



**Action Minutes of the meeting of the Karten Network Board  
held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at The Thomas Pocklington Hub**

**Directors Present**

Arwyn Jones (Chair)  
Rohan Slaughter (Vice Chair)  
Robert Boyce  
Joe Cash  
David Finch

**In Attendance**

Max Bianconi (Prospective Director)  
Paul Doyle (Prospective Director)  
Debbie Ben-Tal by video conference from 13.00  
Dawn Green  
Martin Pistorius

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Sal Cooke, Anthony Davis, Matthew Kayne and Vic Myko.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting (20.02.19)**

The minutes were approved as a true record by those present at the last meeting.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes**

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed, some items will be covered in this meeting's agenda.

**4. Introductions from Prospective Board Directors**

Directors invited Max Bianconi and Paul Doyle to deliver presentations regarding their experiences and motivations to join the Karten Network Board. Each presentation was followed by a brief Q&A session. Deliberations occurred during item 9.

## 5. 2019-20 Strategic and Operational Plan

Directors received an update of the 19-20 plan, a progress review and impact comments were added. Directors were in agreement that this is a useful oversight tool.

DF asked about Karten/TechAbility/Natspec representation within the DfE's Ed Tech Leadership Group. DG & RS have a meeting later this afternoon with Robert Rodney and will report back in due course. RS gave an overview of relevant representation on the Expert Practitioners group – includes RS, PD and TechAbility's Neil Beck

## 6. Events including Centenary Year Plans and Awards

A centenary event will be planned for October 2020 – 2020 is Ian Karten's centenary year.

DG referred to the paper which had been circulated to encourage discussion and ideas. Feedback from Directors will be compiled and taken to the IKCT Trustees meeting in September 2019.

DF thought that celebrating Ian's legacy and Karten Centre achievements was important.

AJ thinks that the purpose needs to be clear. Is it celebratory, recognising achievement, an opportunity to influence or a combination of these things? Clarity is required.

The purpose and target audience will inform the venue. If we're celebrating the impact of the technology for beneficiaries then should we be looking for a technology/innovation hub? Directors felt strongly that large corporate venues should be avoided (Microsoft, Google, Amazon).

Directors asked DG to research venue options – preferably futuristic, technology focused places. Explore UCL, Technology Hub, Big Innovation Centre and others. Flex according to Trustees decisions.

DG

### **Video production**

Directors enjoyed watching an example of New Bridge productions work. Directors were impressed with the quality of work and happy to ask New Bridge to work on 2 productions for us. To be ready for Directors to preview at their July 2020 meeting.

The productions should be celebratory, show the life of Centres in 2020 (historical snapshot), demonstrate challenge, be strategic, include some lobbying. They should be structured to show the past, present and signpost the future.

**Awards**

Karten Awards will be introduced at the event.

**Directors to send ideas for categories and awards to DG by email** All

**Centenary task teams**

Two virtual groups to be established for further planning.

1. Event planning
  2. Video production (DF & JC expressed an interest in this group).
- DG

**Other events**

DG gave Directors details of the TechAbility Conference and encouraged them to register and share with others.

<https://natspec.org.uk/events/techability-conference-raising-standards/>

TechAbility webinars will continue next academic year. The YouTube channel provides a really good resource or previous webinar recordings – great for CPD.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIQNUqK0ICK7tEd8rGaBmFUF5Lu4yyH-p>

**Beneficiary event**

Unfortunately, there was no interest in the beneficiary event planned for London in June. We may try to organise another in a different area.

**7. Dundee Professional Development framework**

RS provided a verbal update as there was insufficient progress to warrant a paper. All Directors were in agreement for the need to professionalise the AT role. Directors offered support to RS. RS kindly offered to report back in due course.

RS

**8. Centre engagement and performance**

Directors received the reports and noted re-formatting and improvements based on their suggestions last year. Directors were interested in what buddying, networking and support opportunities were available to those centres deemed to be under-performing. DG referred to various aspects of support that can now be offered across the network –these include visits from DG, MP, TechAbility and peer support.

**9. Confidential item – Board Directors only**

MB & PD were asked to leave to enable Directors to have a discussion about their presentations. Directors felt that MB offered continuity from SW in the social care context and that he had many relevant skills and interests.

Directors felt that PD would be a huge asset, they noted his involvement in APPGAT and BATA, he brings a wealth of experience and a strategic focus. PD is leaving Hereward at the end of the academic year.

Directors concluded that both MB & PD have much to offer and should be invited to join the Board. This was communicated to both.

**DG to develop a Declaration of Business Interests form for all Directors to complete on an annual basis** DG

**DG to interface with MB, PD and Angela Reeve to complete the relevant paperwork for Companies House** DG

**10. Annual accounts year ending 2018**

Due to delays from the accountants Sproull and Co the annual accounts were approved by email. This is not ideal but was necessary.

Directors approved the accounts for the year ending September 2018 and thanked AJ and RS for approving on their behalf by email.

**DG will ask Angela Reeve to ask Sproull and Co to produce the 2019 annual accounts draft in time for the February 2020 Board Meeting.** DG

**Items for information**

**11. Karten Network Development Co-ordinator update**

Dawn's paper was received. DF asked about the impact of FitzRoy's AT. DG was pleased to report early impact from the successful appointment. AJ encouraged Directors to attend Centre visits.

**12. MTA Update**

Martin's paper was received.

**13. Israel Karten Centres update - presentation**

Debbie's paper was received. Debbie joined the meeting remotely providing a presentation about IsrALS. This was followed by a Q&A session. Debbie was thanked for her contribution, all Directors agreed that it was a good way of getting an insight into the life of Israeli Karten Centres.

**14. Any other relevant business**

DF told those present about an opportunity to run a schools visit programme through ERASMUS. This could include colleges in the UK & schools in Israel. Opportunities to be explored further.

**DG,  
DF,  
DBT**

DBT asked to consider how centres in Israel can be involved. DG will include in the planning

**DG**

The meeting closed at 14.30.



**Date and time of next meeting**

11.15 on 14 November 2019

Sue Townsend Room, Pocklington Hub, Entrance D, Tavistock  
House South Tavistock Square London WC1H 9LG