

## NALA Annual General Meeting

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 10.00- 10.35**

Zoom

	Agenda Item		Action
1	Welcome and apologies	<p><b>AH</b> welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, reflecting on the peculiar current circumstances.</p> <p>Present: Alice Harrison (AH), Bev Whiteside (BW), Alison Taylor (AT), David Moss (DM), Mike Rauh (MR), Jenny Carpenter (JC), Rona Heald (RH), Marie O'Sullivan (MOS), Lorna Harvey (LH), Yvonne Kennedy (YK), Linda Owen (LO), Alan Dobson, Oliver Hopwood, Liz Lord, Bridget Smith.</p> <p>Apologies had been received from: Martin Ash, Jim McElwee</p>	
2	Minutes from AGM, Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2019, Stratford-upon-Avon	<p><b>AH</b> highlighted various items, including collaboration with ALL; Legacies (now on website)</p> <p>Accepted as accurate record of proceedings. Proposed: <b>MOS</b> Seconded: <b>BW</b></p>	
3	Matters arising	None	
4	Officers' Reports Appendix 1	<p>Written reports were presented to the meeting.</p> <p>Additional comments:</p> <p><b>JC</b> (President) wanted to add her thanks to Alison Taylor (<b>AT</b>) and David Moss (<b>DM</b>) regarding all the organisation that had gone in to the Conference that regrettably had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic, and wished to include Mike Rauh's (<b>MR</b>) name as part of the Conference Team.</p> <p><b>BW</b> (Treasurer) explained that the Conference account had reduced funds because the hotel was holding over monies for the 2021 Conference. Money was also being saved by virtue of the fact that during Lockdown Zoom Meetings were taking the place of physical meetings</p> <p>Annual Accounts available as PDF Document (Appendix 2)</p>	Executive to discuss future dates for meeting including Sheffield residential and Conference
5	Changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders	<p>None.</p> <p><i>However BW said members should be reminded of the increase in standard membership fee currently £65 annual membership.</i></p>	
6	Elections to National Executive	One nomination had been received for each of the following posts:	

		<p>1. Treasurer- Bev Whiteside (<b>BW</b>) Proposed by <b>MOS</b>, Seconded by <b>MR</b></p> <p>2. Communications Officer- Marie O'Sullivan (<b>MOS</b>) Proposed by <b>BW</b>, Seconded by <b>MR</b></p> <p>Both were carried unanimously and duly elected to serve for the term 2020-2022.</p>	
7	NALA Development and Action Plan	<p><b>AH</b> drew attention to the work that is carried out by Executive and especially <b>JC</b>'s liaising with other organisations and agencies.</p> <p>NALA currently working on two projects- how current (speaking) exam questions further disadvantage socially disadvantaged students; Grammar project in French, German and Spanish, based on the KS1 and 2 (English) Grammar Framework</p> <p>Presentations to follow AGM in separate Symposium.</p>	<p><b>AH</b> to update NALA Action Plan</p> <p><b>AH</b> to collate and formulate NALA response to Ofqual consultation by 16<sup>th</sup> July. (Responses to be submitted to <b>AH</b> by Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July).</p>
8	Building membership	<p>A recent "trickle" of new memberships. NALA continues to look further afield for prospective members, recognising that the traditional title of "adviser" may be less easy to identify in today's teaching rôles.</p> <p>Ollie Hopwood - "a need for an independent body to approach institutions and agencies for which NALA is well placed"</p>	
9	AOB	<p>Liz Lord very concerned that Government is withdrawing funding in form of lower tuition fees/ bursaries for ITT of EU and non-EU students. This will impact further on reduction in MFL teaching workforce; in addition the disruptive impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on university students' years abroad.</p> <p>No other business</p>	Liz Lord to share Portsmouth's response to this
		Meeting closed 10.35 am	

## Appendix 1: Officers' Reports

### NALA President's report

As I sit to write this report the whole world is in such a different place than it was at the time of my report to the Association twelve months ago. The current Covid-19 pandemic is re-shaping everyone's thinking about communication, priorities and new strategies in education. In my view – and somewhat ironically - this is helping to re-focus and re-energise NALA at the start of our new half century!

Of note, we are conducting a survey of teachers about the suitability of content of GCSE speaking and writing examinations for our country's most vulnerable pupils. Initial findings will be shared with members and the Association plans to publish a full report in Autumn 2020. A big thanks must go to Alice Harrison for being the brains behind this project.

A second, hugely detailed and extensive piece of work which NALA members have nearly completed is the English / French / German / Spanish grammar reference materials which will be showcased at our first-ever virtual 'conference' this summer. David Moss has brought his amazing understanding of literacy to the project. What he has designed should become an absolute 'must have' reference resource for teachers. Thanks go David as well as his working group of language experts: Mike Rauh, Jim McElwee and Marie O'Sullivan.

A special mention should also go to Alison Taylor and David Moss who put a great deal of work into organising a conference programme for 2020. The line-up of speakers was a great mix of inspiration, information and reflection so it was with real regret that the Exec felt that the 2020 conference had to be cancelled due to the current pandemic. We sincerely hope that we can think in terms of postponement to July 2021 rather than cancellation of this year's conference.

On a more mundane note, my work for the Association this year has included:

- Communication with Exec and conference committee members
- Representing NALA at APPG, Language Liaison Group and Language Trends stakeholder meetings
- Contributing to a flow of information in the Association about changes to Ofsted inspections and what was pre-Covid inspection practice.

Jenny Carpenter

June 2020

### Chair's Report 2019- 20

Since our last AGM I have

- Written to Helen Farrar and Eleni to gather feedback on the NW event.
- Planned the agenda for the January meeting with Mike
- examined AQA speaking test for evidence of disadvantaging those from socio-economically deprived backgrounds.
- Written and shared with exec first draft of a letter regarding disadvantaging those from socio-economically deprived backgrounds to send to exam boards

AQA.

- . Attended 2 meetings at the British Council re The Language Trends Survey. ( one via ZOOM)
- Attended the ALL Language World Conference
- Contacted Emma Marsden re hosting a meeting at NCELP in York-
- Liaised re conference postponement.
- Convened ZOOM sessions with the exec to : air views about response to Coronavirus, plan the social justice work and hold the May exec meeting.
- Finished scrutinizing AQA papers for instances of potential disadvantaging of some candidates. Scrutinized some Welsh Board and some Edexcel board exams.
- Contributed to the development of the survey on the languages Curriculum and disadvantaged students.
- Promoted the survey on social media
- Liaised with the languages community about the survey. NALA to do article for ALL magazine on the results of the survey.
- Encouraged a new member, Ollie Hopwood of "Transform MFL" following a ZOOM meeting to share thoughts on the survey.
- Drafted a presentation for a ZOOM session for members on the results of the survey.

### **Secretary**

Since the 2019 AGM I have:

- organised and convened three executive meetings and one AGM\*.
- been in touch with regional convenors and elected officers, collecting and collating their reports for each executive meeting and the AGM as appropriate.
- taken, written up and re-drafted minutes, and forwarded them to the Communications Officer for uploading to the NALA website and to the rest of the executive committee and regional convenors.
- liaised with JC (President) and AH (Chair) over various issues concerning NALA
- assisted AT regarding Conference 2020 before this was sadly cancelled, by liaising with various publishers and language resource groups
- liaised with other executive members regarding a variety of membership applications
- attended the Midlands regional meetings at the Community Hub in John Lewis, Birmingham
- supported a NW event in October 2019
- worked with David Moss and Jim McElwee on the Grammar project.

I succeeded Linda Owen as Secretary at the AGM 2019, knowing this would be an impossible act to follow. After some tentative steps I have started to find my feet with this, and I thank my colleagues for their encouragement and advice.

I particularly enjoy processing new memberships and welcoming these new members who will be the life blood of the future of our Association.

The Grammar Project has been, and continues to be, a fascinating task, which has involved some serious research, exercising the brain, and consulting native speaker friends in Germany for current thinking.

\*including having to cancel one Executive meeting due to Covid-19

Mike Rauh, Secretary, June 2020



## **Communications Officer Report**

Thank you to all of the Executive Committee and members for continuing to provide information for sharing on the website. Please continue to share information about regional meeting where appropriate.

As the website is now several years old, work has been undertaken recently to update background issues which may have caused some users to see security messages when logging in. This should now all be rectified, and users can rest assured that their passwords and logins are not compromised.

In the Autumn Term I supported the organisation of, and subsequently attended, a North West Open Forum event led by Alice Harrison. As a result of the event, we did gain one new member.

I was invited to attend Language World in March as a guest of Sanako. The event was held in Manchester and was one of the last events before lockdown was announced, and as a result a small number of speakers and some of the exhibitors were unable to attend. Nevertheless, Alice and I attended a number of very interesting seminars on the Saturday.

Together with other member of the Executive Committee, we have also been working on an investigation into issues encountered by vulnerable and disadvantaged children, the initial results of which are to be shared via an online seminar directly after the AGM.

Marie O'Sullivan

Communications Officer

**22/06/20**