



**BAAT Council meeting**  
**12-4 pm, 8 March 2014**  
**24 – 27 White Lion Street, London N1 9PD.**  
**Approved minutes**

## **Present**

**Council members.** Tobias Arnup, Sarah Haywood, Rachael King (Chair), Jayne McConkey, Nicki Power, Simon Richardson (Hon. Secretary), Richard Whitaker (Hon. Treasurer), Tim Wright, Ami Woods.

**Representatives.** Katie Dunne (PD SIG), Nigel Durkan (NATE), Sian Hutchinson (MAG-SIG), Bernadette O'Callaghan (ATCAF North), Gill Thomas (Creative Response), Frances Walton (Private Practice SIG), Julie Watson (ARC and ATLD SIG), Emily Wyer (ATCAF South)

**In attendance:** Val Huet (Chief Executive Officer), Joan Woddiss (BAAT Vice-President).

## **1. Apologies for absence and approval of minutes.**

**1.1. Apologies.** Claire Louise Leyland (Vice-Chair), Kai Rees.

### **1.2. Corrections to the Minutes for the Council meeting on 7 December 2013.**

The minutes were approved without need for correction.

## **2. Matters arising**

### **Minutes for the Council meeting on 7 December 2013.**

**2.1.** Code of Ethics. Work continues to revise BAAT's Code of Ethics so they can be presented for approval at the AGM. The areas that have changed will be highlighted on BAAT's website. SIGs and Regional Groups will be asked to promote this to their members.

**2.2.** Workplace Survey. The results have been collated and circulated to members.

**2.3.** Private Practice (PP) guidelines. Tim Wright and Richard Whitaker have now fully cross-referenced the proposed guidelines (submitted by the PP SIG) and checked they tie in with relevant legal requirements. The revised guidelines will now be returned to the PP SIG for a final review.

**2.4.** National Audit of Psychological Therapies. Richard Whitaker will contact the Royal College of Psychiatrists to discuss how to ensure only qualified art therapists are employed in art therapy posts. The managers of IAPT services need to check that applicants for art therapy posts are HCPC-registered.

**2.5.** IJAT Inscape special neuroscience issue. Dr Cathy Malchiodi is not able to guest edit after all but there will be a foreword by Dr Iain McGilchrist. This issue of IJAT Inscape will be sent out to members this month.

**2.6.** Matisse Study empirical critique. Val Huet and Sue Holttum's paper has been sent to SAGE Open for peer review and the reviewers comments are still awaited. SAGE Open is an open access journal so the paper would be easily accessible if it is accepted for publication.

**2.7.** People leaving Council meetings early. Rachael King suggested the minutes should include a record if or when someone has to leave early because of being taken ill.

### **3. Chair's report**

**3.1.** Curriculum review document. Rachael King updated Council on the current review of the curriculum guidelines, which were last reviewed in 1996. A small working group has been set up which will put together a core document and then combine this with input from the educators group. This draft document will then be put out to the educators for further comments before being circulated to the wider membership. The final document will inform the HCPC in its work of reviewing and registering art therapy training courses.

**3.2.** Allied Health Professions in Scotland. Rachael said she would address this point under her report on developments in Scotland (see point 12.2).

### **4. Vice Chair's report**

**4.1.** Claire Louise Leyland had sent her apologies.

### **5. Chief Executive Officer's report.**

**5.1.** BAAT website update. Val Huet talked about the changes to the website that will happen when the new system comes into use, probably in June or July. The content is currently being reviewed with the aim of making the new site easier to navigate.

**5.2.** Attachment and the Arts conference. This year's conference will be on 26 June at the Conway Hall. The keynote speaker will be by Professor Antonio Damasio who will talk about artistic creativity and the neuroscience of emotion and feeling.

**5.3.** CPD courses and conferences. Income from the Introductory and Foundation trainings remains good and recruitment for the CPD courses is going well.

**5.4.** Financial report. BAAT's financial situation two months into its new financial year is encouraging. The slight dip in income from the Foundation courses is because many attendees are employer-funded and invoices have not yet been settled. The cost of these courses has remained the same over the past few years and may be reviewed.

**5.5.** E-learning courses. The online courses are likely to be launched in September once BAAT's new website is settled in. The courses will not initially be art therapy specific but will

offer generic skills that art therapists need. 'Communicating complex ideas' and 'promoting your professional practice' are two of the courses that are being considered.

**5.6.** ATPRN symposium. The next meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> April and will be looking at evidence based co-design.

**5.7.** BAAT research. Sue Holttum (BAAT researcher) is looking for funding opportunities to develop systematic reviews and practice manuals. These need to be in place before funding applications can be made to set up RCTs (randomised controlled trials). Two client areas are being considered - personality disorder and psychosis - as both have an existing body of art therapy work to reference.

**5.8.** Art Therapists with Dual Experience. Ami Woods and Val have set up a Delphi Cycle inquiry and have had a good rate of response, with plenty of data generated.

**5.9.** HCPC CPD audit. Art therapists are having their CPD activity audited this year (as part of the registration renewal process) and about 15 per cent will be contacted by the HCPC. The renewal period is 1 March - 31 May and CPD audit letters will be sent out in March.

**5.10.** Code of Ethics review. The new draft has been finalised and will be circulated to Council members for approval so that it can be presented at the AGM in May.

**5.11.** Employment survey. The results of the survey are to be used to see which are the job growth areas for art therapists so that BAAT can focus on them. Up to now the NHS has been considered as the main employer. This is no longer the case and other areas such as arts in health, psychotherapy and counselling, and the voluntary sector need to be looked at.

**5.12.** Arts and Health. The National Alliance for the Arts in Health has succeeded in setting up an All-Party Parliamentary Group on the arts and well-being. BAAT will be able to feed into this through its membership of the London Arts in Health Forum.

**5.13.** Membership Group and Private Practice. Following on from the previous Council meeting, Val said this group now needs to have a new procedure to review applications to join BAAT's PP register. She suggested Council members rotate this and that 3 or 4 meet prior to each Council meeting to process the applications. Tobias Arnup, Nicki Power and Simon Richardson agreed to be the first group to do this before the next Council meeting on 7 June. Val also proposed making the checks on current members every two years rather than every five years as present.

**5.14.** Meeting with Educators. The meeting on 31 January discussed the new requirement from the HCPC that educators demonstrate service user involvement in their curriculum development. Val also promoted the new Art Therapists and Dual Experience group.

## **6. Accreditation for working with children**

**6.1.** BAAT-accredited training. The BACP and UKCP are working on setting up a course to give counsellors and psychotherapists accreditation for working with children. Val asked

Council for its approval to set up a similar BAAT-accredited training course. She felt it would be useful for practitioners at job interviews to show they are aware of the relevant issues and have the skills to implement them. Rachael suggested there could be other BAAT accreditation schemes for things like assessment or outcome measures so members could demonstrate they had these skills. Council voted in favour of Val proceeding with this.

## **7. BAAT research**

**7.1.** BAAT Research Officer. Dr Sue Holttum's sent a report on her activities from December 2013 to February 2014. She had mainly been focusing on preparing the empirical critique paper on the Matisse Study for submission for peer review but had also worked on updating the BAAT online library and a presentation to be given at the ATPRN symposium.

**7.2.** Research placements. BAAT is working in partnership with Dr Caoimhe McAnena, Clinical Lecturer in Psychology, to set up research placements for some of her students. The first placements will be with art therapists working in education.

## **8. Newsbriefing.**

**8.1.** The next issue is being prepared and will be published in June.

## **9. Inscape.**

**9.1.** Inscape editor. Tim Wright reminded Council that he is stepping down as editor in November at end of his second three year tenure. The last issue he will edit will be coming out in December. Rachael proposed a vote of thanks for the work Tim has done.

**9.2.** Inscape development. Tim felt the main challenges for the new editor will be the change from three to four issues per year and increasing the number of articles from authors outside the UK.

## **10. Service User involvement.**

**10.1.** Evidence Based Co-Design. Ami Woods attended a meeting at Birmingham University with other Trusts which have experience in EBCD in mental health. It is hoped a paper on the collaborative work with the Kings Fund will be published in the Journal of Mental Health.

**10.2.** Psychological Therapies conference. Ami is working with Research Net members with lived experience of BPD on a presentation on mentalisation-based art therapy.

**10.3.** Dual experience research group. Val Huet and Ami will be doing a thematic analysis on the responses received to the e-mail they sent out to BAAT members. Useful data is emerging about the fear of disclosure and stigma in the art therapy profession. Val and Ami are also looking at the value of lived experience for service users who go on to train and practice as art therapists.

## **11. BAAT website and social media.**

**11.1.** Social media monitoring. Kirsty Frankland is now working 5 hours a week in the BAAT office to monitor and update social media, respond to postings etc. Traffic on the sites has been slowly but steadily increasing, with a lot coming from Facebook and LinkedIn and then moving on to the BAAT website. A BAAT YouTube page is to be set up too. Richard Whitaker suggested there should be someone to tweet from BAAT events like the AGM and the Attachment and Arts conference later in the year.

## **12. Regional Groups and Countries.**

**12.1.** Regional Group Network Co-ordinator. Lisa Banks is standing down from Council in May so a new co-ordinator is needed. Nigel Durkan (representing NATE at this meeting but standing for Council at the AGM in May) expressed interest in taking on the role.

**12.2.** Scotland. Rachael King reported on developments there.

**12.2.1.** AHP Directors. Tony Chenery and Rachael are working jointly on a paper which will highlight some of the challenges and opportunities open to art therapists.

**12.2.2.** Allied Health Professions Forum Scotland. Rachael was elected as honorary convenor for AHPFS at its meeting on 21 February. This presents an opportunity to raise the profile of art therapists in Scotland. The Scottish government is keen to develop contact with the allied health professions and Rachael will be attending her first meeting at the Scottish parliament shortly.

**12.2.3.** BAAT Scotland. The group intends to meet more regularly. Many people in Scotland who have been in leadership or strategic positions are retiring which is leaving a gap in the profession's representation. BAAT Scotland is aiming to have a policy officer, a post which it is hoped could become self-funding. How this develops will depend on the outcome of the Scottish independence vote on 18 September.

**12.3.** Wales. No report received.

**12.4.** Northern Ireland. Jayne McConkey reported on developments there.

**12.4.1.** Regional group co-ordinators. Colin Sims will join Eileen McCourt as joint co-ordinator for the BAAT regional group for Northern Ireland.

**12.4.2.** MSc in Art Therapy. The training course in Northern Ireland has been accredited but is looking for a new home so there will be no new intake of students this year.

**12.4.3.** Reading group. Region 20 will be starting a reading group and then a writing group as a way of developing research in Northern Ireland. BAAT members there find it difficult to be involved in SIGs because of having to travel to the mainland.

## **13. Special Interest Groups**

**13.1.** BAAT members. Nigel Durkan asked how group co-ordinators can find out if someone is a BAAT member? Val told him to contact BAAT office if he has any concerns until the new database comes into use. This will make it much easier to check on members' status.

**13.2.** Google groups. Richard Whitaker suggested that the Google groups most SIGs have set up be moved to a social networking app. They tend to be more reliable and less 'unwieldy' to use. The present use of Google groups means that members often do not receive all the group e-mails that are circulated.

**13.3.** SIG co-ordinators. Val noted that they seem to change quite frequently, however, the new database will help members keep up with who to contact about SIG group meetings etc.

**13.4.** SIG events. Some SIGs have difficulties around members attending meetings. Skype is not feasible but it is hoped that some new technologies might help facilitate more online meetings. It was suggested that SIGs have longer meetings twice a year to help to lessen the amount of travelling some members currently have to do to attend meetings.

## **14. Dates of the next Council meetings.**

10 May 2014 (AGM)

7 June 2014

27 September 2014

13 December 2014

7 March 2015

9 May 2015 (AGM)

## **15. Any Other Business.**

No other issues were raised.

## **16. Elected Council members.**

**16.1.** Planning for BAAT's 50th AGM at the London Resource Centre on 10 May.

**16.1.1.** Council nominations. There are the same number of nominations as places on Council this year.

**16.1.2.** Chair and Vice-Chair. Tim Wright is standing for Chair and Richard Whitaker will stand for Vice-Chair. This means the Honorary Treasurer post Richard currently holds will be vacant for a year until elections at the 2015 AGM.

**16.1.3.** Presentations. Bobby Lloyd will talk about art therapy's art base, Deirdre McConnell about the importance of adaptability, Ami Woods about service user involvement, and Neil Springham about research methodologies. A further speaker is to be confirmed.

**16.1.4.** Short 'birthday' video. Neil Springham is putting together a tongue-in-cheek short film mixing 'significant' events in BAAT's history with contemporary pop music and fashion from the five decades.

**16.1.5.** Art making. There will be postcards and dry art media for people to do a visual response to the presentations to be collated into a 50th birthday 'quilt'.

**16.1.6.** Special resolutions. The AGM will include members votes on whether to accept the revised Code of Ethics and the updated membership rules.

**16.2.** Code of Ethics. The revised 2014 version is now ready to be presented to the AGM for membership approval. There was a discussion about how the Code of Ethics can be publicised following the AGM and how often it should be reviewed and updated in future.

**16.3.** Approval of complaints policy. Council members agreed the implementation of the final draft of the complaints policy that had been circulated via e-mail prior to the meeting.

**16.4.** Claire Louise Leyland. Rachael proposed a vote of thanks to Claire Louise Leyland for her work as Vice Chair and before that as a member of Council.

**16.5.** Sarah Haywood. Rachael proposed vote of thanks to Sarah Haywood for the work she has done on Council representing BAAT members in Scotland.

**16.6.** Accounts for year ended December 2013. Elected Council members voted unanimously to approve accounts for BAAT's last financial year as presented.