



The Annual General Meeting
of
The National Organisation for Practice Teaching
Thursday 4th November 2021

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**
- 3. Co- Chairs address and report**
- 4. Treasurers Report**
- 5. Election/Ratification of Committee Members**
- 6. Motions for the Meeting**
- 7. Any other business**

NOPT 2021 AGM minutes - Meeting held on 4th November 2021 (online)

Attended: Jill Yates (co-chair), Suzie Cooper (co-chair), Sally Scot, (treasurer), Stuart Hindson (minutes), Alison Flack, Hilda Chehore, Helen Love (member).

1. Apologies:

Helen Stanley, Gemma Webb, Ros Gowers (I.T./Web), Jenny Peddar.
Kay Simister (absent).

2. Matters arising:

2020 AGM none. Minutes accepted Proposed Stuart Hindson, seconded Jill Yates.

3. Co-Chairs address and report:

INTRODUCTION -

The past year has seen NOPT continue to function with a committee of 11. The continuation of the Covid pandemic has meant that since the last AGM we have continued to meet virtually. The NOPT committee and members have continued to support students, practice educators and social workers through testing times. We are amazed at the creativity of our members who have adapted practice situations to ensure that students have been offered opportunities and appropriately supported during the pandemic. The development of good quality placements produces capable and knowledgeable social workers which in turn improves the outcomes for people receiving social work services.

LINKS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS -

- BASW England

NOPT has continued to work with BASW England on the project Look after Your Practice Educator which is a joint initiative encouraging employers to consider what they can do to support their practice educators. The guidance for employed practice educators is in a draft form going through individual NOPT and BASW England committees. Guidance for commissioning the services of Independent Practice Educators is currently being developed. The idea was to have a launch in Spring 2021, but this has been delayed due to the pandemic and it is hoped that this will launch in Spring 2022.

NOPT is represented on BASW England's Professional Capabilities and Development Practice, Policy & Education Group. NOPT committee members have been part of BASW England working group to develop Quality Assurance in Practice Learning (QAPL) Framework which is now on the BASW England website.

Two committee members facilitated a discussion at a BASW England Regional Branch Meeting.

- NICE

NOPT is represented on the NICE social work engagement advisory group which develops guidance for social workers of all levels, practice educators and students in all areas of social work. Guidance is readily available on the NICE website with a relevant selection on NOPT's own site. NICE have recently created some student videos and NOPT will be supporting the organisation in its endeavours to distribute these to students and practice educators.

- The Journal of Practice Teaching & Learning

A NOPT committee member sits on the editorial board of the Journal of Practice Teaching, they assisted in the organising and running of the journal's excellent conference last month. A committee member is currently reviewing a text for the journal and a further committee member has also joined the journal's pool of book reviewers.

- Social Work England

NOPT committee members took part in a Social Work England Professional Experts Group to review its statutory placement guidance.

- OTHER ACTIVITIES

This year committee members have been invited to speak about the work of NOPT at a variety of events including practice educator forums, and PEPS courses. These events provide committee members with opportunity to promote the NOPT, its purpose and vision. In addition, NOPT was asked by Community Care to comment on article regarding student placements during the pandemic and the resulting students' readiness for practice.

- WEBINARS

As the NOPT Conference 2020 was cancelled due to the pandemic, the committee agreed to commission Siobhan Maclean to host three webinars for practice educators. We recognised that practice educators may have been feeling isolated during the pandemic and we wanted to support them. The webinars were free and were held in the first three months of 2021 and included: "New ways of working in practice education: values and ethics as a practice educator" delivered by Siobhan Maclean, "Anti-oppressive practice education: contemporary barriers and enablers" by Dr Prospera Tedam and "Having courageous conversations in placements: feelings, failings and frustrations" by Dr Jo Finch. We were pleased that the webinars were well attended and received by practice educators and led to an increase in membership. These presentations can be accessed on the NOPT website.

- WEBSITE

Work has started on our new website which we are hoping will make it easier for members to access our resources. In addition, we are hoping that there will be increased opportunities to engage with our membership. We are aiming to launch our new website in the new year.

- EMAIL

Our email account has become a bit "clunky" and this has hindered our mailouts. As our new website is developed, we hope to also move to a new email account.

- SOCIAL MEDIA

NOPT still continues to be active on social media with a Facebook account and a Twitter account. The twitter account @NOPTtw now has 946 followers.

- CONFERENCE

Unfortunately, as mentioned above the annual conference again had to be cancelled in 2021 due to the pandemic. We are hoping that the 2022 conference will go ahead at the provisional venue of Sheffield University.

- THANK YOU

The NOPT committee give their time for free and we are so lucky to have such knowledgeable, dedicated and kind committee members, many who work unseen behind the public view. Whilst as co-chairs we are figureheads for the organisation a huge amount of the work of NOPT is carried out by other committee members and the organisation would not exist without the time they give to NOPT. Although during this last year we have not met each other in person, it is has been good to keep in touch remotely and know that there are little satellites across the country promoting good quality practice learning. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow committee members who care so much about the calibre of social work practice education.

The committee thanked Suzie and Jill for their hard work over the last 12months.

4.Treasurers Report:

Financial year April 2020 to April 2021

In summary: NOPT Income was £0

NOPT Expenditure was £ 3,848

In the financial year 2020-2021 NOPT made a loss of £ 3,848

Breakdown of expenditure:

20-21		Previous year
Conference costs	£0	£1,405
Post/stationery	£34	£34
Travel/refreshments.....	£60	£1,851
Website (Fig).....	£514	£0
Training costs (Kirwin Maclean).....	£2,880	£0
Accountancy.....	£360	£360

Income - There was no conference. We hosted workshops online so we did not generate any income.

Comment-In the previous financial year (2019 -2020) we made a profit of £ 1,608.

As meetings have been remote we have not incurred any travel costs since Jan 2020.

Bank balance in March 2021 was £11,221.

Proposed by Sally Scott accepted by the committee.

5.Election/Ratification of Committee Members:

Membership of the committee is for a 3-year period. Current committee -election - Jenny Peddar 2021, Jill Yates 2019, Sally Scott 2019, Ros Gower2021, Helen Stanley 2021, Stuart Hindson 2021, Gemma Webb 2021, Alison Flack 2021, Hilda Chehore 2021, Kay Simister 2021.Re elected Suzie Cooper proposed Alison Flack, seconded Sally Scott. Committee membership 11. Vacancy 1.

6.Motions for the Meeting:

None.

7.Any other business:

Planned conference venue/date- Sheffield Hallam University 12th July 2022.