' referral BAAT had made to the HCPC about a BAAT member, in line with Duty of Candour requirements. This resulted from a disclosure the BAAT member made when seeking advice from BAAT. Subsequently, the HCPC ruled there was no case to answer and the individual has now made a formal complaint to BAAT about its handling of the situation. BAAT contacted the Fitness to Practice officer who dealt with the case about the HCPC's decision. The consensus was that BAAT should send a formal complaint to the HCPC about the 'case to answer' process and this outcome.

Action: BAAT to draft a letter to send to HCPC about the Duty of Candour process for approval by Council.

16.2. Discussion about externally validated courses. Council was shown some of the issues with which BAAT has to support members who work with children and adolescents around their casework. Val explained that working with children and adolescents is a rapidly changing sector and it is vital to keep up with new legislation and new professional approaches. This was one reason BAAT set up the Diploma in Working with Children in Art Therapy course. She asked for Council's view on whether BAAT should recommend that art therapists working with children have additional specialist training because of the complexity of this area of work. The consensus was that BAAT should develop practice guidelines on the essentials of working safely with children.

Action: Val and Mary Rose Brady to (i) produce a thematic analysis of the issues coming up and (ii) produce a paper on how these issues can be included into the current review of supervision guidelines.

16.3. Supervision guidelines review. Council agreed the review needs to ensure that an understanding of safeguarding issues and legislation and how to support supervisees are part of the updated supervision guidelines.

16.4. Update on BAAT staffing. Yoko Chester (Membership Officer) is leaving BAAT. With Council's approval BAAT will set up, initially, a one-year Membership and Administration Officer post working four days per week. Two of the days will cover Yoko's post and two will be for administrative tasks, freeing up Val and Mary Rose's time in the process.

Action: Council members voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

16.5. Research conference. Val had e-mailed Council members an outline proposal in February to establish an international conference on art therapy research. With Council's approval she will begin initial planning with Sue Holttum (BAAT Research Officer) with the aim of holding the conference in the summer or autumn of 2018.

Action: Council members voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.