

The Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

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Registered Office: De Morgan House, 57-58 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HS

Minutes of the hybrid General Meeting held at De Morgan House at 11.00 am on Thursday 23 February 2023

Present

Officers

Chair

Andy Noyes

Deputy Chair

Noel-Ann Bradshaw

Secretary

Chris Chipperton

Treasurer

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Representatives of Participating Bodies

Adults Learning Mathematics

Beth Kelly

Association of Mathematics Education Teachers

Fiona Curtis

Association of Teachers of Mathematics

Lou Hoskyns-Staples

British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics

Jeremy Hodgen

British Society for the History of Mathematics

June Barrow-Green

Edinburgh Mathematical Society

Andrew Wilson

Heads of Departments of Mathematical Sciences

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Institute of Mathematics and its Applications

Paul Glaister

London Mathematical Society

Kevin Houston

The Mathematical Association

Tom Roper

Mathematics in Education and Industry

Charlie Stripp

National Association for Numeracy and Mathematics in Colleges

Andrew Davies (deputy)

National Association of Mathematics Advisors

Ruth Trundley

National Numeracy

Paul Foss (deputy)

NRICH

Ems Lord

Operational Research Society

-

Royal Academy of Engineering

-

Royal Statistical Society

Zoe Nye

Scottish Mathematical Council

Alan Walker

STEM Learning

Michael Anderson (deputy)

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

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Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences

Sofya Lyakhova

Co-opted Members

UK Representative to the

International Commission on Mathematical Instruction

Paul Glaister

Social Media Lead

Richard Perring

Representatives of Observing Bodies

Department for Education [England]

Alex Smith

Department of Education [Northern Ireland]

Julie Harris/Peter Dennis (deputy)

Education Scotland

John Neeson

National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics

Sue Madgwick

Office for Standards in Education

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The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation

Sarah Old

The Royal Society

Catherine Boulton

The Royal Society Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education

Anthony Tomei

Scottish Qualifications Authority

Sue Pope

Welsh Government Education Department

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 **Welcome** The Chair welcomed everyone present and opened the meeting. He talked to the agenda and how it was hoped the meeting and its timings would work. It was noted that there was a significant online attendance and that Council would need to consider how effective this was.
- 1.2 **Practical Arrangements** The Secretary went through the arrangements for fire evacuation.
- 1.3 **Apologies for absence** Apologies for absence were received from: Jennie Golding (Treasurer), Jan van den Heuvel (HoDoMS), Graham Griffiths (NANAMIC), Ruth Trundley (NAMA), Paul Milner (National Numeracy), Steve Lyon (STEM Learning), Catherine MacKenzie (DfE), Julie Baxter (ETF); Steve Wren (Ofsted)
- New members and deputies were welcomed to the meeting.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2022

- 2.1 **Approval of the minutes of the meeting on Thursday 10 November** The minutes were approved.
- 2.2 **Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda** In relation to item 6, the Chair stated that he and the Secretary had discussed ways to improve the number of reports being received. It had been decided to try separating the email giving notification of the meeting from the email calling for papers.
- The Secretary made a plea that everyone responds to his notification of the meeting irrespective of any response to the Teams invitation.

3 Reports from Trustees

- 3.1 **Chair** The Chair's report was noted. He stated that he would like to come back to the Multiply project, perhaps in the June meeting. He included an oral update from Steve Wren regarding the forthcoming publication of Ofsted's subject reports, an indicative timeline, and a commitment to engage with JMC on this at the appropriate time.
- 3.3 **Secretary** Attention was drawn to the upcoming call for a new Treasurer. Colleagues were asked to encourage suitable people to consider this role.
- 3.4 **Treasurer** The Treasurer's report was noted.

4 Reports from Committees

- 4.1 **BCME** KH spoke to his paper. It was agreed to move the deadline for nominations to Monday 17 April to allow for conversations to take place at the joint Easter conference. KH is to draft calls for expressions of interest for the officer roles which will go out through the normal JMC routes – **Action: KH**. RP is to Tweet about the call as appropriate – **Action: RP**. KH informed Council that potential nominees for chair and co-chair existed.
- Council agreed to the proposals in the paper subject to the above.
- 4.3 **MMSA** The report was noted.

5 Reports from Participating Bodies

The reports were noted. The Chair remarked that there were a lot of activities coming up and questioned whether there was a way of improving the flow of information. RP social media activity might help with this.

5.3 **ATM** The interesting comments concerning views around the possible merger were noted.

5.8 **IMA** In answer to a question, it was confirmed that the number of applicants (89) this year was similar to last year. However, there was a reduction over previous years reflecting the drop in ITT applications. It was agreed that this would be something worth finding out more about for the June meeting. The Chair is to liaise with those involved including FC – **Action: Chair**.

5.9 **LMS** 'Diversifying the curriculum in HE' was questioned. It was reported that this is massive in HE and is driving a great deal leading to a rethink of what is being taught. Inclusion is a major theme. 'Diversifying' is being used in place of 'decolonising'. JBG reported that there was an INI grant to allow the formation of a group to look at using the history of mathematics.

5.15 NRICH It was questioned whether the STEP webinars were available beyond Cambridge state schools. This was not possible due to the limited capacity of the webinars. The STEP support programme is available more widely.

National Numeracy were requested to report on their work on the Multiply project in the June meeting – **Action: PM; (PF)**. Other organisations involved with Multiply were invited to contribute.

6 Reports from Observing Bodies

The reports from NCETM and SQA were noted.

Other reports were received orally. In line with Council practice minutes of these were not recorded.

7 Discussion of Reports

No items were raised for discussion.

The Chair remarked that reports contained information about many interesting activities that had taken place. It would be good to know about them in real time and thought needs to be given to how this might happen more effectively in future.

8 Update on the Academy for the Mathematical Sciences

Lynne McClure (AMS Executive Committee and Education Sub-committee) gave a presentation on the developments to date. The presentation slides have been circulated previously.

9 A National Response to Improving Mathematics in Scotland

John Neeson (Education Scotland) gave a presentation on the National Response to Improving Mathematics in Scotland (NRIM). The presentation slides have been circulated previously.

10 RS ACME Mathematical Futures Programme

Cath Boulton (Royal Society) gave a presentation to update Council on the Mathematical Futures programme. The presentation slides have been circulated previously.

CB agreed to give Council a further update at the June meeting – **Action: CB**.

11 Any other business not elsewhere on the agenda

There was no other business.

Subsequent to the meeting, the Chair and Secretary were informed that this was the last meeting for both Lou Hoskyns-Staples (ATM) and Jeremy Hodgen (BSRLM) as they would be completing their terms of office with the associations. Lou and Jeremy were thanked for their engagement in, and involvement with and on behalf of Council.

12 Discussion: Maths to 18

Following the Prime Minister's recent announcement on maths to 18, Alex Smith (DfE) introduced the topic and posed some questions for discussion. Council broke into groups to discuss these and give feedback. The presentation slides have been circulated previously. It was stressed that figures in the presentation had not been through a DfE quality assurance process and so were unofficial.

13 Conclusion

The Chair thanked everyone present for their contributions and closed the meeting.

14 Dates of future meetings

- Thursday 8 June 2023 – NCVO, 8 All Saints Street, N1 9RL
- Thursday 9 November 2023 – De Morgan House, Russell Square, WC1B 4HS