

Council for Learning Outside the Classroom Annual General Meeting Minutes

Thursday 7th November 2019

Blackpool Tower Ballroom

1. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. OPENING REMARKS

Anthony Thomas, Chair of CLOtC Board of Trustees, welcomed attendees and gave a summary of the highlights of 2018/2019. Emphasising that the charity has now entered its 10th year. He expressed his pride at the impact made by this small charity with a big network and a huge heart. Over the last decade, CLOtC has supported schools across the country to provide life-changing learning outside the classroom opportunities to more than 18 million children. It has done this by:

- Training more than 6,500 teachers and educators
- Awarding LOtC Mark to 210 exemplary schools
- Accrediting 1,824 different places with the LOtC Quality Badge and LOtC Site Provider award

CLOtC has worked tirelessly to raise the profile of learning outside the classroom on a national level, promoting its benefits, influencing and challenging policy and practice, none of this would have been possible without the support of its 1,702 members past and present who have supported its work financially and by ensuring that the charity has a louder voice when campaigning for learning outside the classroom. The charity has accomplished much of this with a small but dedicated team of five staff members and 10 voluntary trustees who work with a wider network of committed sector groups.

Looking to the future the charity is excited to be developing a closer working partnership with the Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel, in order to strengthen and increase the support offered to schools. This is a major step forward but not a new move. The two organisations have 10 years of intrinsically linked history and this joint conference seals the start of an ever-closer working partnership.

The aim is to bring the organisations together to increase their collective impact and reach and to make it easier for schools to know where to turn for guidance, support, training, assurance, evidence and advocacy for all learning outside the classroom experiences; across the full breadth of learning spaces and contexts, whether these are taken within school grounds or farther away, on short educational trips or longer residential, close to home or abroad.

Over the next six months the boards of both organisations have committed to exploring what the partnership will look like and are keen to involve the members and partners of both organisations in the development process. Members and partners will be encouraged to help shape and define the future-plans to facilitate the sustaining, enhancing and greatly extending the collective offer to schools.

Tony asked that any questions on this be directed to the CLOtC and OEAP stands.

Tony also announced the recent appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer, Dr Anne Hunt, who will lead CLOtC through this next chapter. Anne takes up the post on 2 December taking over from Kim Somerville. Over the last 18 months Kim has made a huge impact by stabilising CLOtC's financial position, promoting

membership and providing services to support many more schools take their learning outside the classroom. Thank you, Kim, you will be missed.

3. ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 APRIL 2017 UNTIL 31 MARCH 2018

The report was unanimously accepted.

Proposed by – Rob Lucas

Seconded by – Justin Dillon

4. Appointment of Independent Examiner

The Board recommends the re-appointment of Haines Watts, as CLOtC's independent examiners for the period ending on 31 March 2020. This recommendation was unanimously accepted.

Proposed by – Steve Dool

Seconded by – Rob Lucas

5. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Two trustees are stepping down at this conference – Tony Thomas and Rob Lucas. Peter Carne is also stepping down from his elected provider seat.

We therefore have two provider seats available and have received two excellent nominations from:

- Felix Pepler, Head of Centre at Ingestre Arts Residential Centre
- Simon Ward, Head of East Region at the Field Studies Council

Felix and Simon will automatically be elected onto the Board of Trustees.

The board have also approved that the following trustees be co-opted to the board for their skills and experience which will support the charity with its future direction:

- Peter Carne
- Andy Marsden
- Louise Edwards

On behalf of the board Tony thanked Rob Lucas and congratulated Felix, Simon, Peter, Andy and Louise.

CLOSING REMARKS

Tony introduced the new chair of CLOtC, Steve Dool, and invited him up to the stage.

Steve thanked Tony on behalf of CLOtC trustees, staff and members for his many years of support and dedication to the cause of learning outside the classroom. Tony established CLOtC and has been hugely instrumental in making it the successful organisation it is today. He will be a champion of CLOtC and continue to support the charity and its goals. In recognition of his contribution Steve announced that CLOtC are giving Tony a Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Contribution to LOtC, Tony came back to the stage to receive the award and receive a lengthy ovation.