



## Annual General Meeting of the Village Scribe Association

- **Date:** 21.07.18
- **Time:** 10 am
- **Locations:**
  - Martin-Luther-Str. 78, 10825 Berlin, Germany
  - Joza Youth Hub, Ncame Street, Grahamstown, 6139, South Africa
  - connected via Skype

### 1. Welcome and excused

Starting time: 10.30 am (delayed due to delayed members)

Present:

- Anna Wertlen (former trustee, founder member)
- Ronald Wertlen (former trustee, founder member)
- Christoph Flügge (founder member)
- Kjetil Torp (director, project coordinator)
- Clement Simuja (trustee)
- Sive Teyise (awarenet learner, volunteer)
- Rod Amner (chairperson of the trust)
- Eleanor Amner (volunteer)
- Sinesipho Soxujwa (volunteer, lab supervisor)
- Richard Were (Sudo Soc partner)

Excused:

- Sarah Hanton (trustee)
- Craig Renaud (trustee)
- Gerald Accom (trustee)
- Xenia Baartz (volunteer)
- Max Resch (volunteer)

### 2. Treasurer's report

See online presentation: <https://prezi.com/maele9lhq4-f/vsa-agm-2018/>

The treasurer's report was accepted.

### 3. Annual audit of the South African VSA Trust

The South African VSA Trust was successfully audited for the financial year 2018. The annual financial statements for the tax year 2018 can be reviewed upon request.

#### 4. Discharge of managing board of the German VSA e.V.

The management board of the German VSA e.V. was discharged.

#### 5. Election of auditor for the German VSA e.V.

Ronald Wertlen was unanimously appointed as auditor for the German VSA e.V. for one year.

#### 6. Amendment of the German VSA e.V. Statute

The presentation of the proposed amendment of Para 2 of the statute of the VSA e.V., according to a recommendation of the German tax authorities according to German law took place:

“Vereinszweck ist ferner, Mittel für die Verwirklichung der steuerbegünstigten Zwecke des gemeinnützigen 'Village Scribe Association Trust' mit Sitz in Südafrika zu beschaffen (§ 58 Nr. 1 AO).”

The amendment was unanimously accepted.

#### 7. 2017/18 Project report

See presentation: <https://prezi.com/maele9lhq4-f/vsa-agm-2018/>

- The awarenet team in South Africa has grown. There are now
  - 5 trustees (Anna Wertlen and Ronald Wertlen have resigned, newly appointed were Roderick Amner, Clement Simuja and Gerald Accom)
  - 1 full-time staff member (Kjetil Torp)
  - 2 German full-time volunteers from the weltwaerts programme (currently Xenia Baartz and Max Resch)
  - 3 South African part-time volunteers from Rhodes University (Paulina Nkosi, Nomathamsamqa Zono, Nondoduzo Ncala)
  - 5 local volunteers who work as part-time lab supervisors (Andiswa Ntete, Sinesipho Soxujwa, Sinesipho Goduka, Banalo Kapu and Thanduxolo Royi)
- The VSA Trust participated in 8 conferences or public events.
- The German volunteers created a short movie clip about the Joza Youth Hub Open Day.
- awarenet programme during the last year Q3 and Q4 2017 until Q1 and Q2 2018:
  - 6 schools participated in the awarenet programme.
  - 4 awarenet courses or clubs took place
  - The awarenet Open Lab opened in May 2017 and now more than 600 registered users.
  - The awarenet teacher training pilot took place and 13 teachers participated.
- The awarenet platform:
  - Use of awarenet platform decreased until there was no more activity in 2018.
  - Reasons were:
    - concept of platform was no longer useful for projects
    - platform is no longer supported and has technical problems
    - increased quality internet access in the Joza Youth Hub allowed for

- use of common platforms such as Google
    - educational content was stored locally on the computers in the JYH computer lab
- The Open Lab project is very successful and will be expanded in the coming year.

## 8. 2017/18 roadmap

See presentation:

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/11rXAaZZO0bixJ6W\\_vEb8ifyxobgZM3GD0DXoYsJDE00/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/11rXAaZZO0bixJ6W_vEb8ifyxobgZM3GD0DXoYsJDE00/edit?usp=sharing)

- Learner support of core group of learners
  - Anna suggests working together with Inkululeko and “share” the learners and taking over the IT-part.
  - Rod suggests a group of grade 10 science students from Ntsika SS: digital story telling and media to report struggle about science studies
  - Kjetil suggests working with the long-term awarenet users, eg. Thando
  - Kjetil also suggests that the Inkululeko learners, long-term awarenet users and other students such as those from grade 10 at Ntsika can be combined in one group.
  - Rhodes University offered hardware (smart phones, tables, laptop computers) to the VSA for digital story telling, which can also be used for other projects. There will also possibly be an intern sponsored. Kjetil notes that there is not enough information yet about the hardware and requirements to be sure what can be done in the future, but it would be an exciting opportunity. Clement offers to be part of the project.
  - Kjetil suggests that Sudo Soc will join and send people to train learners at the lab. Richard is interested in helping himself.
  - Rod mentions the toomuchwifi.co.za initiative and suggests enhancing WiFi in the Joza Youth Hub. Clement notes that there is a risk in giving minors unlimited access to WiFi.
  - Anna notes that too many resources require a lot of manpower. The VSA actually needs more staff / funding for salaries.
  - Sive would appreciate to be accompanied by the VSA until matric. He would participate continuously and is convinced that it would be stupid not to.
  - Kjetil notes that the VSA must have certain criteria to choose learners to participate in the programme.
- Open Lab
  - Open lab is useful and needs to be continued. A problem is the large number of participants. Most learners use the open lab to do home work, but there is sometimes too much “other” use, which is very distracting.
  - Rod notes that trainers should offer more resources and trainers should receive more training themselves. Also, headphones are crucial for the lab users. They need to be in good quality, because the cheap ones break too easily.
  - Eleanor agrees that she was not aware of the local content that she could offer to the lab users.
- Teacher training

- Will be continued because of usefulness and possible resource of income. Kjetil explains how it enhances teaching experiences for learners at schools. Teachers also often have no email and get help from the VSA.
- Rod mentions that sometimes it will help to bring hardware into the school to make the school more attractive for teachers. Teachers were lately given laptops and do not know how to use them. VSA wants to train them in how to use the given hardware.
- Cooperation with schools
  - The idea is to help the teacher how to use IT in classroom situations not telling them what to do, but how to do what they would like to do during teaching.
  - Rod notes that one could get people from Rhodes to become a volunteer lab assistant to help with this programme.
  - Everyone agreed that the Open Lab replication is a good idea.
- Future Fundraising
  - Kjetil lists current and future applications.
  - There are lots of opportunities out there, but proposals have to be written and more staff is needed. The current larger applications include salaries.

## 9. Miscellaneous

- Anna Wertlen announces that the German VSA e.V. will call another general meeting in 2018 to elect a new board. Invitations will follow.
- Anna and Ron Wertlen will visit South Africa next year in June and July for a longer period, since they can't come this year due to personal reasons.

## 10. Closure

at 12:58 pm