Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting held on 11 June 2020

by Conference Call



Council members present: Claire Green, Chairman (CG), Francis Kendall, Vice Chairman (FK),

Stephen Averill (SA), Derek Boyd (DB), David Cooper (DC),

Kris Kilsby (KK), Jack Ridgway (JR), Adam Grant (AG),

Natalie Swales (NS),

Also present: Diane Pattenden (DP), Head of Operations

The meeting started at 12 noon

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
	CG welcomed all to the meeting
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 7 May 2020
	The draft minutes of the council meeting held on 7 May 2020 were approved without amendment.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 7 May 2020
3.1	Action point 11 (consultation on the impact of covid-19) CG confirmed that an email was sent to members requesting feedback. CG stated that in the absence of any feedback, she had responded with (largely) her own views by the due date and asked council members whether it was appropriate to put the response on the website. SA suggested that it should be published, with a preliminary explanatory paragraph. It was agreed that CG would circulate her response to council members for a decision. Action point 12 (LSB call for evidence) DC said that he had established what the questions were but it was unclear whether ACL could provide the evidence and suggested it may be a question for the membership rather than just council members. DC will speak with KW (CLSB) to determine whether there should be a holding response.
4	Working Party Report on ACL/ACLT structure and relationship
4.1 4.2	CG thanked the working party for putting together their initial report. A confidential discussion took place regarding the content of the working party's draft report and a final report with recommendations will be provided to council members for discussion at the next council meeting.
5	CLSB Coronavirus Impact Survey
	CG said she was aware that some members have raised issues with the CLSB about their ability to obtain CPD. She expressed some surprise as she believed there were currently many opportunities for costs lawyers to obtain CPD. FK asked CG to reiterate to members in the next e-bulletin that ACL will ensure that members will have the

	opportunity to gain CPD.
6	Manchester Conference
6.1	It was agreed that the provisional booking with the venue is kept on hold for as long as possible with a view to making a decision by the end of July. FK questioned if there was scope for a virtual conference. This will be considered at the point when an informed decision can be made.
	Policy Report
7.1	AG updated council on IGR compliance. He advised that the MoU has been redrafted and agreed with the CLSB. The operations protocol has also been agreed. An application to the LSB to alter regulatory arrangements has been drafted. This has been approved in principle by the LSB and will be circulated to council members once signed by CG. An implementation date should be known by 23 July. AG confirmed that Professor Stephen Mayson's final report on regulation has been published and that it recommends the work of costs lawyers should only be carried out by qualified and regulated costs lawyers. FK said that the report went so far as to say that solicitors should not be doing costs work. CG said it was a step in the right direction and very positive for the profession.
8	Date of next council meeting
	The next council meeting will be held by conference call on 10 July 11am.
9	Any other business
9.1	JR suggested that there may be benefit in reviewing a number of documents that would assist in the management of ACL and ACLT. CG asked that JR/AG/DP create a list of documents that exist and/or are required for discussion at the next council meeting.
9.2	One member has asked if council minutes can be circulated in the same way that the PR reports are circulated. FK said he was happy to do this if council members agreed. DC pointed out that minutes were published on the website. FK suggested that they were circulated for the next few months and then the position reviewed.
9.3	DC asked where ACL and ACLT stood with regard to financial projections. DP will circulate the projections to 2024 for discussion at the next council meeting. There being no further business the meeting ended at 2.25pm