

nala

Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Language Advisers
Wednesday, 5th July 2006 Stratford-upon-Avon,

Item 1 Apologies for absence.

No apologies were received

Item 2 Minutes of 2005 AGM

The minutes were taken as read and approved.

Item 3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Peter Hall (hon chair) asked for permission to introduce item 6. He proposed that the association confirm Jeff Lee as President of the association. The motion was seconded by Phil Dahl and approved unanimously

Item 4 Officers' reports

President

Jeff Lee offered thanks for his election. He was honoured and moved by the confidence of the association. He stressed the particular link between the national executive and the role of the president. He had already visited two regional meetings and would attend every meeting in order to meet members and see the benefits of regional networks. He was impressed by the huge range of expertise among the membership and realised how much members value their regular meetings. JL had attended meetings with Lid King and ALL.

Hon Chair

PH remarked that, as he came to the end of his tenure, he saw again what a diverse and complex association NALA was. He had organised and chaired executive meetings; liaised with other associations, and represented NALA formally and informally at different fora. He stressed NALA's voluntary and diverse ethos but also the importance of sustaining its viability as it "mutated".

PH was heartened by four things that struck him:

1. the dedication and creativity of other volunteer officers
2. the arrival of new members and the very important contribution they were already making
3. the arrival of a committed and active president who would contribute to the development of the association
4. regional associations continue to thrive.

Hon Sec

Jim McElwee reported that he had continued to report the meetings of the executive committee, which are available on the website. He had written the annual report to Aspect (formerly NAEIAC) available in their annual report.

Hon Treasurer

Adrian Finbow presented the audited accounts. He had received the £5.50 from Aspect for each member of NALA who was also a member of Aspect. This contributed to the healthy balance of funds. As agreed by the association, the balance was being run down. Phil Dahl moved thanks to AF.

Hon Membership Secretary

Alison Gilvey thanked colleagues and the executive for their support, as well as staff at ALL for running the database and arranging the collection of fees. AG presented the membership list. There are currently 216 members and more have joined this year (18 new members) than have left. AG showed the profile of membership: only 23% have the title of adviser and 23% of consultant. AG reported that the executive is looking at the best method of managing our own membership database and collection of fees. She asked members to let her have any comments or suggestions.

Hon Information Officer

Chris Gill said that communication within the association was now almost entirely electronic. The list of members' addresses had been distributed in paper form to members, and there was also a mailing to remind members about the conference. The Stop Press feature of the website was increasingly the important alert before Update. Discussion fora had not taken off, although CG felt that they were a very good way of communicating. PH thanked CG for his report.

Item 5 Audit of the association's accounts

AF proposed that the association continue with Bury MC as its official auditor. PH seconded the proposal, which was accepted.

Item 6 Election of President

This item was dealt with after the matters arising from the previous meeting.

Item 7 Election of Officers to the Executive.

On behalf of the association, PH offered his thanks to Jim McElwee, Rachel Redfearn, Alison Gilvey and Chris Gill for their service to the executive. He said that, traditionally, the association had separate nominations for each post, but proposed instead that there should be nominations to the executive committee. This would make it easier to make best use of the interest, availability and expertise of members when filling the empty posts. JM agreed to remain as secretary pro tem, and CG and AG agreed to continue as members of the executive. There were three nominations to the executive, Dick Boatman, David Mee and Jeff Swinn. PH proposed their election, with their specific role to be defined subsequently. The proposal was seconded by Richard White and carried unanimously.

Item 8 AOB.

JL thanked the executive on behalf of the members with special thanks to regional convenors. AF reminded members that, for the second year running, he had had to turn people away from the conference because of late applications, the hotel having then let the rooms. He urged members to make early payments in order to avoid anxieties and misunderstandings.

The next meeting was fixed provisionally for Friday 13th July 2007
(*subsequent addendum - scheduled for Wed 11th July, Stratford*)

J. McElwee, 8th July 2006

