

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on Saturday, 8th July 2023 from 10.00 – 12.00 via Zoom

1. Welcome

Janine Sternberg opened the meeting, explaining that she was chairing the AGM in the absence of a Chair. She gave thanks to the previous Chair Kate Robertson, who had to step down earlier in the year due to illness.

2. Present and apologies

Present

Janine Sternberg, Non-Executive Director (Chairing)

Lynne Taylor (ACP Chair), Rachel Acheson, Stella Acquarone, Marie Bradley, Helen Breakwell, Sam Coetzee. Maria Consta, David Cornelius. Deirdre Dowling. Kate England. Sandra Fentiman. Riccardo Gentile. Iris Gibbs. Danny Goldberger. Eve Grainger. Lucy Griffin-Beale, William Halton, Claire Hopkins, Jo Goldsmith, Noella Hacquard, Anne Hurley, Heather Lee-Messner, Tanya Leonard, Kate Lewis, Jill Mackenzie, Miguel Massa, Meryl McCartney, Andrew McGibbon, Rachel Melville, Julia Mikardo, Jennifer Ng, Elaine Pennicott-Banks, Gail Phillips, Jemima Phorson. Isobel Pick, Margaret Randall, Katie Reid, Helen Ritzema, Nicola Rivers, Mel Serlin. Anna Spedding, Carolyn Village, Ferelyth Watt, Liz Wheatley, Karen Wheeler, Biddy Youell

In attendance: Jessica Jarmon

Apologies

Liz Bodycote, Susan Chantrell, Simon Cregeen, Gillian Donachy, Elizabeth Edginton, Sarah Gustavus Jones, Margaret Hurst, Surinder Johore, Julian Moorman, Maria Powell, Ruth Seglow, Janet Sherrard, Mary Short, Angelina Veiga

3. Minutes of AGM 2022 – Corrections, Approval and Matters Arising

One error was noted in the minutes of the AGM held on Friday, 8th July 2022: the newly qualified members of the Tavistock were mistakenly referred to as NSCAP graduates. Subject to that correction, the minutes were accepted as an accurate account of the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

4. Appointments to the ACP Board

Janine Sternberg congratulated the following people who had been elected to the Board:

- Lynne Taylor as ACP Chair
- Anne Hurley as Co-Director of Training
- Kate England as Director of ACP Community Matters

Lynne Taylor introduced herself to members and spoke about some of the bigger challenges to be addressed, including the impact of climate change, the changes taking place in the NHS, and the increasing levels of inequality in society. She said she was looking forward to building on Kate's work around those issues along with bringing in her own ideas and working with the ACP staff, training schools and members.

5. Results of vote on approval of Annual Report from Committees

Janine Sternberg reported that the ACP 2022-23 Annual Report was circulated as part of the electronic voting poll and was approved by majority. The full Annual Report can be viewed [here](#).

6. Results of vote on approval of Treasurer's Report and Accounts

The Treasurer's report and annual accounts had been circulated in advance and accepted. These reports can be viewed [here](#).

7. Treasurers Report and Accounts

Claire Hopkins, Director of Finance and Treasurer presented the annual accounts for 2022. The presentation can be seen [here](#).

David Cornelius, a member of the ACP climate group, said that sometimes funds packaged as ethical investments do contain fossil fuels. He requested assurance that the ACP investment portfolio doesn't contain any direct investments from fossil fuel companies and Claire Hopkins agreed to look into this.

8. Report from Directors

a. Training Council

Co-Director of Training Isobel Pick gave updates from the Training Council, the Training Development Group and other subcommittees and work. Her presentation is available [here](#). Highlights were that in 2022, the Tavistock and The Independent Training (IPCAPA) were successfully re-accredited. The BTPP is having a reaccreditation visit in 2023, and the council is recruiting for a panel to visit HDS in 2024. Isobel also said that NHS England had agreed to expand the number of places in the National Training Scheme for England. Isobel thanked everyone who had been part of a panel, and said that training for potential new panel members would run in the autumn. She also gave a big thank you to everyone on the Training Council and working in its subcommittees and working groups for their hard work over the last 18 months.

b. Professional Standards Committee

Director Jo Goldsmith gave a presentation on the role of the Professional Standards Committee and its members. The full presentation can be viewed [here](#). Jo explained that the Professional Standards Committee had two main responsibilities – protecting the public, and protecting the membership. These responsibilities are held by the different groups represented in the Professional Standards Committee – the Employment Standards Group, the Ethical Practice Group, the Independent Practice Group and the Registrar, who is responsible for CPD and registration. In the last year, the PSC had amended the supervision policy to include the importance of keeping issues of diversity, equality and inclusion in supervision, and also added a statement about risk. The committee had proposed the change to rule 9v which the membership had voted on. They had also worked on making the 'Find a Therapist' web page much more accessible to the public to help them find a suitable therapist.

c. ACP Community Matters

Director Kate England explained that the ACP Community Matters committee is responsible for membership development and to create networks that support child and adolescent psychotherapists in their professional life. The committee has an important function to facilitate all matters relating to membership and engagement identified through the AGM and other spaces or mechanisms of consultation are acted upon during the year. From 2023 – 2024, the focus of ACP community matters will be on the development of 4 key areas: ACP Friends, National Trainee Forum, National & Regional Groups, and Communications. Kate encouraged all members to get in touch with their local national and regional groups. The full presentation can be viewed [here](#).

d. Scientific Development Committee

Deputy Director Elena Della Rosa gave an update via pre-recorded video about the current status of the Scientific Development Committee. The former Director Marie Bradley had resigned in January, and they hoped a new Director would be in post soon. The role of the Scientific Development Committee is to collate and disseminate research and knowledge around child mental health and other mental health related fields. Last February, the Scientific Development Committee had also launched the Research Matters Forum, which brings together child psychotherapists to share skills and knowledge and find colleagues who maybe be interested in similar topics for collaboration.

9. Questions and Discussion

Member Carolyn Village asked if it was possible to access training analysts from the U.S.A. via Zoom given that there are so many there and sometimes hard for trainees in remote areas in the UK to access training here. Isobel Pick responded that there is a current understanding for trainees in remote areas where there is a scarcity of analysts that much of their training but not all of their analytic sessions can take place remotely, which strikes a good balance. It was also pointed out by several members that having a training analyst so far away with no possibility of meeting up could be problematic, and that it is encouraged that both trainees and their analysts have some experience in the room. Members with further questions about this were directed to contact Nina Wessels.

Carolyn also asked if it would be possible to have a monthly option for payment of membership fees? Claire Hopkins responded that monthly would currently not be possible, but with the new management system the hope is that there will be four installment periods.

10. Report from the Journal of Child Psychotherapy

Dr Rachel Acheson, Editor of the Journal of Child Psychotherapy, explained the workflow of the journal. She then gave an update on progress made on the goals shared in the 2022 AGM meeting, including addressing issues around delays and staffing issues, and increasing downloads and subscriptions. In terms of future planning they are widening their pool of Peer Reviewers and Article Editors and engaging with trainees to take up roles in the Journal. Rachel finished her presentation by thanking the journal group and the ACP for their support and contributions. The annual report for the Journal can be viewed [here](#).

11. Report from Danny Goldberger, Unite the Union

Danny Goldberger, Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist introduced himself as one of the two co-opted representatives for the ACP for Unite the Union (along with Selina Perokovic). Danny spoke about the relationship between ACP and Unite the Union, and explained the role of the Union and how they have helped many members employment issues that come up, especially over the last year. Danny said that ACP and Unite worked together to make sure that the NHS's 'Agenda for Change' was something that represented psychology and child psychotherapy in a way that gave the ACP parity and status in a medically orientated organisation. He added that as the profession grows and has more members, there are likely to be an increasing number of employment issues, and encouraged members to join Unite which is open to everyone.

Information about Unite the Union can be found on the Unite [website](#) or in the [members area of the ACP website](#).

12. Questions and Discussions

Stella Acquarone commented that it would be good if possible to increase the reach of the Journal of Child Psychotherapy both to other UK organisations that work with children that are not purely psychoanalytic, like child psychologists, and also to increase the reach in the U.S.A., possibly through the Association of American Psychologists, as there is a big interest there from child psychologists in psychoanalysis and they are eager to learn.

13. Results of votes on appointments to Committees and Groups of the ACP

Janine Sternberg reported that everyone who had been put forward to have roles in committees (circulated in the voting poll prior to the meeting) had been ratified. The new members could be found under the relevant committees in the Annual Report [here](#).

Janine expressed gratitude to all members who had put themselves forward to take up roles on ACP groups and committees.

14. Results of votes to changes of the Rule 9v of the Association of Child Psychotherapists

Janine Sternberg reported that the changes to Rule 9v (circulated in the voting poll prior to the meeting) had been ratified by the membership.

15. Results of votes to changes of the Rule 9v of the Association of Child Psychotherapists

Janine Sternberg reported that the changes to the rule 38 (circulated in the voting poll prior to the meeting) had been ratified by the membership.

16. Vote of thanks to those giving their time being involved in the work of the ACP

Janine Sternberg gave a vote of thanks to all those giving their time during the year to support the work of the ACP, along with goodbyes to the following people who had left ACP roles on the Board or in committees during the year. The slides featuring the named thank yous and goodbyes can be viewed [here](#).

Thanks were given to the following people for their service on the ACP Board and Committees:

Kate Robertson

ACP Board; Communication Team; Diversity and Equality Working Group; Event Planning Group

Marie Bradley

ACP Board; Event Planning Group

Francesca Calvocoressi

Director of Professional Standards; ACP Board

Anna Spedding

Deputy Director of Training Council; Training Development Group

Brian Waring

ACP Board

Thanks were also given to following people for their service in their ACP roles:

Rachel Abedi

Diversity and Equality Working Group

Geraldine Crehan

Ethical Practice Group

Elizabeth Francis

Journal Editors and Editorial Group

Christine Kibbey

Ethical Practice Group

Kate Lewis

Employment Standards Group

Sarah Peters

Journal Editors and Editorial Group

Geoffrey Rivlin

Ethical Practice Group

Graham Shulman

Employment Standards Group

Fergus Smith

Ethical Practice Group

Robin Solomon

Training Council; Training Development Group

Ben Stambler

Clinical Dialogue Planning Group

Alex Volovisky

Clinical Dialogue Planning Group

17. Vacancies

Janine Sternberg advised members to contact the admin team regarding any vacancies they were interested in, who would then put them in the touch with the relevant ACP lead.

18. Welcome to New Members and Farewells

Janine Sternberg congratulated trainees who have qualified since the last AGM, warmly welcoming them to the ACP and wishing them well on their continued professional development:

Birmingham Trust for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Macarena Barrera Cubo

Chris Long

Natasha Stubbs

bpf/IPCAPA

Eftychia Apostolidou

Charlotte Cussins

Nick Elsey

Marta Escobar Venegas

Lily Hornsby Clark

Catherine Lenain

Jasmin Meier

Gautami Parekh

Sarah Robinson

Human Development Scotland

Samantha Fernando

Northern School of Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy

Jill Capstick

Joanne Dornan

Verity Emanuel

Harriette Feasey

Eloise Holden
Alice Lowe

Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust

Rebecca Bolam
Cathy Brady
Andrew Browne
Antonio Cano
Laura Signe de Graaff
Laura De Micco
Silviya Dimitrova
Eda Fidan
Zuzana Garchet
Riccardo Gentile
Joe Horner
Tamara Hussain
Kenisha Jackson
Nicola Levison
Hen Otley
Cathryn Rothwell
Marion Sangster
Maria Sheen Kinsella
Sheila Ward
Liz Wheatley
Rafia Yousuf

19. Bereavements

Janine Sternberg read out the names of members who had sadly died in the past year: Alexandra Sayles, Gillian Woodman-Smith, and Gweneth Kirkwood. Janine warmly acknowledged their contributions to the profession.

20. AOB

A query was raised around increasing the attendance at the meeting, and it was suggested to do a Doodle poll to find a convenient date for more members in 2024.

Thanks were given to Janine Sternberg for her masterful chairing of the meeting.