

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

Present

Council members. Tobias Arnup, Mary Rose Brady, Tony Chenery, Emer Douglas, Nigel Durkan, Rachael King (Ex-officio Chair), Jayne McConkey, Nicki Power, Simon Richardson (Hon. Secretary), Richard Whitaker (Vice-Chair), Ami Woods, Tim Wright (Chair).

Representatives. Nana Zhvitiashvili (Museums and Galleries SIG), James West (Private Practice and Addictions SIGs), Diane Kagiava (Creative Response),

In attendance: Val Huet (Chief Executive Officer), Joan Woddis (BAAT Vice-President), Lizzie Hill (Art Therapists in Education SIG).

1. Apologies for absence and approval of minutes

1.1. Apologies. Elizabeth Aylett.

1.2. Corrections to the Minutes for the Council meeting on 7 June 2014.

The minutes were approved without need for correction.

2. Matters arising

Minutes for the Council meeting on 7 June 2014.

2.1. Special Educational Needs (SENs). Val Huet told Council that Lizzie Hill (ATE SIG) would be giving a report on a meeting she and Tim Wright had attended at the Department of Health (DH) later (see point 7).

3. Chair's report

3.1. Psychosis SIG Task and Finish guideline group. Tim Wright told Council this group will have its first meeting on 7 November. Its overall aim is to produce best practice guidelines for art therapists working with clients with psychosis.

3.2. Curriculum review. The curriculum review group had met immediately before the Council meeting. It is currently working on cross referencing Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Practice with a large sample of course documents from the art therapy trainings. The review group will produce a draft document to be circulated to Council before being sent out to stakeholders.

3.3. Special Interest Groups terms of reference. Tim showed Council a generic letter that will be sent out to all SIGs to ensure they are emphasising research. See also point 5.6.

3.4. London Heads of Arts Therapies meeting. Two questions had been discussed as part of the most recent meeting (which Tim attends in his capacity as Head of Arts Therapies at WLMHT) which he felt had interesting implications for the profession as a whole:

3.4.1. Art Therapy and common mental health problems. Art Therapy could be offered in an IAPT-based (time limited and systematic) structure to people with common mental health problems. This would make it more accessible to clients. Current IAPT practitioners often use art in their sessions and could benefit from training from art therapists.

3.4.2. Pre-qualification training. Art therapy trainings could potentially be made more modular, bringing trainees into a pathway at something like a healthcare assistant level and then moving up to an art therapy assistant grade. This would make the profession more accessible to people who cannot afford the full or part time training as it is currently offered.

4. Vice Chair's report

4.1. Curriculum review. Richard Whitaker has been focusing on work for the review group.

5. Chief Executive Officer's report

5.1. Conference and short courses. The Attachment and the Arts Conference in June, with keynote speaker Professor Antonio Damasio, had around 250 people attend and the feedback on the day had been positive. BAAT's CPD and short courses continue to be well subscribed.

5.2. New website and database. There have been some difficulties arising from the change over (particularly in the Members area) much of it related to the poor set-up of the previous IT system providers. Mostly, however, the change over has been manageable and the backlog in membership applications that occurred has now been cleared.

5.3. Complaints to BAAT. Val Huet reported on the objectionable tone of some of the complaints BAAT had received recently, many relating to the problems with the new IT system and database. Council members agreed that the behaviour of some members towards BAAT office staff was unacceptable.

Action: Tim Wright to draft a stock response (to be circulated to Council for comments) for BAAT to send to members who are abusive either verbally or in writing towards BAAT staff.

5.4. BAAT researcher. Sue Holttum had submitted a progress report for the period 28 May to 23 September. This included work on research bids, preparing papers for publication, updating the BAAT library, and dissemination and conferences.

5.5. Research and SIGs. Val felt BAAT should revise what is expected of SIGs. She felt research needs a lot of resources and training so it might be better to encourage SIG members to be 'research aware'. The emphasis should be on evaluation of practice, using

the case study model but making it more practice-based and outcome-based. The aim would be to make research part of a more open and questioning attitude to practice.

5.6. Financial report. BAAT is doing well given the current demands on it by things like the IT update. There will be a loss this year (because of the IT improvements) but it will probably not be as large as originally anticipated. This year's Attachment and the Arts Conference made a profit of £20K (about the same as last year but after more initial outlay).

5.7. HCPC hearing. Val reported on a fitness to practice case she had attended brought by a third sector organisation against an art therapist. The case against the art therapist was not upheld and Val fed back some concerns about why the case had been initiated.

6. Art Therapy and Digital Media

6.1. Draft social media document. Emer Douglas had sent an expression of interest e-mail out to ATPRN members to request help with drafting a social media document. Six people have now joined her to form a working group to look at art therapy and social media.

Action: Emer to start drafting a document to be circulated to Council in due course.

7. Special Educational Needs - new DH code of practice

7.1. Department of Health (DH) consultation. Lizzie Hill reported to Council on a meeting she had attended (with Tim Wright) at the DH to give an art therapy view on the new code of practice for working with children with special educational needs, which was published this year. A new smaller document, more accessible to practitioners, was being prepared. Lizzie and Tim subsequently sent suggestions about where art therapy could be referenced and it is now mentioned twice in this document. Lizzie has also collated the main points for a briefing document for BAAT to circulate to members working with children. Val Huet suggested this be sent out with an executive summary and an emphasis on the revised statutory requirements on practitioners. This will be put on BAAT's website and promoted through social media.

8. Newsbriefing

8.1. Next issue. The deadline for copy is 31 October and it will be published in December.

9. IJAT Inscape

9.1. New editor. An advert is being prepared with interviews scheduled for November.

9.2. Changes to the editorial board. Neil Springham, Simon Hackett and Susan Carr will be joining the editorial board. Andrew Marshall Tierney and Helen Jury have said they will be standing down at some point in the next twelve months.

9.2. Advisors, research, raising Inscape's international profile. Inscape is working towards fostering and developing an international research network. A conference is planned for 2015 and the journal is seeking to make links with researchers abroad.

10. Service User involvement

10.1. Evidence Based Co-Design (EBCD). Ami Woods presented the EBCD/Researchnet model at a conference for Swedish delegates in August and at Southbank University in September.

10.2. St George's Researchnet. Funding has been approved for a pilot research project into lived experience of learning disabilities/autistic spectrum disorder/mental health issues as a teaching tool. There will be a conference in November to present this research proposal.

10.3. Dual Experience (DE) research group. Val Huet and Ami are planning a training event for art therapists with DE who want to contribute to service user teaching on the art therapy training courses.

11. BAAT website and social media

11. 1. Social media monitoring. Kirsty Frankland is currently doing five hours a week to support this but will be going on maternity leave soon.

12. Regional Groups and Countries

12.1. Regional Group Network Co-ordinator. Nigel Durkan is organising a meeting to be held on 14 March 2015 and will be inviting regional co-ordinators to attend.

12.2. Scotland. Rachael King updated Council on the main developments in Scotland.

12.2.1. CORE pilot study. The outcome had been disappointing as there were not as many participants (and hence data) as anticipated. However, there is to be further funding and it is hoped there will be greater art therapist involvement this time.

12.2.2. Allied Health Professions Forum Scotland. The AHPs have been approached by the Scottish government to contribute to planning for a reorganisation of health and social care provision.

12.2.3. Mike Hennessy passed away in the summer, having contributed greatly to the development of art therapy in Scotland. BAAT Council paid tribute to Mike's exceptional contribution to Art Therapy

12.3. Wales. Elizabeth Aylett had sent her apologies.

12.4. Northern Ireland. Jayne McConkey had circulated a report prior to the meeting. She highlighted the issues facing the MSc in Art Psychotherapy training course in Belfast, which is looking for a new home as its partnership with the University of East London has ended.

13. Special Interest Groups

13.1. Private Practice and Addictions SIGs. James West reported that the meetings for both SIGs in September had been cancelled owing to lack of interest. Meetings for both have now been scheduled for November and will include a review of how members can support each SIG. A group of elected Council members now meet before each Council meeting to look through the applications for inclusion on the BAAT Private Practice and Supervisor registers.

13.2. Museums and Galleries SIG. Nana Zhvitiashvili told Council the SIG is currently working to establish a number of partnerships. Helen Chatterjee attended the last meeting to talk about the growing evidence of how museums contribute to health and well-being and discuss how art therapists might be involved in this. The SIG now has its own new website.

13.3. Creative Response. Diane Kagiava said the SIG now has 113 members, a Facebook page, and is holding its next study day on 11 October. Members are planning to update information about the SIG on the BAAT website.

13.4. Art Therapy in Education North. Nigel Durkan is still co-ordinating this SIG as no-one has offered to take over from him. The SIG has around 60 members with 15-20 people attending its meetings. The next meeting is in November and information about the SIG is on the BAAT website.

13.5. Art Therapy and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Emer Douglas said this SIG has re-started and its next meeting is on 11 October in Oxford. Members have been looking at assessments and outcomes for people on the autistic spectrum.

13.6. Forensic SIG. Tobias Arnup told Council the SIG had last met on 28 September in Sheffield. It will soon have a new co-ordinator. There remain issues with the work the SIG is doing crossing over with the work of the Forensic Arts Therapies Advisory Group (FATAG).

13.7. Art Therapy and Learning Disability. Nicki Power and Simon Hackett have taken over co-ordinating the group. Its next meeting is on 22 October in the BAAT office.

14. Dates of the next Council meetings

13 December 2014

7 March 2015

16 May 2015 (AGM in Scotland)

15. Any Other Business

15.1. No other points for discussion were raised.

16. Elected Council members

16.1. Update on BAAT office. Val Huet talked to Council about the issues facing BAAT at present. This included an in-depth discussion on how BAAT office might be restructured to meet the new challenges facing the profession.

16.2. BAAT Policy Officer (Scotland) post, draft document. Rachael King circulated a draft document for discussion for what will be a two day a week post initially. This is needed because of the different health, parliamentary, and local authority responsibilities in Scotland. Rachael said that once it is set up BAAT Scotland can fundraise to pay for extra days for the postholder.