

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PLAY THERAPISTS

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In person (at BAPT Awayday)

Saturday 27th September 2025, 10.00 am.

Minutes

Present

Member	Role
Sarah Hickson	Chair (SH)
Jeanne McLaughlin	Vice Chair/ Supervisors Committee (JMc)
Esther Schencks	Communications and PR Committee (ES)
Alex Machon	Membership Committee (AM)
Maggie Fearn	International Ambassador (MF)

In Attendance

Sarah Zehetmayr-McCall	PCP Chair (SZM)
Sonia Murray	PCP Vice Chair (SM)
Jacqui Clarke	Business Manager (JC)
Tracey Trevorrow	Administrator (TT)

Apologies

Andrew O'Mahony	Lay Member (AOM)
Tracy Lanigan	Scottish Representative (TL)
Jo Hill	Board Member (JH)
Paul Kilgallon	Lay Member (PK)

Structure

Meeting Chair: SH

Minute Taker: JC

The meeting opened at 10.20am and was quorate at all times.

Documents Circulated Prior to meeting:

Training Proposal

1. Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that this meeting was a short one with two key agenda items. Most standing items would be part of the October Board meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Supervisors Course

The Board discussed the feedback provided by JM on the training course. It was agreed that this was a very comprehensive course, and credit was given to the author for the quality and detail.

The Board discussed the options around training and delivery.

The Board agreed there was lots of opportunity to build on the course, ensuring that professional practice issues such as Subject Access Requests and Consent are included.

There were also likely to be updates required to the course in the future e.g. on the use of AI and online working and as such the course will grow and develop over time.

It was agreed that a full business model for the course was required which took all of this into consideration, including potential growth and market research on likely take up.

Action: To develop a full business model which will be discussed and agreed at a BAPT Board and taken to BAPT AGM in May 2026 to explain to members (JM & JC)

The Board discussed the need to ensure that legally BAPT were able to update and make additions to the course over. It was agreed a mutual solution to this would be discussed with the author.

The Board agreed to the purchase of the training Course, pending agreement on the above. The Board also noted the agreement from four Board members who were not present at the meeting, but had sent approval over email.

Action: JM to confirm agreement to purchase training course and discuss property rights.

Action: JC to work on contract requirements.

4. Annual Members Event 2026

SH updated the Board on discussions that have taken place to move the timing of the BAPT annual Conference from late November. This is due to adverse weather conditions which have sometimes affected the conference, and it was also noted that that period was particularly busy for some members of the organisation.

In turn a variety of suggestions had been considered with some proving problematic for students (course deadlines, semester dates), and major holidays around the regions. Dates in May and June had been circulated to members via the Facebook group and 38% had voted in favour of 30th May 2026.

It was noted that whilst the post had 'reached' 286 members, it was not known how many had actually voted; and that votes were counted at a snapshot in time.

The Board were informed that other dates in May and June were not available at the proposed venue. It was further explained that the time from November to May was not long enough to put on a full conference and so the event would be a one-day CPD event instead. A full conference would be planned for 2027.

It is hoped that the current conference team would be keen to continue supporting both the CPD event in 2026 and the conference in 2027.

Action: TT to check whether preferred date is still available with venue and confirm booking.

To ensure all individuals required to support the event have access to, and are aware of how, to access relevant information e.g. members group contacts.

The Board discussed items that would be provided to attendees and sold in the shop. After some consideration, a value for the personalised BAPT highlighters was approved.

Going forward the Board agreed that it was extremely important to the organisation that they look for opportunities to be as environmentally conscious as possible in their purchases and planning.

5. AOB

In response to a query regarding International Members it was confirmed that only BAPT Full Members can act as BAPT Approved Supervisors.

It was also confirmed that academic institutions outside of the British regions could not join BAPT, with a recommendation made that they could join the IC-PTA or APT.

The meeting ended at 11.25pm