## Minutes of ABTT Training and Education Committee,

## on Tuesday 13th October, 2020, 14.00 – 15.30

By Zoom

**Attending;** Sebastian B (Chair), Rikki N (RN), Lousie B (LB), Kathryn G (KG), Geoff J (GJ), Robin T (RT), Richard H-H (RHH), Steve M(SMc) late.

We welcome a new committee member, Richard Hank-Hill.

**Apologies:,** Clare H (CH), Ros M (RM), David E (DE), Dave G (DG), Tom M (TM), John Y (JY), Mig B (MB), Peter M (PMc), Martin S (MS), David B (DB), Mark W (MW), Alexander Cann (AC)

**1. Minutes of the last meeting.**

Last meeting minutes were accepted.

There was a brief discussion on a disparity pointed out between our Tallescope COP and one question on our Bronze course, on the safe direction to move a Tallescope on a raked stage. Agreed we should point to individual risk assessments.

**Action; GJ to forward our debate on Tallescope orientation to our Safety Committee for comment.**

**Information:**

1. **Training Courses update.**

GJ noted the results from a recent ‘call out’ for training venues. This pleasantly resulted in arranging a Bronze at Derby in September, Silver Electrical at Cheltenham, Bronze at Mountview. There is a move to put theatre apprentices on our Bronze course.

We’re planning to do a Bronze in November at Stevenage, and a Bronze in January 2021 in Derby. We would like to deliver a Silver course in Easter 2021.

We’ve arranged to deliver our Bronze at the Guilford School of Acting, as part of an ongoing relationship with this university and Mig Burgess. It is intended to allow the GSA to include our Bronze content within their theatre technical course. It was noted that the module sequence should reflect the early stage of students, ie including H&S early and leaving Tallescope to later. This will help delivering to apprentices, ensuring they are at least 6 months into their course before attempting our Bronze.

We have a booking for 2 Bronze modules by University of Greenwich, Manual Handling and Electrical Fundamentals.

SB to continue researching alternative venues across the country.

KG asked where non-student candidates are coming from? GJ was encouranged to see they were venue staff in Birmingham, Cambridge, Tamworth, and a range of schools. LB has had an enquiry from BOA in Birmingham for some staff.

RN suggested we target theatres that might be planning to reopen in 2021.

**Action; SB to ask Elysia for a breakdown of candidates by location/ type of organisation.**

**3. Online training.**

SB asked if this is still a good idea to create content to deliver remote live and online. There was a discussion on what style might suit the industry now. Agreed a mixture of remote live and on demand materials.

GJ noted some barriers to delivering some Silver practical content online. RN noted the model used by St John’s Ambulance, a mix of remote access supported by local tutor support. We agreed that remote delivery is good for updating existing learning. Tutor to small numbers using live online delivery.

We discussed how we might create online updates that line up with changes in regulations.

**Discussion:**

**4. Revise our meeting schedule (SB)**

We agreed to the proposed meetings in 2021, below.

**5. CSCS Card (SB)**

Peter Maccoy not available. Carried over to next meeting.

[https://www.podiumtechnieken.be/en/health-safety-and-sustainability/ette](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.podiumtechnieken.be%2Fen%2Fhealth-safety-and-sustainability%2Fette&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cbb823a660b2f4807fdd408d8018a7c6f%7Ccee8b10efc9f4811941abfa16c112a10%7C0%7C0%7C637261041590486720&sdata=iOFc%2FJp4UOfLB%2FR6tIvzG1msGtAOJxjJ9Due8Rh38Qo%3D&reserved=0)

**6. Webinars (SB)**

SB outlined a recent Apprentice Network event in September, next events planned on October 14th with PLASA, 3rd November, December tbc. SB outlined how Tamykha Patterson started this series and a parallel LinkedIn group. RHH noted City College have arranged a similar event, involving students interviewing a range of professionals.

**ABTT Production Innovation Award (RT)**

Nikki Scott and David Evans are liaising with Guildhall School of Music and Drama on the development before the launch. SB outlined this award is aimed to recognise innovative ideas in our sector in younger people.

**7. AOB:**

- Temperature checking in venues, part of Covid measures, is this practiced? GJ noted this was daily at Mounview School. Other noted Kings theatre, ROH, are practicing this for a mix of staff and audience. We agreed there is a debate of the validity of this measure. It is used in conjunction with other measures. We agreed there is inconsistency across the country.

There was a discussion on recent experiences with Covid phone apps and issues with these.

We noted differing experiences in a range of venues with both phone apps and analogue recording of contact details. We share concerns about data security. KG noted the National use personal devices that alert people to potential hazardous proximity.

KG asked about progress with CVT (Creative Venue Technician) apprentice end-point assessments and any effects on apprentices? SB noted these are still happening at a slow rate, all by remote. LB noted some issues with the lack of learning practical skills in the current situation. There are some confusions with preparing apprentices for End Point Assessment, lack of clarity of the process. SB noted some advantages with the temporary replacement the Observation element, accounting for Covid restrictions.

We noted concerning inconsistencies between training providers’ learning plans for these apprenticeships. LB is concerned that an unreasonable level of written evidence is needed, that doesn’t consider very differing learning needs. LB is keen to continue to produce her own learning consistent and relevant learning plans.

RT noted we should feed our concerns to the CVT employers development group, through John Young. The IFATE is involved in an initial review of this and other sector standards, to ensure alignment with industry practices and information. They want to consider amalgamating the CVT and Live Event Tech standards. We want to review the grading criteria for wider inclusion, clarify some of the language of sections of the standard, and possibly add a multiple choice test.

LB noted she has fed back our comments to John Young. KG noted her benefit in keeping up dated from our perspective to inform her work with the IFATE.

**Action; SB and LB to update this group on the trends with CVT apprentices.**

GJ noted our later course start time of 11.00 to account for Covid travel issues benefits candidates and tutors.

SMc asked what numbers we’re allowing on our Bronze course? GJ noted we are restricting to 6 maximum candidates, at the moment. We are also reducing practical elements against larger numbers for knowledge sections.

**Meetings in 2021;**

16th February

13th April

15th June

17th August

12th October