1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mary Richardson, David Bridges

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (held on 31 March 2018)

The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Update from the Chair

Paul Standish announced a new JOPE contract had been concluded with Wiley. We had been approached several times by another publisher but after some negotiation, the deal with Wiley was accepted and a contract has been signed for the period 2020 - 2024. During this period PESGB will receive royalties from Wiley and this will be a considerable increase on our previous agreement.

PS detailed the changes being implemented in publishing with authors now paying to publish, rather than readers and libraries paying for publications. This cost will be in the order of £1,600. Some authors already pay the Article Processing Charges (APC) for their work to be open access. A payment made to the publisher. New contracts are now being drawn up with university libraries which should mean that charges for authors in these universities will be paid by the university in support of their authors. This does not apply to the USA nor China. Authors not connected to a University will be able to continue along the pay-to-read line for the time being and contracts drawn up by Universities may include an element of payment for reading and payment for publication for a phase-in period. This new system will mean there will be no restriction on page budgets and therefore more issues can be published each year. There is concern that this could result in a fall in quality of articles published but it could also mean a broadening of the range of work and more possibility of growth. JOPE Editorial Board is intending to increase the number of issues published each year to six comprising at least two regular, two special issues and one on policy. Content will include international and local issues and there will be the ability to commission articles. Wiley is keen to move quickly on Open Access and the Editorial Board will be reviewing and readjusting its management structure to accommodate these changes.

PS concluded by announcing that the Society had had a good year.

5. Secretary’s Report

David Lewin issued a report on Branch activity and membership numbers. There are now 22 regional branches and around 560 members. The new All-Ireland Branch will be chaired by Ian Munday and the Yorkshire Branch (formerly West Yorkshire) by Ed Podesta.

Acceptance of The Trustees Report was proposed by David Lewin and seconded by Richard Davies.
6. Treasurer’s Report
Naomi Hodgson offered her thanks to both Richard Davies (past Treasurer) and Isabell Rowe at SAS for their help in bringing her up to speed in the role of Treasurer for the Society. The problems encountered last year with our account at HSBC have now been resolved by reducing the number of Trustees to just three - Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Previously all members of the Executive Committee had been named Trustees, which had proved unwieldy. NH will look over the charity guidelines in greater detail over the coming year to ensure the Society is compliant.

We have spent less over the past year, resulting in £74K in the bank. Spending was less on Small and Large Grants during 2018. We are in a healthy position going forward and the 2019 budget is based on last year’s figures + 3%. A Trustees Discretionary Fund has been re-introduced to cover items not covered under any other headings. Any spending from the Fund will be approved in the first place by all three Trustees.

Our arrangement with the British Academy has not produced the number of grants we had expected. We are committed to our agreement until 2020 and members will be encouraged to continue to apply for grants up to £10K for the next round which ends in June. There has been some confusion over applications from the Society and further discussion is taking place with the BA on our proposals. The Society will reconsider the BA scheme in 2020/21 and re-instate our Large Grants scheme with some alterations.

The Society’s accounts are sent to the Charity Commission and are reviewed first by our accountants, Slaters. NH proposed continuing to use Slaters as our independent reviewer and this was agreed.

NH proposed a constitutional change to allow our accounts to be independently reviewed (as required by the Charity Commission) and available 7 days prior to the AGM instead of fully audited 28 days before the AGM. Our accounts are not required to be audited, only reviewed and due to the timing of the AGM the accounts are not available 28 days in advance. The proposal was passed by two-thirds of the members attending the AGM.

7. Elections
Notices were sent out prior to the meeting for the election of 4 positions on the Executive Committee. Only four candidates were forthcoming, one for each position which meant no voting was required. Those elected are:

Vice President:  Michael Hand  
Elected Member:  Sharon Hunter  
Elected Member:  Darren Garside  
Conference Programme Chair:  Amanda Fulford

PS thanked those committee members standing down this year. Three elected member positions will become available in 2020 to replace Jack Bicker, Doret de Ruyter and Amanda Fulford. Nominations for these positions should be sent to the Secretary, David Lewin via pesgb@sasevents.co.uk. Nominations will close at 5 pm on Monday 6th January 2020. Nominees will be asked to prepare a short statement, outlining the basis on which they stand by Monday 20th January 2020.

John White proposed that the Secretary provide regular updates to members on who is put forward for Committee positions along with CVs. The Executive Committee will be charged with making sure appropriate submitters are in line for all posts.

The outgoing Chair Jim Conroy will become a life-long Vice President.

The Secretary will report back on when committee members can stand again for re-election.
8. JOPE
Bob Davis, the Editor of JOPE, reported considerable changes in publishing and outlined the major new arrangements in his report. All issues are currently up to date and appear online. The schedule for issue 53.1 is under discussion with Wiley and this will bring the production cycle back on-line for future issues. Emma Williams and Jim Conroy have joined the Editorial Board. John White has formed a sub-committee to work with new leading authors, mostly unpublished in JOPE. His interview with Elizabeth Anderson will appear in issue 53.1. The Publishers Report is very positive, showing a high impact factor. Our partnership with Wiley is driven in the belief of growth without compromise to quality. Downloads have increased from 110,000 to 144,000 in one year and subscribers have increased from 4,143 to 5,614. Bob thanked all who had contributed to the journal.

9. Annual Conference Chair Committee
The meeting thanked Pádraig Hogan, the conference chair for his commendable work in producing an excellent annual conference again this year. PH thanked all his colleagues on the conference committee, all paper reviewers and members of SAS - Jo, Katie and Steph. Work will continue in resolving the problem of word count in papers submitted for the conference to make this clearer.

10. Annual Conference Organiser Committee
Ruth Wareham provided a report for the AGM and thanked Wiley for its continued support in sponsoring our conference bags and Friday night dinner. Any members who know of other sponsors for future conferences are asked to contact Ruth via pesgb@sasevents.co.uk.

11. Committee on Race and Ethnicity
The committee provided a report on its work over the past year and asked for anyone interested in contributing to its work to contact the co-chairs Judith Suissa and Jack Bicker via pesgb@sasevents.co.uk. Oli Belas is welcomed as a new member of the committee and Darren Chetty was thanked for his work as Co-Chair since the committee was established in 2015.

12. Large Grants Committee
Anders Schinkel provided a report on the latest round of Doctoral Studentship grants paid in 2018/19. The budget available was £15,000 and payments were made to 5 students. AS is stepping down as committee chair but will remain on the committee for another year. Discussions will be held on re-instating the previous categories of Large Grant awards with some modifications.

13. Small Grants Committee
Carrie Winstanley provided a report on payments made so far this year and encouraged members to apply. A revised form has been designed and uploaded to the website. It was also available in the conference bag.

14. Development Committee
Ruth Heilbronn provided a report on the exceptional work of the Development Committee over the year. She thanked all who were involved in the many functions carried out by this committee. The committee is looking to renew student representation and RH asked that anyone interested should make contact via pesgb@sasevents.co.uk.

15. Newsletter
Ruth Wareham, editor of the Newsletter, asked for more help with gathering content for the Newsletter from any student volunteers who may be interested. Please contact pesgb@sasevents.co.uk as soon as possible. Member and PhD student, Sarah Smith, has agreed to help with collation and photographs. RW asked that anyone providing photographs should share them via Twitter @PhilofEdGB19. High resolution photographs are required to produce good print quality.
16. Website
Mary Richardson’s report showed an average number of visits to the website to be 7,948 sessions, peaking at 13,025 in May 2018. Page views increased by 61.39%. Most views come from India. Twitter is increasingly being used as a means to link users into the site and demonstrates the value of this media for sharing information. MR asked members to report any problems with the website to pesgb@sasevents.co.uk. There have been some problems this year. Wiley has appointed a new social media strategist and a meeting is planned to discuss the website and social media in the next few months.

17. IMPACT
Michael Hand reported on the great success of the latest pamphlet IMPACT 25: *How to Regulate Faith Schools* which had extensive coverage in national and local press as well as on a number of blogs and webpages. Future pamphlets in development are ‘the mastery approach to teaching and learning’, Carrie Winstanley and ‘unschooling/elective home education’, Richard Davies.

18. BERA Philosophy of Education SIG
Janet Orchard has been appointed co-convenor of the SIG. The number of submissions from philosophers for the conference was disappointingly low and the group is now working with other SIGS to engage a broader audience. The group is also looking at the reviewing system for papers submitted as there is currently no philosophy representation on the BERA council. This will be discussed further at the Executive Committee meeting in November 2019.

19. Date and location of next meeting
The next meeting will be held at New College, Oxford on Saturday 28th March 2020.

20. Any other business
Paul Standish thanked all current and outgoing chairs of committees for all their hard work and effort in helping to achieve another successful year for the Society.