



**PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

MINUTES

**Saturday 31st March 2018, 6.45 - 7.45 pm
Christopher Cox Room, New College, Oxford**

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Lewin and Naomi Hodgson.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (held on 1 April 2017)

The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Update from the Chair

Despite the clash of dates with the PES conference this year, Paul Standish reported the number of attendees and the number of submissions for the PESGB conference had not been affected. The confirmed dates for the 2019 conference are 29 - 31 March 2019 and these have already been passed on to PES. Our relationship with our bank has provided some challenges this year due to the amount of information they now require on Trustees (and their families) to meet the strict money laundering rules and regulations set up in the USA. To manage this we have changed banks and reduced the number of Trustees. Our Trustees will now be the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society.

5. Secretary's Report

The Society has 22 branches. The North West Branch will now be run by Naomi Hodgson and the Preston Branch by Richard Davies. The branches continue to be very active, holding meetings and events throughout the year. Anyone wishing to set up a new branch is asked to contact the Secretary. A draft annual report to the Charity Commission has been prepared, detailing the work of the Society and benefits available to members. The Society currently has around 650 members, the Journal is flourishing with close to 150,000 downloads recorded, website use is increasing and we continue to support members with Large and Small Grants.

Acceptance of The Trustees Report was proposed by Christine Doddington and seconded by Carrie Winstanley.

Paul Standish thanked Ben Kotzee for his excellent work as Secretary for the last five years. He was presented with a bottle of port.

6. Treasurer's Report, Accounts and Appointment of Auditors

Richard Davies, the Treasurer put forward three motions:

To agree the previous year's accounts

To re-elect Slaters as our auditors

To propose a change in the constitution regarding number of Trustees

The accounts show a small profit for 2017 and have been reviewed by independent reviewers. RD pointed out that the reference to conference includes all conferences throughout the year and not just the Annual Conference.

Amanda Fulford proposed that the Society accept the annual accounts and the proposal was seconded by Mary Richardson.

The Society accounts are prepared by Slaters' and it was proposed to ask them to continue as our reviewers for 2018.

The motion was proposed by David Aldridge and seconded by Carrie Winstanley. There were no objections.

Constitutional Change. Due to HSBC bank closing our account, despite receiving full disclosure from the Society, it was decided the best course of action would be to reduce the number of Trustees from 18 to 3 to ensure future checks on Trustees would be much simpler. The Trustees would be the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Committee would retain authority over the Trustees. Trustees would report to the Executive Committee and the AGM.

Richard Davies proposed the motion and it was seconded by Judith Suissa. The motion was carried by a vote of over two-thirds of the meeting.

Our existing account at Barclays will be used for payment of membership fees and all Society business.

Paul Standish thanked Richard Davies for his work as Treasurer for the past 10 years and for his invaluable service on the Executive Committee for the past 21 years, it was much appreciated by everyone. A bottle of port was presented.

7. Elections

This was the first year we had sent out the election notice early to ask for nominations for the upcoming Executive roles and to allow for proxy voting. Proxy voting had been agreed at last year's AGM to enable all members, and not just those attending the conference, to vote for members of the Executive Committee. Three posts were available this year and only one person was nominated for each post – Treasurer - Naomi Hodgson, Secretary - David Lewin and Elected Member - John

Tillson. No voting was required either by proxy or at the meeting. Members agreed they were happy with the new system and we will continue for 2019 but reassess at the next AGM. For 2019, election notices will be set in January and reminders posted leading up to the nomination deadline.

8. JOPE

Bob Davis explained that the Publisher's Report appeared to have arrived very late but in fact this was because the conference was earlier this year than usual. The Report was extremely positive and showed an increase in subscriptions, downloads and a large spread of responses to a wide range of articles and topics.

The Chair thanked BD for his hard work in another excellent year for the Journal.

9. Annual Conference

Pádraig Hogan faced questions from members on the paper reviewing process concerning reviewers' comments on submissions. It was suggested that one word responses were not sufficient or helpful to submitters. PH will investigate this and discuss at the next conference meeting in June. PH asked the meeting for suggestions for Keynote Speakers for 2019 to be emailed to him. The criteria for workshops will be discussed at the next conference meeting. Many workshops were turned down this year and the conference committee will look at rewording the call to include work in progress sessions. The format of the programme will be reconsidered for 2019, such as replacing one of the three keynote sessions with more parallel sessions, replacing the response with more time for questions from attendees, running two workshops per session instead of three to allow more time for presenters. Four presenters dropped out at the last minute leaving spare sessions in the programme. The conference committee will look at the feasibility of setting up a waiting list for such occasions.

The Chair thanked PH and his committee and reviewers for providing an excellent programme for the Annual Conference.

10. Committee on Race and Ethnicity

The group originally set up in 2015 is growing and working to promote and support the study of philosophy of education addressed to questions of race and ethnicity; recruit new members from racial and ethnic groups currently under-represented in the Society and to create a network for people with an interest in philosophy of education relating to race and ethnicity. The joint chairs are now Judith Suissa and Jack Bicker. Great improvements have been made with more items appearing on the website, meetings held at the conference and the call for papers now includes a reference to race and ethnicity. The meetings at the conference focus on projects going forward and members were asked to contact JS and JB if they are interested in joining or to suggest ideas for future projects.

The Chair thanked JS and Darren Chetty for their great work and welcomed JB to the committee.

11. Large and Small Grants

David Lewin, chair of Large Grants was not at the meeting but provided a report detailing that Large Grants had supported eight candidates in 2018.

The Chair thanked DL and his committee for their excellent work handling the Large Grants selection.

Carrie Winstanley reminded members that the Small Grant had been reduced to £750 and was available every 24 months for conferences, writing retreats and similar applications to fully paid up members, who had been members for at least one year. Small Grants are not available for the PESGB conference or other funded PESGB events. The annual conference already receives a subsidy of £17K to keep costs reasonable for members. A notice to this effect will be added to the website.

The Chair thanked CJW for her work on administering the Small Grants for Society members.

12. Development Committee

Ruth Heilbronn, chair of Development Committee, introduced Andrea English who is taking over from Janet Orchard as ITE co-ordinator. RH asked members to contact her with any ideas they may have for Development Committee to consider.

The Chair thanked RH and her committee for their hard work throughout the year with various initiatives and thanked JO for her many years of excellent service on ITE.

13. Website

The new website is functioning well and continues to attract more users. Mary Richardson, website editor, thanked Kim Thurlow from SAS, for supporting the website steering group and adding information and making changes quickly. The site now supports a substantial collation of images and videos and it is hoped to increase these to make the site more interesting and interactive. The new look Newsletter is now available on line and Ruth Wareham is keen to receive members' contributions. A small number of hard copies will also be produced. Our Social Media presence is growing exponentially but there is still a need for more people to take part in this and spread the name and work of the Society. MR and Naomi Hodgson are both responsible for growing our presence on Facebook and Twitter and welcome all contributions.

The Chair thanked MR, NH and RW for their excellent work on the website and social media.

14. IMPACT

IMPACT 24: *Why Character Education?* (Randall Curren) was launched in October 2017 and the next publication due in 2018 will be *Faith Schools: Principles and Policies* (Matthew Clayton, Andrew Mason, Adam Swift and Ruth Wareham).

The Chair thanked Michael Hand for taking the IMPACT work forward so successfully.

15. BERA Philosophy of Education SIG

Richard Davies announced a BERA and PESGB supported event taking place at Warwick in May 2018 and encouraged members to attend and engage with BERA members. He also asked members to submit to the BERA conference 2019 to promote the presence of the Society.

The Chair thanked RD and David Aldridge for promoting PESGB through their presence on the BERA board and now on BERJ the editorial board of BERA.

16. Any other business

Paul Standish reported that PESGB Executive Committee has sent a letter in support of USS and its work to support pensions. The wording was agreed with the suggestion that it should say that not all PESGB members are members of USS.

PS also thanked SAS for its work on the conference and supporting the Society throughout the year.

17. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at New College, Oxford on Saturday 30th March 2019 at 6.45 pm.