



AAPTLE Meeting #30 – 06/04/2021

Minutes

AAPTLE Minutes 06/04/2021

Chair: Johanna Town

Minutes: Ian Saunders

Attendees:

PMF - Dan Shelley, Mandy Ivory-Castile
ALD- Lucy Carter, Mark Jonathan, Johanna Town, Ian Saunders, Stuart Porter
ASD - Dominic Bilkey
CITEA - Nikki Edmonds, Catherine Kodicek, Chanel McCartney, Charlie Rungen
ABTT - David Evans
FMTW - Peter Mckintosh
Scene/Change - Emma Bailey
SMA - Owen Thomas
SBTD - David Farley, Nicky Shaw, Louie Whitemore
ABTTAC - John Valente
MDA - Ayse Tashkiran
PMA - Tracey Elliston
ASAM - Sadeysa Greenaway-Bailey
CFW / LLCC - Garrin Clarke

All action points are located at the bottom of the minutes

1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 - Welcome to Garrin Clarke who was attending his first meeting. (mtg 29# AP1)
- 1.2 - Puppetry groups have been approached but no-one currently available to attend - will keep working to connect.

2. Minutes from previous meetings ratified

The minutes were ratified for publishing whilst allowing for changes to be made.

2.1 - Action Points from Previous Meetings

2.1.1 AP #1 - David Evans to give ALD details to invite Garrin Clarke for next meeting - **DONE**

2.1.2 - RESET Better -

For all involved to take the Reset Better charter back to their respected organisations and associations, then to feedback in the AAPTLE meeting on the 20th of April with regards to comments and the possibility of adoption of the charter.

There will be another PMF / Rest Better open online forum on 26th April.

Action Point #1 - REMINDER that this will be an agenda item at next meeting

2.1.2 - For all groups if they are willing and happy to share the details of the social media contacts with the social media team to help streamline the process of sharing information on social media. **AP #2 - REMINDER**

2.1.3 - V&A Letter

AAPTLE Letter was sent, but V&A have announced a reassessment of their plans. See response sent to Scene Change - text on Slack Channel

2.1.4 - Reflect on the #NotHereAllYear campaign and zoom social and what is next?

Is it possible to see some statistics about how far the social media campaign reached? and how successful it was?

AP#3 - Social Media WG for report back relevant info

2.1.5 - Pay Rate Working Group to be set up

AP#4 - REMINDER - For those who want to get involved in the pay rate working groups to join the respective slack channel.

2.1.6 - Voice & Dialect Coaches to be invite to attend AAPTLE Meetings

Unsure of progress since last meeting - action point remains active

AP#5 - AF will reach out to some that she knows and invite them individually.

2.1.6 - List of All Working groups and members on Google drive

The document can now be found in AAPTLE / Organisational folder of drive

AP#6 - REMINDER - For all of those involved in working groups to put their names into the google document

2.1.8 - Ideas for running & organisation of AAPTLE

See discussion from the meeting itself...

3. Agenda points from previous meeting that have rolled over into this meeting

3.1 - A few updates have been added to the action points review above

4. New Agenda Points

4.1 - How Should AAPTLE Work in the Future? -

The Alliance is only 6 - 8 months old, has done some good work and seems to be coming established as a forum for the various groups to work together and share. Being an umbrella group of Associations, formal and informal groupings is a good positive approach. It doesn't have to be a fight between groups and we can achieve things together where there are common causes, themes and topics.

But what do we want to achieve further down the line? How can we future proof ourselves and work starts to begin again?

- talking about things we would not have talked about before
- creating a bigger voice for us all as theatre makers.
- aim to continue the spirit of openness between groups.
- Is there a way to obtain funding or find paid admin support?
- Lots has been achieved and some of it in a short period of time, but we don't need to work at that rate constantly.

What are the longer term goals?

- Most APPTLE groups are small and / or have limited budgets
- The lack of dedicated admin will limit the work going forward
- A dedicated person with set hours per week is necessary to ensure the workflow keeps happening.
- Any admin support would need external funding - external funding will need an official structure / banking etc.
- There may be people who have time to do the work, but they will need paying
- The consistency of a single person of contact is key.
- Is there an organisation who could offer their administrator some extra hours to work for AAPTLE?

Is there a way to attract funding under the guise of individual projects or research? eg the pay equity & structures issue.

Perhaps a university could help with resources for such a project?

An overview and consistency of data and reporting is necessary across all AAPTLE groups and would necessitate a dedicated resource. Perhaps someone who has experience in studying statistics and data and then reporting back.

When does AAPTLE work start to duplicate the work of individual groups? Need to be careful / cautious that we are not just creating another association. It works well BECAUSE it is an alliance of different viewpoints and experiences that often have a commonality, but each group has a specific focus of discipline and specialist area of expertise. Don't want to burden Associations (and their reps!)

Need to pinpoint the issues and subjects that AAPTLE should work collectively on and then fund that as a specific project. Administration could then be done on a project basis.

Learning from each other and reporting back on each group's projects is an important part of the Alliance. It helps to inspire, teach and points towards the direction of work.

4.2 - Future Meetings

Less frequent meetings would allow more time to carry out actions, especially as the industry starts to re-open and

- schedule to move to monthly meetings?
- Quarterly - but have a longer meeting to cover all the issues?
- Shorter fortnightly meetings to keep the conversation going?
- 45 min meeting for brainstorming current topics?

Specific project working groups could create a written reporting process ahead of meetings raising issues or questions that need to be discussed further? This could also work for each group work in progress report. Allows time in meeting to discuss topics rather than passively listen to reports. Regular updates on a rotation basis to restrict overload of reading material?

A single point of contact between meetings is also required. The association hosting is responsible for the time-period after their meeting until the next one.

Alternatively, single groups could chair two consecutive meetings along the current fortnightly timeframe. Allows time to drive the work across a four-week period. Gives consistency and time to fulfil action points.

Projects could remain as separate entities within the working group format to focus the work to the timetable necessary to achieve the required outcomes.

Suggestion that there is an interim period of one short and one long meeting per month hosted by a single association. The long meeting would be the first one of the pair, with the shorter meeting to follow up on actions and progress two weeks later.

AP #7 - What would we want to achieve the next six months?

Individual groups (that have the requisite structure) could take on funding / driving specific projects. The individual organisations' constitutions / aims will dictate what topics might be relevant to them.

Important to engage with subjects that are relevant to association aims and not replicating work already being done elsewhere.

Need to extend the contacts from individual groups to expand the pool of people and spread any burden that arises. Projects can only complete their work if there are people working on them. Specific project timeframes are also important to judge commitment required in order to interest a wider membership.

AAPTLE should be supporting newer groups that have recently set up as it is important that we support each other.

4.3 - AAPTLE Social Meetings

Should AAPTLE be holding more social meetings?

There is a combined PLASA / ABTT theatre show at Olympia in September and the timing may allow for in-person meetings. Maybe a social hub or 'marketplace' could be created where all the AAPTLE organisation stands are grouped together to help build that bond across groups? ALD & ASD pointed out that they have historically attended both individual shows and have not yet heard about what is planned or who may be doing it. Don't want to be spoilt across the two show floors or be considered as part of one but not the other.

AP#8 - DE to talk to ABTT show organisers to see what may be possible.

We should also allow for the virtual element too as people will not always be able to travel to be in-person.

5. Update from Working Groups

5.1 - Reset Better

5.2 - Education

5.3 - Unions

5.4 - Representation within AAPTLE

6. Housekeeping Notices

6.1 - Next meeting

Next meeting will be held on the 29th April and will be a short one (see notes above). **The time however MAY CHANGE**
There will be a poll to see if there is a particular time of day that may be better than others. If not set before the next meeting it should be discussed further as an agenda item to try and find a consensus.

Need to assess and be aware of when meetings are held and how it affects freelancers who are trying to 'RESET Better' and get their breaks and some fresh air as they go back to work.

AP#9 OT to circulate poll to establish possible new meeting times.

OT will also update the hosting timetable in light of today's conversation to convert it to a two meeting commitment per organisation.

AP#10 OT to circulate updated timetable

6.2 - Slack Etiquette

REMINDER - Is there a need to have a policy on sending messages and the timing of these. In which it was pointed out that different people have different working hours that they can allocate to AAPTLE. So the best policy going forward is use the notifications setting in Slack to limit these to each person's specific needs. If anyone does need a hand with these settings to contact either Owen from the SMA or Dan from the PMF who can help with setting these up.

7.AOB

7.1 - REMINDER - WeMakeEvents have launched a new campaign aimed at raising funds for Backup - The Technical Entertainment Charity called "One Two" which you can text ONETWO followed by the amount you want to donate to 70085 (for example to donate £5 text ONETWO5 to 70085). This was launched with a fantastic YouTube featuring some of the UK top actors and comedians each one sharing a touching tribute to the magic of live shows and the hardworking crew who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday 20th of April Hosted by: The ALD

Action Points from this meeting

AP #1 - REMINDER that RESET BETTER CHARTER this will be an agenda item at next meeting

AP #2 - For all involved to take the Reset Better charter back to their respected organisations and associations, then to feedback in the AAPTLE meeting on the 20th of April with regards to comments and the possibility of adoption of the charter.

AP#3 - Social Media WG for report back relevant info on #NotHereAllYear campaign

AP#4 - REMINDER - For those who want to get involved in the pay rate working groups to join the respected slack channel.

AP#5 - AF will reach out to some Voice & Dialect Coaches that she knows and invite individually.

AP#6 - REMINDER - For all of those involved in working groups to put their names into the google document

AP #7 - What does AAPTLE want to achieve the next six months?

AP#8 - DE to talk to ABTT show organisers to see what may be possible (stand grouping / offer).

AP#9 OT to circulate poll to establish new meeting times.

AP#10 OT to circulate updated timetable