



Minutes of the AGM of UK Association of Gestalt Practitioners

Saturday 30th June 2013 at Lane End Conference Centre, Bucks

Present: Danny Porter (Chair), Danny Boyle (Secretary), Chris O'Malley (Treasurer) Elizabeth Cooksey, Jacqui Lichtenstern, Rod London, Jane Flint, Natasha Wilson (Minutes) Joy Appleby, Claire Asherson Bartram, James Bailey, Chris Baron, Carol Baylis, Liz Beauchamp, Sharon Beirne, Jon Blend, Sue Chamberlayne, Graham Colbourne, Anne Cole, Billy Desmond, Toni Gilligan, Judy Graham, Rhian Graham, Lin Harrison, Di Hodgson, Gaie Houston, Jules Howdin, Rachael Kellett, Adam Kincel, Guus Klaren, Maddy Klaren, Billy Lee, Ailsa Logan, Peri Mackintosh, Celia Macnab, Jo McMahon, Jess Michaelson, Ruth Nightingale, Val Nowell, Lynda Osborne, David Polak, Val Randle, Jane Riordan, Lesley Robinson, Ann Salter, Janice Scott, Emily Skye, Bob Smith, Helen Thomas, Mark Thomas, Mary Turner, Mike Turton, Rob Tyson, Joan W. Hampton, Phil Whichello, Joan Williams, Nichola Woodward

No Apologies

1. Minutes of the previous AGM

These had been circulated by e-mail and were accepted as accurate.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

3. Chair's Report

Danny Porter announced he would be standing down after four years as Chair. He felt that he had been around during the transition from the first years of the organisation when Lynda Osborne was at the helm. The membership is around 300 and has grown by about 100 since last year. A large number of members are students and he thanked the institutes who have funded them. He spoke about the ongoing connection with the EAGT; he and Jacqui Lichtenstern have continued to attend EAGT meetings. He commented that he would like to see the UKAGP integrating more into the European Gestalt community.

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer presented a profit/loss statement as the UKAGP has no assets. There is a healthy balance of £28,215.14. The total income for 2013/13 was £3556.86 and expenditure was £4116.68 and he said these figures referred to the one day conference in Sheffield in 2012 and the costs incurred renting the conference centre, rather than the Friends Meeting House in Birmingham. This meant there had been no opportunity to increase the bank balance.

The possibility of transferring the balance into a higher interest account was also discussed and Adam suggested this might be possible with Santander the bank the UKAGP currently uses.

The profit/loss statement was accepted as accurate.

5. New Cheque Book Signatories

The issue of making the transition to new cheque book signatories was raised. Chris O'Malley drew attention to the fact that without George Bassett's signature the transition might be blocked by Santander. The Committee discussed this and it was agreed that everyone supported the transition to 2 new signatories, names to be agreed at the next Committee meeting, without the signature of George who has been unavailable for over a year and not signed any cheques for even longer than this.

Agreed; Chris write to Santander with the full support of the Committee for the changing of signatures

6. Committee Posts and nominations.

Resignations were received from Danny Porter, Chris O'Malley, Emma Boardwell and George Bassett. There is the potential of nine posts but it was agreed that eight was enough. Ruth Nightingale volunteered and was seconded by ? James Bailey volunteered and was voted by Adam Kincel and seconded by Toni Gilligan. Ruth Nightingale put forward Helen Thomas for trainee post and was seconded by Lynda Osborne.

7. Membership and fees

Membership fees were mentioned as a way to increase revenue and a number of people expressed the fact that the fees are low, but no decision was made to change this for the time being. There had been some difficulties with the introduction of using PayPal and the fact that there are a variety of payment methods and also that changing the date of renewal from a fixed date to the date of joining meant that it was more difficult to track the sending out of membership payment reminders.

It was decided that as there is only one person subscribed to the Friends membership category, this will be removed for the future.

8. Scholarship Bursary Fund

A bursary scholarship fund was suggested to fund delegates to future conferences. It was suggested that this might include those from this country or overseas who were unable to attend because of financial constraints and was agreed in principle. A suggestion was also made to use some of the current UKAGP funds to kick-start the bursary fund.

9. Administrator Post

The question of the organisation needing an ongoing administrator was discussed. It was proposed that some of the current bank balance fund a pilot scheme for 18 months and that a proposal for an ongoing post would then be made. It was agreed that the committee would decide on the number of hours required during this time and that as well as being a central point of contact, the administrator would help to grow the organisation by such things as trainee redemption, following graduation. The ongoing fees for this post might



then be funded by increased membership and extra hours to organise the conferences by conference fees.

10. Date and place of next AGM

To be decided but proposed to take place in either Birmingham or London.