

Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting
held on 6 June 2019
at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kings Cross, London



Council members present: Claire Green (Chairman) (CG), David Bailey-Vella (DBV), Paul Bracewell (PB), David Cooper (DC), Adam Grant (AG), Francis Kendall, Vice-Chairman (FK), Jack Ridgway (JR)

Also present: Kirsty Allison (KA), ACLT

The meeting started at 6pm

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
	CG welcomed all to her first meeting as ACL Chairman. Apologies were received from Diane Pattenden.
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 2 May 2019
2.1	The minutes of the council meeting held on 29 May were agreed for the website, subject to the removal of the identification of the name of a firm of solicitors.
3	Actions following the council meeting held on 2 May 2019
3.1	Council members worked through the actions arising from the previous council meeting.
3.2	FK made reference to a communication received from the CLSB regarding a helpline available to Costs Lawyers. He was concerned that there may be overlap with the helpline offered by ACL. CG to follow this up at her meeting with the CLSB on 7 June.
4	Chairman's report
4.1	CG referred council members to her article in the latest <i>Costs Lawyer</i> and reiterated her belief that the profession was facing a challenging future.
4.2	CG indicated that she would wish to ensure that there is continued but better transparency regarding the business conducted by council and for the minutes to reflect this where possible. She considered that it would be beneficial for the number of council members to be increased in order that there were at least 2 council members on each committee which should assist in dealing with tasks quickly and effectively.
4.3	CG gave credit to IS for saving costs during his term and proposed that in order to continue this approach, meetings can take place via conference calls with quarterly face to face meetings.
4.4	CG will seek to increase efforts regarding lobbying and seeking out and responding to consultations. She proposed that AG should be on 'consultation watch' and should email council with recommendations on action required on relevant consultations. If deemed relevant by council, details should be published on the website to give members the opportunity to comment.
4.5	AG agreed to undertake this role but did need to have a clearer idea of experience, qualifications and background of potential members of any working party that may be established. Discussion took place regarding the opportunities that using survey monkey could provide for data collection.

4.6	CG expressed her concern regarding membership numbers , this was discussed in general terms with regard to possible options and the position will continue to be monitored. It was acknowledged that further discussion will need to take place. DC and PB will consider some options and report to council in due course.
5	Education Update
5.1	KA provided a spreadsheet detailing potential models for ACLT course proposals and presented details each model.CG thanked KA/DBV for the details provided but it was apparent that models would need to be further discussed. KA advised that she needed some additional information regarding funding as viability was dependant not only on ACLT projections but also ACL future projections. FK expressed the view that course viability was intrinsically linked to ACL.
6	Regulation
	CG told council members that she felt regulation was a big issue and that she was due to meet with the new CEO of the LSB in September/October. PB/DC were asked to work together to consider possible options in respect of regulation.
8	FRC consultation response
	AG confirmed that the response had been submitted on time and that a copy was available on the website.
10	Date of next council meeting
	The next council meeting will be held by conference call on 9 July.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.15 pm