

British Shintaido AGM Agenda
Sunday 27th March 2022, 7.00 - 8.30pm

Join BS AGM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85186220158>

Meeting ID: 851 8622 0158

1. Opening & welcome (19:00)
2. Review of last year's minutes (19:02)
3. Management team report and election of new team. (19:05)
 - The following have currently announced their candidacy:
 - Nagako Cooper
 - Peter Furtado
 - Viola Santa
 - Craig Thorn
4. Treasury report and approval of 2021 accounts (Peter 19:15}
5. BS management team report (Charles 19:25)
6. Discussion and vote on changes to the BS membership rates (19:35)
 - Proposed new rates are:
 - a. General members £30 pa (no change)
 - b. Instructors (shodan & above) £72 pa (reduced)
 - c. All other membership categories to be scrapped
7. BSC, exam & technical committee reports (Ula 19:50)
8. Zoom keiko report (Nagako 20:05)
9. International report (Ula 20:10)
10. Schedule for 2022 (20:15)
11. AOB (20:20)
12. Close (20:30)

British Shintaido Accounts

Kangeiko to close of year 2021

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Totals</i>
BS membership fees *	£798.00		
Donations	£77.50		£875.50
European membership collected on behalf of ESC	£252.00	£266.41	
International membership collected on behalf of IS	£357.00	£426.21	(£83.62)
BSC membership fees	£576.00		
BSC meetings	£0.00	£91.00	
BSC refunds (due to Coronavirus)		£30.00	£455.00
BS events **	£5,935.82	£6,145.98	(£210.16)
Equipment & merchandise	£155.06	£0.00	
Grants & donations		£0.00	
Event bursaries		£0.00	
Newsletter printing & postage		£20.00	
Website & publicity		£75.00	
Bank interest and bank charges	£0.34	£45.00	
Paypal fees			£15.40
Totals	£8,151.72	£7,099.60	
Total profit (loss) over period			£1,052.12

Notes

<i>* BS Membership</i>	<i>Start of year</i>	<i>Joined</i>	<i>Left</i>	<i>End of year</i>
BS Members	28	1	2	27
<i>** Event breakdowns</i>		<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Profit (loss)</i>
Kangeiko		£1,218.25	£1,325.32	(£107.07)
Daienshu		£3,542.57	£3,844.48	(£301.91)
IS exams		£1,175.00	£976.18	£198.82
Local exam events		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Funds received and paid out for next year's events <i>(in current account, but for next year's accounts)</i>		£0.00	£998.40	(£998.40)

<i>Bank account balances (from statements)</i>	<i>Start of year</i>	<i>End of year</i>	<i>Movement</i>
Current account	£2,665.57	£4,233.28	£1,567.71
Deposit account	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00
Deposits for next year's events, not included above	£780.00	£998.40	£218.40
Paypal account	£928.49	£516.44	(£412.05)
Wholesale value of equipment in stock (estimate)		£2,741.50	

Total in all accounts (audit)	£6,374.06	£7,748.12	£1,374.06
Net worth (including equipment stock)		£10,489.62	

Minutes of BS AGM 21.02.2021

This meeting was held online on Zoom. BS members had been invited to attend by email on 12.02.2021

Attending: Charles Burns, Masashi Minagawa, Pam Minagawa, Ula Chambers, Peter Furtado, Terry Bickers, Nagako Cooper, Craig Thorn, Geoffrey C Fitch, Dan Des Beaux, Sally Sharpe, Viola Santa (12 in total)

Apologies: Kim Chan

Proxy votes: Kim Chan

Meeting chaired by Charles Burns

Minutes taken by Viola Santa

1. Charles opened the meeting and welcomed everybody
2. The minutes of last year's meeting were unanimously approved by those present
3. BS management team report 2020, by Peter Furtado

The management team has been Charles Burns, Terry Bickers, Viola Santa and Peter Furtado, plus Ula Chambers, with roles cycled through different meetings. We have worked happily and effectively together.

In 2020 the main challenge has obviously been to maintain a programme of events in very uncertain conditions, and from the Spring BSC workshop it became clear that Zoom provided many unexpected opportunities for teaching and practising Shintaido.

The physical daienshu - planned to be held at Emerson College with Gianni Rossi and Masashi Minagawa- was replaced with an online event. Deposits for the physical daienshu were either returned, or converted into fees for the online event. We were concerned to ensure that we took the new opportunities to attract an international audience and with this in mind, bookings were taken via Paypal. In addition, we worked closely with Gianni and Masashi to devise a novel format - with formal keiko spread over three weekends, and other activities every day of the intervening two weeks - that would provide a professional experience for participants, and would feel something like a gasshuku. WhatsApp was used to create real-time conversation, and the timekeeper used it to help everyone keep to schedule; meanwhile the Zoom virtual tea corner provided a space for those who wished to, to chat.

In all this, the daienshu proved very successful, and was extended with “refresher” sessions in August. It also proved a financial success, though not immediately as we experienced unexpected difficulties with Paypal, and our account was frozen for several months with more than £900 locked in it. This situation was eventually resolved - but not until January 2021.

Leading up to the kangeiko, BSC encouraged instructors to explore and share “best experience” in using Zoom, while the Management Team, supported by Nagako Cooper and Craig Thorn, ran the event in January 2021 on similar lines to the daienshu, and with

similar success. Instructors were Ula Chambers and Charles Burns, with support from Masashi Minagawa.

One major initiative of 2020 was to institute an annual BS Lecture, for which the first was given during the kangeiko by Peter Furtado. His talk was well received by an international audience; it has been put on YouTube, and the text will appear in a special edition of Taimyo. We very much hope that this is a format that will continue and develop in future years.

The need for digital tools in 2020 has shown us how weak BS is in its social media presence. We need to review the potential for active channels on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and other platforms. However, running them is a significant job, and must be done by someone who is fluent in using these channels.

Meanwhile, the website has proved resilient, and both the content and the technology have been kept up to date. An email management tool called MailerLite has been acquired, so we can now send targeted emails more effectively, will be able to assess data on their effectiveness, and will be able to manage unsubscribes more effectively. This is a major step for marketing ourselves. We therefore need to explore whether anyone would be interested in developing the role of social media and marketing manager in the future.

4. Election of BS management team

All four members of the current management team (Charles, Peter, Terry, Viola) stood for re-election and this was unanimously approved by those present at the AGM. Acknowledgement was given to Ula Chambers for her continuous support to the management team in the background.

Charles said the management team had not heard of anyone wanting to join the team, but pointed out that others are welcome to join!

5. Treasurer's report, presented by Charles Burns, summarised here by Viola Santa

BS accounts 2020 were shown to those present over the screen whilst Charles explained the figures. He pointed out that the online Daienshu made a big profit, especially as a higher number of people attended. This provides an opportunity to have funds for projects, bursaries etc.

Questions were raised by attendees about the status and potential future use of the BS Paypal account. Peter already highlighted in the management team report that we experienced problems using it in 2020. The management team will discuss further whether to continue with Paypal.

6. BSC report, by Ula Chambers

During the past year, the normal schedule of BSC meetings has been disrupted due to the COVID Pandemic restrictions. However, in many ways these circumstances have inspired a different kind of creativity and adaptation within the BSC group.

An online BSC "day" was held in April 2020 via Zoom. It was the first time we met as a group online to practice. Some useful lessons about online teaching were learned as a result which fed into planning for the BS Daienshu. In preparation for that event BSC members collaborated to write a Zoom participants guide to keiko. This has been shared

with IS members and has been used as a template for other groups. Minagawa sensei and Gianni Rossi provided a rich programme for us to follow and practice together. BSC members were invited to contribute to Daienshu, offering morning Taimyo and small group sessions, which was very successful and appreciated by participants. Minagawa sensei was on hand to offer advice to BSC members following the morning practices.

In July we were able to have a socially distanced in person kenjutsu keiko at Susan and Laurent's home. It was refreshing to practice outside and closer together and many thanks are given to them for their generosity.

During the year Minagawa sensei has been working to refine and clarify the differences between Diamond 8 sei and dai. Following an ITEC keiko to review his work, this was shared with BSC members by Ula in November. This continues to be an area of study and development.

In December Charles Burns led a series of Sunday morning R&D keiko in preparation for the BS Kangeiko in January 2021. These were well attended and contributed greatly to the eventual programme for the event. BSC members again offered Taimyo sessions morning and evening.

Plans for BSC keiko in 2021 are dependent on prevailing circumstances and are likely to be a mix of in person and online meetings in preparation for BS events, Instructor development, R&D, group support and preparation for International Examinations.

> A brief discussion followed this report attendees voiced that there was now more (Shintaido related) activity on Zoom and they would like Zoom BSC keikos to continue (alongside face to face meetings). It was pointed out that this was especially good for people who lived at a distance. Charles commented that Shintaido on Zoom was easier for people with a certain level of experience. For teaching beginners on Zoom we will have to think more carefully how to do this.

7. BS Examination report, by Ula Chambers

The planned examinations up to Nidan for May 2020 at the Daienshu, were cancelled. However, it was possible to hold an in person, socially distanced, Master class style examination session in October. This took place at Laurent's home. There were two Shodan Kenjutsu candidates. This session was recorded and a small audience was able to join via zoom for the final demonstration. We are pleased to announce that Paul Buck and Masahiro Minagawa were successful and are now Shodan Kenjutsu. Congratulations!

Exam sessions for 2021 in the UK will be reviewed. It may be possible to offer an online examination for some levels of exam.

8. Report from European Shintaido College (ESC) and IS (International Shintaido), by Ula Chambers (member of European and International technical committees)

2020 has been a year of unexpected change due to the global coronavirus pandemic. Restrictions on travel and meeting in person have affected all scheduled European and International events. Most European Shintaido organisations have had to re-think their practices and events, as we have done in the UK.

- **The French Instructor organisation** were able to have an Instructor Gasshuku with Examinations in July 2020. Some French groups meet with social distancing. The Paris group recently had a 12 person in person Kangeiko weekend in Normandy.
- **In Italy** there have been no in person meetings, but classes and events are delivered online through various media. They hope to stage an in person Kangeiko end of February if permitted.
- **In Czech Republic** there have been in person classes with social distancing as well as some online classes. There is a plan to run a summer workshop in person with an element of online participation.
- **In Belgium** there have been a few in person classes and a regular online visitor to UK online offerings.
- **No current update from Germany**

ESC: No European event had been planned in 2020 so that people could go to the International Gasshuku in Japan in November 2020. It had been envisaged that examinations up to Ni dan/ Instructor level could take place at National gasshukus. Only France and UK were able to hold examination sessions under rules prevailing at the time. Plans for 2021 will be announced in the Spring.

IS: The International Instructor Gasshuku planned for November 2020 in Japan, had to be postponed due to coronavirus travel restrictions . The organising group and IS Board plan to review possibilities to meet in person during 2021. The next organising group meeting is due in April, at which time more information can be disseminated to the International Instructor community. It is possible that the event will be open to all IS members plus people recommended by their instructor.

High level exams (3-5 dan and Senior to Master Instructor) which would normally take place during an international event were cancelled in 2020. Currently, plans for how high level examinations can be offered are under discussion with ITEC. The possibility of offering some element of online examinations is being considered alongside regional options.

Minagawa sensei worked with ITEC to offer an online workshop for technical committee members from US, Europe and Japan. He presented the Diamond 8 programme which he has been refining, and which can now be shared with IS members. ITEC plans to produce an official video of this programme which can be disseminated.

In 2020 IS had an online AGM, with discussions about its structure and function. The IS Board members agreed to continue in role, as no new people stepped forward. The IS membership fee was reduced to \$40 per annum from \$50.

The IS Board and ITEC meet via Zoom/Skype bi monthly. A General membership meeting is planned at the International event, should it go ahead in October 2021. Otherwise an online system as last year will take place.

9. BS officer reports

- **Equipment -Laurent Lacroix:** Charles reports that £102 have been transferred into BS account by Laurent, but it is not specified which financial transactions (sale of items) took place.
- **Newsletter (Taimyo)- Laurent Lacroix:** Charles reported that Laurent offered to continue to compile and produce the Newsletter, if edited content is sent to him.

>the management team will organise and ensure that content ready to be compiled will be sent to Laurent and a deadline will be agreed for contribution for each edition of Taimyo. Following the AGM Pam Minagawa kindly offered her support with this task.

There was no edition of Taimyo in 2020, but the next edition with contributions from daineshu 2020 and kangeiko 2021 will be published soon.

- BS domain- hosted by Dan Des Beaux: Dan explained that our domain email can be set as forwarder to other email addresses. Management team will discuss this option.

10. Local classes reports

- Nagako Cooper -Moniaive

Nagako reported that in January 2020 she had started a lunchtime club in schools to introduce Shintaido to school children. Then she continued with a group of 6 children in the form of an after school club- until they had to stop during lockdown in March due to corona virus. She plans to continue with this once schools start up again.

Since March 20 Nagako has been offering sessions on Zoom on Friday mornings. She has 20 people on her list for this class, 8-12 people attend regularly. She could this a good learning experience and is planning to continue with it.

- Peter Furtado -Stroud

Peter reports that the Stroud group have been meeting all year, in the Park and in a hall in autumn. The class has been online again since Christmas (it had been online for a while during the first lock-down). Peter admits he doesn't like teaching online very much and online they are only a maximum of three together (with Craig and Duncan). He is looking forward to practise in person again.

- Sally Sharpe -Bath

Sally reports she is looking forward for the small Bath group to continue in person- hopefully soon! When they could practice in person, all participants contributed, shared the warm-up and mainly focused on Diamond 8 practice. (Since Masashi and Pam Minagawa stepped back from the group last year, after many years)

- Charles Burns - Hounslow

In 2020 Charles has been offering Shintaido for the Hounslow Autistic Society. For 2 1/2 month this took place at a venue and since the lock-down in March he has been teaching online. Charles had decided that two classes, 45 minutes eac (Tuesdays and Thursdays), was more suitable than one longer class. He has 4-6 regular people from a list of 20, others from the list join occasionally as well as some BS members. He is planning to hold an online exam session where people can achieve an Introductory Certificate in Shintaido. Charles enjoys teaching on Zoom.

Nagako voiced an interest in the possibility of online local exams and Charles suggested to discuss this further with Ula and Masashi after the AGM.

- Susan Lacroix

We don't have a report from Susan at he moment. Referring to information on the BS website she is offering two online classes for a while, one class for people who have not done Shintaido before and one "Gentle Shintaido" class.

11. BS Dates for 2021

Daienshu '21: Emerson College is booked for 25th -27th June. We are hopeful that a face to face event with a certain number of people will be possible and are considering the possibility of a "hybrid" event which combines face to face and online participation.

12. AOB (any other business)

No AOB was raised.