

Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting – 1 August 2017



Held at Weightmans, Fenchurch Street, London

Council Members Present: Iain Stark, Chairman (IS), David Cooper (DC) David Wright (DW)
Paul Bracewell (PB)

Also in attendance Carl Lygo, ACLT Chair (CL), Kirsty Allison, ACLT Head of Education,
Matthew Aldous (ACL/ACLT Accountant) for items 1 and 2 only.

Apologies: Francis Kendall (FK), Steven Davies (SD), Diane Pattenden, Head of
Operations (DP),

The meeting started at 2pm

Item	
1	Report to council from Carl Lygo
	CL has been asked to report to council on the viability of ACL Training. He presented his report which concluded that ACLT was not a continuing viable operation in its current form and will lose £50K this year. New student intake for the September intake is 23. Possible alternatives discussed. CL and KA to explore options and report back to Council.
2	Financial position of ACL/ACLT
	Matthew Aldous presented to council on the current financial position of ACL and ACLT and their financial relationship. He warned that ACL is insolvent but he saw no requirement for a warning in the accounts at present in view of discussions regarding possible trading out of insolvency and options for re-structuring in view of capital reserves of ACLT (wholly owned by ACL). Mathew was instructed to provide a report and recommendations in time for September meeting (asap) and to attend conference to inform members of position.
3	Minutes of the council meeting held on 26 June 2017
	The minutes were approved. The version for publication on the website was also approved.
4	Actions arising from the meeting held on 26 June 2017
	See attached list
5	ACL London Costs Conference 20/21 October
	An update was provided in DP's Operations Report circulated prior to the meeting. IS confirmed that there would not be an EGM at the conference but there will be a consultation open forum the basis of which will be a presentation pack to be sent to members in September. Following the conference there will be a postal vote by members.
6	ACL White Label Product
	IS provided an update regarding potential white label product; discussions are ongoing.
7	Education Report
	Education report – main issue 23 students. Certificate presentations in October. Over 90 successful candidates. Still some uncertainty regarding CLSB issue with fees for course.

8	PR Report
	Good coverage in press. Good response to new website; working well. Case summaries and legal Aid resources particularly good.
9	Operations Report
	Noted (overlooked dealing with storage of documents suggest move to next meeting).
10	*** Item redacted on 4 April 2018 ***
11	Policy Report
	Claire Green had provided the report prior to the meeting. This was discussed and considered. No action.
12	Letter from Claire Green dated 26 June 2017
	The letter from CG was discussed. PB to send a response.
13	Date of next council meeting
	Agreed that a further meeting in August was required. DP to arrange a date for the meeting to be held in Manchester. DW to book an office at Irwin Mitchell
14	Any other business
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible training on new bill to be considered at conference. • DW to investigate possible third party training provider for Excel. • IS's draft report for pack to members good. Well written but will be adjusted following discussion at council meeting and further advices. • Discussion re CLSB consultation and decided that ACL, as a stakeholder, should respond. Due by 15.9.17. Publish in Costs lawyer [Action by Manchester meeting for approval]