

# **ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE TUTORS AND ASSESSORS**

## **MINUTES OF TWENTYFIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**The City Lit, Keeley Street, London, WC1B 4BA**

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2014**

### **1] Notice convening the meeting**

The meeting commenced at 10.10am with the Chair welcoming the members,

Olga Lamb, who is on the staff at the City Lit, informed all present of health and safety issues.

The Chair outlined the programme for the day and informed members that all participants in the day's workshops would receive a certificate of attendance for their CPD portfolios.

### **2] Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from: Colin Ayres, Nathalie Koenig, Robin Herdman, David Pilkington, Geraldine Gray, Robert Adam, Jacqueline Swinbourne, Melvyn Arnold, Mary Fallon, Marika Rebicsec, Linda Day, Reita Bansal, Kathryn Gray, Jean Fox, Paul Newbury, Pat Chandler, Judith Collins, Anne Diamond, Emma Somerville, Samba Coker, Julie Parker and Sandra Duguid and Ceiri Van Haeften,

### **3] Minutes of twentyfourth Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the twentyfourth Annual General Meeting held at the City Lit on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 had been sent to members prior to the meeting. The chair asked members if these minutes were correct. Emma Iliffe proposed that the minutes be approved, seconded by Davina Merricks. The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chair.

### **4] Accounts for the year 2013**

The audited and approved accounts of the Association for the year 2013 had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. The Treasurer said she was happy with the financial position of the Association and gave a presentation with a graph comparing previous and present membership and accounts.

After a question regarding interpreter costs and possible use of Access to Work funding had been answered the Accounts were accepted unanimously by all present and signed by the Chair and Treasurer.

### **5] Approval of Auditors**

The Treasurer explained that the Association's auditor was a deaf man, Kevin Whalley, a qualified accountant with his own business, and asked if anyone would like to propose any other person or company as the Associations accountants. No other names were proposed and Kevin Whalley was accepted as the Association's auditor for the year 2014. It was suggested that the Treasurer could possibly obtain quotes from other accountants to do this work in future years.

## 6] Election of Officers of the Association

Melinda Napier [Chair] and Charles Herd [Secretary] had announced previously that they were stepping down from their posts. Committee members Olga Lamb, Sandra Duguid and Emma Iliffe were also stepping down as committee members. Gillian Stringer [Treasurer] will continue.

A nomination had been received from Ashley Clifford prior to the meeting for Emma Iliffe as Chair, this had been seconded by Judith Kidd. No other nominations having been received Emma Iliffe was accepted unanimously.

Davina Merricks proposed Penny Beschizza as Secretary, seconded by Gillian Stringer, no other nominations having been received, Penny Beschizza was duly elected.

Emma Iliffe had proposed Ashley Clifford for the committee prior to the meeting, seconded by Olga Lamb. The Chair asked for nominations for remaining three committee members from the floor. Ashley Clifford proposed Robert McCluskey, seconded by Judith Kidd, Penny Beschizza proposed Liz Brown, seconded by Emma Iliffe. No other nominations being proposed Jo Thomson will continue on the committee.

The full Executive Committee for the year 2013 will be:

Emma Iliffe:	Chair
Penny Beschizza:	Secretary
Gillian Stringer:	Treasurer
Joanne Thomson	
Ashley Clifford	
Robert McCluskey	
Liz Brown	

## Proposals for changes to the Constitution

Ashley Clifford proposed that the title 'Tutor' in the name of the Association be changed to 'Teacher', this was seconded by Sue Whalley and accepted unanimously by all.

The Treasurer proposed that membership fees be payable on the 1st of April each year instead of on joining, seconded by Tina Kemp and approved unanimously.

Ashley Clifford proposed that the 'The Executive Committee be elected for a period of two years' instead of the existing one year, this was seconded by Liz Brown and approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 11.50am

Signed ..... Chair Date .....