

United Kingdom Association of Gestalt Practitioners 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The 2022 UKAGP Annual General Meeting took place at UKAGP National Conference 2022, Eastwood Hall, Mansfield Rd, Eastwood, Nottingham NG16 3SS, Sunday 17th July 2022

Minutes were taken by June Heath in the role of community administrator.

Present:

Ruth Nightingale	Ellie Mackay	Ana Miller
Nika Jelendorf	Nicole Jacob	Dawn Wray
Belinda Harris	Karen Nimmo	Ed Fellows
Paul V Ricketts	Malgorzata Lanigan	Basia Benda
Chris O'Malley	June Heath	Laura Wilson
Hannah Turner	Peri Mackintosh	Madina Demirbash
Liz Beauchamp	Vicky Eugenio	Maja Kochs
Helen Moss	Angela Mutum	Liz Mellor
Jane Riordan	Ayhan Alman de la Osa	Andrew Buurman
Peter Teigen	Gerrie Hughes	Malcolm Parlett
Michael Fenton	Billy Lee	Gladys Diaz
Richard Spence	Fiona Harnett	Faisal Mahmood
Dr Julia Ouzia	Venus Narayan	Danielle Lee
Mike Turton	Tim Carrette	Kasia Marzyńska
Lindsey Tull	John Gillespie	Rachael Kellett
Emma Brodrick	Anna Eraut	Adam Kincel

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1	Welcome: Belinda Harris (BH), Chair welcomed the members to the AGM
2	Apologies: Hugh Pigeon, Gaie Houston, Rod London, Terri Windsor, Piotr Mierkowski, Liz Smears, Fiona Turnbull
3	Minutes of 2021 AGM: The minutes for 2021 were proposed as a true record of the 2021 AGM. This was proposed by Liz Beauchamp, Seconded by Vicky Eugenio, and passed unanimously, zero abstentions, zero against.

	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>BH stated that all matters arising from the 2021 AGM minutes were addressed on the agenda.</p>
4	<p>Report from the Chair</p> <p>Belinda Harris spoke for the last time as Chair, outlining the aims of UKAGP - in education, research and clinical expertise - in supporting Gestalt in the UK in all its forms.</p> <p>Belinda then outlined some highlights of the past year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Gestalt leaders' group ● Sessions on institutional assessment ● Personal development groups for members ● Malcolm Parlett's workshop on citizen practitioners ● Adam Kincels' workshop on collective gestalts ● Piotr Mierkowski and Hannah Turner's session on responses to Ukraine ● Nick Adlington's conflict and relationship workshops - Healing Dialogues
5	<p>2021 UKAGP Financial Report</p> <p>Liz Beauchamp (LB), Finance Officer presented the UKAGP finance report and the official accounts; on behalf of Terri Windsor. The full version of the accounts and the financial report for the year were circulated to members with AGM documentation prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Liz outlined that UKAGP have made a £800 profit this year; which all things considered is a healthy result.</p> <p>In recognition of financial burdens this year for all members, the OC decided to keep conference costs as low as possible this year.</p> <p>This year the OC continues to monitor costs.</p> <p>Some further discussion about finances took place including the possibility next year of inviting donations to the scholarship fund through both conference tickets and online events.</p>
5.1	<p>Approval of UKAGP accounts:</p> <p>Liz made a proposal to approve the accounts from 2021. This was seconded by Julia Ouzia, and passed unanimously. (Voting record: For: 48, Against 0, Abstain 0)</p>
6	<p>Update from Publicity Officer</p> <p>Hannah Turner then discussed the newsletter. Piotr has stepped down from publicity and newsletter, and we thank him for his great work on it.</p>

	<p>We now have a whole editorial team for the newsletter - Gaie Houston, Hannah Turner, Fiona Turnbull, Angela Mutum.</p> <p>Hannah announced the summer newsletter and that a callout for submissions will be happening shortly after the conference. We had a brief discussion about photography at the conference and the possibility of putting conference photos on social media. It was agreed that we can't make blanket assumptions about whether or not photos are appropriate for public</p> <p>June Heath made a point on the importance of individual responsibility in getting consent at the time of taking a photo, whenever individual practitioners are identifiable.</p> <p>Charlotte and Martyna were thanked for handling the Social media role.</p>
7	<p><u>Update: Nice Stakeholders group guidelines</u></p> <p>Belinda spoke about her participation in a battle to get basic principles of humanistic psychotherapy included into the NICE guidelines on depression; and some victories - Nice will now accept some qualitative data not just quantitative. Applause</p>
8	<p><u>Update on complaint regarding EAGT gateway article -</u></p> <p>Training Officer Adam Kincel spoke about the complaint we are making towards EAGT for the article they published which has been widely experienced as racist. Meetings with EAGT are ongoing. Adam was applauded for his commitment with this difficult and important work</p>
9	<p><u>Appreciations</u></p> <p>Belinda spoke of her appreciation in working with the committee:</p> <p>Ruth Nightingale, Liz Beauchamp, June Heath, Hannah Turner, Nika Jelendorf, Adam Kincel, Liz Smears, Terri Windsor.</p> <p>Malcolm Parlett spoke of his appreciation of Belinda and also her predecessor Jackie, saying that they have set a high standard and fully continued what he and Gaie Houston intended in setting up UKAGP.</p> <p>Belinda was given a parting gift of a silver engraved bookmark and a bouquet of flowers; plus a standing ovation for her work over five years. Several members spoke out their appreciation of Belinda, her bravery, generosity, and the "relentless hope" she has brought to even the most difficult problems.</p>

<p>10</p>	<p>UKAGP Committee and Honorary Treasurer Nominations & Elections</p> <p>Three Committee positions are available; at this time it is undecided which roles they are.</p> <p>The following members nominated themselves/volunteered for the committee: Due to the unprecedented number of people volunteering for roles on the OC Further conversations will be held with Ruth (Chair) with the volunteers to agree how this might work.</p> <p>Julia Ouzia, Malgorzata “Gosia” Lanigan, Lindsey Tull, Venus Narayan, Madina Demirbash.</p>
<p>11.1</p>	<p><u>Discussion: Non-Gestalt Content on the website</u></p> <p>Ruth led a discussion on whether we will allow non-gestalt organisations to advertise non-gestalt CPD and other content on our website.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about diluting the focus of UKAGP and whether we are seen to endorse the quality of efficacy of that content; it is unclear whether the monetary benefits would be worthwhile.</p> <p>Very few voices were in favour of this suggestion, so no vote was taken. Our policy will remain to promote only Gestalt materials and content.</p>
<p>11.2</p>	<p><u>Discussion: General Website</u></p> <p>Ruth then led a brief wider discussion about the website and its purpose; this was agreed to be followed up by a few members subsequent to the AGM</p> <p>June asked how many present members are aware of our email forum, gaggle - many were not. June will send out a joining link after the conference.</p>
<p>11.3</p>	<p><u>Discussion Equity Role</u></p> <p>Ruth introduced another concern - especially in light of the current complaint to EAGT and increased awareness of racism and other forms of oppression. It was proposed to create a new committee role of Equity officer who would take a lead on any and all future difficulties regarding equitable and equal treatment of members of all backgrounds and identities.</p> <p>However, Faisal raised concerns that this person can quickly become de-facto responsible for all ethical issues, and it can be a difficult and unwieldy role. Furthermore, the idea of appointing one person to be responsible occludes the fact that social equality and equity are everyone’s responsibility.</p>

	<p>Therefore Ruth retracted this first proposal on the issue. After further discussion, with input from Dawn Wray, a new proposal was made by Ruth and seconded by Dawn</p> <p><i>“We (UKAGP members) hold collective responsibility for equity, and we nominate a person to be a point of contact and facilitator for this process”</i></p> <p>This motion was passed. (Voting record: For: 48, Against 0, Abstain 0)</p>
11.4	<p><u>Discussion: Review of membership structure</u></p> <p>Ruth led a discussion outlining our current membership structure. Many members feel there is an unintentional hierarchy between:</p> <p>[Full] members, Associate members, Trainee members, Friend members.</p> <p>Hannah Turner spoke passionately about her experience of being a gestalt coach, gestalt counsellor, trainee gestalt psychotherapist, and UKAGP committee member but still not considered eligible to be a full member.</p> <p>A subgroup was formed to further discuss this issue to be resolved at the 2022 AGM since it will require amendments to the UKAGP constitution.</p>
12	<p>AOB.</p> <p>None.</p>
13	<p>Date and details of the next AGM.</p> <p>The next AGM date will be announced following the first meeting of the new Organising Committee via the website and Newsletter.</p>