

Minutes of the meeting of the Karten Network held on 31st October 2013 at the offices of RNIB, Judd Street, London WC1.

Present

Dawn Green (Chair)
Mubina Asaria
Joel Elias
Matthew Kayne
Christine Price

In Attendance

Ceri Hibbert
Angela Hobbs

1. Apologies

Dave Fullerton
Tim Simon
Rohan Slaughter
Anthony Davis (IKCT Trustee)

2. Minutes of the last meeting (17.07.13)

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

DG said that funding from the EFA would only be available to colleges who were graded either "outstanding" or "very good". No funds would be considered for "needs improvement" or "inadequate". There is a potential for CTECs to tap into this source. DG and CH to talk to centres.
CH has setting up a Twitter feed on her list of jobs.

DG
CH

4. Chair's Update

DG and CH recently attended the Technology Advisory Group meeting. The group will be looking at the technology and infrastructure needs of education providers in the specialist sector. There will be more to report at a later date.

5. Website Update

MA said that she now has an administrator's permitted log in to our website. There have been recent changes to keep it up to date. MA asked CH to send her a suitable image from one of the regional meetings to place on our home page. MA and CH are planning a sequence of changing features.

CH

6. Network Manager's Report

CH tabled her report, which contained centre visits and other activities and had been distributed to board members prior to the meeting. A website link to Twitter was discussed. DG to ask at Landmarks how this may be set up. CH said she would put slides from the regional meetings on the website.

CH

7. Update on Centres in Israel

CH gave an update on Centres in Israel. The Karten Trust is currently considering charities in Israel who have expressed an interest in having a CTEC Centre. These are Shalva, Chimes and Rashi. TMS and CH to visit centres in Israel in February. Debbie Ben-Tal, who lives in Israel, has recently been appointed to visit and oversee centres over there. Equipment has also been given to IsrALS, enabling the work with people with Motor Neurone disease to continue.

8. Karten Network Strategy

CH circulated a draft strategy plan prior to the meeting. It was felt that the content, so far, was very good. CH to do further work on it and will circulate again before the next meeting. **CH**

9. Regional Events

The two regional meetings, held so far, were considered a huge success. There was a very positive impact on those who attended. The benefits were that delegates didn't have so far to travel and could interact with local people. A greater number of people have signed up for the meetings than at previous conferences.

DG thanked, on behalf of board members, CH for all her hard work in arranging the meetings. All agreed that they have been a huge success and we should consider and develop them for the future. TMS said, prior to the meeting, they are a tribute to CH and the amount of work and attention to detail she puts into them. It was suggested that a discussion takes place at the January meeting as to whether regional meetings are preferable to conferences. CH to put on the January meeting's agenda. **CH**

DG suggested that we set up an interactive feedback board at the meetings to enable attendees to post their comments rather than have feedback forms. This could be in the form of "post-it" notes.

10. Any other business

DG said that on 28th November TechDis are hosting an on-line safer internet planning session. DG to obtain more details of how to access it and circulate information. **DG**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.00.p.m.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 23rd January 2014 at 11.15a.m.at the offices of RNIB, Judd Street, London WC1.