

NALA Annual General Meeting

Saturday 3rd July 2021, 10.30- 11.00

Zoom

Final Minutes

| | Agenda Item | | Action |
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| 1 | Welcome and apologies | <p>MOS (Acting Chair) welcomed everyone, especially new members, and opened the meeting.</p> <p>Present: Alice Harrison (AH), Bev Whiteside (BW), Alison Taylor (AT), Mike Rauh (MR), Jenny Carpenter (JC), Rona Heald (RH), Marie O’Sullivan (MOS), Lorna Harvey (LH), Linda Owen (LO), Flo Savary, Rebecca Rickard, Kit Thorne, Lesley Hagger-Vaughan, Jane Harvey.</p> <p>Apologies had been received from: David Moss (DM), Liz Lord, Bridget Smith, Tracy Williams.</p> | |
| 2 | Minutes from AGM, Saturday 4 th July 2020, Zoom | <p>MOS summarised the meeting.</p> <p>Accepted as accurate record of proceedings. Proposed: LH Seconded: JC</p> | |
| 3 | Matters arising | None | |
| 4 | Officers’ Reports Appendix 1 | <p>Written reports were presented to the meeting.</p> <p>Additional comments:</p> <p>JC (President) will be attending meetings of the APPG, the British Council, the British Academy. MOH expressed Executive’s appreciation of JC’s commitment and contribution, especially with regard to attendance and representing NALA.</p> <p>BW (Treasurer) explained that memberships were currently up to date apart from a few with errant e-mail addresses.</p> <p>Annual Accounts available as PDF Document (Appendix 2)</p> <p>MOS expressed gratitude to members of Executive.</p> | |
| 5 | Changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders | None. | |
| 6 | Elections to National Executive | <p>One nomination had been received for each of the following posts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair- Alice Harrison (AH) Proposed by BW, Seconded by LO 2. Secretary- Mike Rauh (MR) Proposed by MOS, Seconded by AH | |

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| | | <p>Both were carried unanimously and duly elected to serve for the term 2021-2023.</p> <p>Presidency (2021-24) This tenure by invitation of Executive. JC was invited at a previous Executive Meeting to continue in Chair for a further 3 years. JC accepted.</p> | |
| 7 | NALA Development and Action Plan | <p>JC explained the background to this, that it aimed to show costings and future developmental outcomes. Because of the pandemic, considerable savings had been made to meetings costs since all meetings had been virtual.</p> <p>Executive were considering a proposal to re-think the regional structuring and instead move towards opening Executive to members with key specialisms, including roles in the following areas:</p> <p>Curriculum development Initial Teacher Training University research Leading a languages department Languages strategy across a MAT</p> | |
| 8 | Building membership | <p>New members had joined, as a direct result of recent projects; virtual meetings à propos regional (physical) meetings were enabling more members to attend and participate.</p> | |
| 9 | AOB | None | |
| | | Meeting closed 11.00 am | |

Appendix 1:

Executive Reports for AGM 2021

President

NALA President's report

As I reflect on my third year as President of NALA I am pleased to report that the current COVID-19 pandemic has proved transformational for our association on a number of levels:

- Remote executive meetings have been a regular, lively forum for debate and planning events for members.
- We have held a 'spring series' of webinars instead of our annual conference. This approach has allowed us to reach both members and non-members – and been well-received by those who attended. The conference team deserves real credit for five challenging Saturday morning sessions!
- In autumn 2020 NALA published the final report (+ executive summary) of the teacher survey into social disadvantage and language learning. The report attracted attention in national press, amongst policy makers, colleagues involved in university research and with teachers.
- The completion of the first iteration of the NALA grammar resources has been exceptionally well-received. Our thanks must go to David Moss and his team of writers who made this happen. David has now led numerous webinars and presented at online conferences about the resource. It has been equally well thought of by primary languages specialists, secondary specialists and teacher trainers who see it as an invaluable resource for teachers of languages and of literacy.
- In May 2021 NALA sent detailed responses to the Department for Education and Ofqual consultations about proposed changes to the ML subject guidance and GCSE assessment. In addition to canvassing our members to inform the NALA responses, these consultations proved a catalyst for working in collaboration with other modern languages subject associations.
- Each of these activities has been a major piece of work for the association but in addition I have represented NALA at the APPG for languages and Ofqual.

Jenny Carpenter

June 2021

Chair

Since the last AGM I have:

- Sent response on behalf of NALA to OFQUAL regarding changes to 2021 examinations
- Met with some of the new members online
- Written article for ALL on the survey
- Written draft report for the survey
- Attended British Academy online meeting re "towards a new languages strategy"
- Met online with Bridget Smith regarding the survey findings, to inform her meetings with OFQUAL

- Attended OFQUAL meeting regarding the speaking test endorsement criteria
- Attended link meeting with OFQUAL about the survey report.
- Liaised with Jenny about the exec summary
- Invited colleagues to review the NALA grammar doc.
- Met online with David Laws and Bobbi re the survey report
- Met on line with Emma Marsden re the survey report
- Attended the APPG Monday 16 Sep.
- Convened and chaired a zoom meeting about assessment
- Attended ZOOM to receive update for Jenny re liaison
- Supported zoom Spring series event
- liaised with Jenny re consultation responses and cross organisation working.
- Attended British Academy event on educational research and engagement from teachers.

Alice Harrison, Chair, June 2021

Secretary

Since the 2020 AGM I have:

- liaised with Jurys Inn, Sheffield for what might be available in January 2021 (for the January overnight Executive meeting) in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic with initial requirements, and then sadly postponed booking at Jury's Inn, Sheffield until 2022 (possibly);
- organised and convened five 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 the President (JC) and the Chair (AH) over various issues concerning NALA;
- assisted the Conference Organiser (AT) and David Moss regarding Conference 2021 before this was sadly cancelled, but then collaborated on the organising and staging of the Spring Series of Saturday Sessions;
- processed new membership applications, requested references and liaised with other executive members regarding these;
- worked with David Moss, Jim McElwee and Marie O'Sullivan on the Grammar project, revising and editing where appropriate.

Mike Rauh, Secretary, June 2021

Communications Officer Report

Once again, thank you to all of the Executive Committee and members for continuing to provide information for sharing on the website. Please continue to share any updates for inclusion where appropriate.

This year has obviously presented a different type of challenge when it comes to meetings, but the solutions offered have been productive.

To facilitate the Spring Series of online seminars, I created a page on the NALA website specifically to advertise the events. I created individual Eventbrite pages for ticketing purposes, and linked each to the website. These events were then advertised via NALA's Twitter account. Between 20 and 30 people attended each session.

The Grammar Project was officially published. Having finished proof-reading the documents, I investigated, set up and tested a download page on the website in preparation for the public launch of the project. The webpage and documents were finalised and published at the end of January.

In addition, I have liaised with the Treasurer regarding outstanding membership payments and new members, and updated Stop Press with links and information.

Marie O'Sullivan

Communications Officer

22/06/21