

**Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting  
held on 12 April 2022**  
by Conference Call



Council members present: **Jack Ridgway (JR)**, Stephen Averill (SA)  
David Bailey-Vella (DBV), Stephanie Donald (SD),  
Kris Kilsby (KK), Laura Rees (LR).

Also present: Diane Pattenden (DP)  
Sarah Hutchinson, Chair of ACLT joined for item 8

The meeting started at 1pm

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies Apologies were received from VMH, ICN and AG DBV apologised for joining the meeting late (joining at item 5)
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 22 March 2022 It was unanimously agreed that the draft minutes were an accurate reflection of the meeting and the highlighted redactions were approved.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 22 March 2022 Actions were reviewed and updated
4	Policy Committee report
4.1	KK confirmed that AG was in the process of a handover to ICN and KK. KK will take the lead in preparing consultation responses and ICN will focus on regulatory issues and liaison with the CLSB/LSB.
4.2	KK reported that he was currently working on responses to a consultation on the 'Proposals for Fixed Recoverable Costs in Lower Value Clinical Negligence Cases' adding that there were 5 questions that ACL was not in a position to comment on. He confirmed that a survey would be sent to members on 13 April in order to collect their views on the consultation.
4.3	KK reported that he was also looking at a closed consultation on a new electronic bill to be used at the Court of Protection.
5	PR and Marketing Committee report
	<b>DBV joined the meeting.</b>
5.1	DBV reported that the new online Costs Lawyer went live on 7 April.
5.2	Black Letter will be taking a speaking slot at the Manchester conference on the subject of social media and engagement with clients.
5.3	LR confirmed that Black Letter had posted a number of articles via ACL's social media accounts recently and stressed the value of engagement with members and the wider profession.
5.4	DP reported that subject to confirmation of two potential speakers, all slots had been booked.
5.5	LR confirmed that she would take responsibility on the day at the Manchester conference and be the key contact for the hotel, speakers, sponsors and delegates on the day.
6	Finance Committee report
6.1	SA provided an overview of the ACL/ACLT investment accounts.
6.2	SD confirmed that she had been added as a signatory to the ACL bank account.

<b>7</b>	<b>Operations Report</b>
7.1	DP asked council for their views on whether the ACL Facebook account which was opened in 2015 should be taken over by Black Letter or closed. It was agreed that the account would be closed. DP will speak with KA to ask if ACLT want to rebrand the account, prior to taking steps to close it.
7.2	JR advised that two candidates have been interviewed for the role of Head of Operations and that second interviews to be held in London.
7.3	DP confirmed that the office relocation would take place on 19 April.
<b>8</b>	<b>Education Committee Report</b>
8.1	Sarah Hutchinson (SH), Chair of ACLT joined the meeting.
8.2	SH provided council members with a brief introduction to her background and to her role within ACLT, highlighting that there were a number of issues to be considered by ACL, as the sole shareholder of ACLT, surrounding the issue of viability and the future development of the professional qualification.
8.3 - 8.14	<i>Items 8.3 – 8.14 are confidential and have been redacted.</i>
<b>9</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
	The next council meeting will be to review the 2022 business plan and will be held at 2pm on 20 April.
<b>10</b>	<b>Any other business</b>
	JR will follow through with Bob Baker, ACL LAG on a recent email from the Law Society regarding a consultation on their 3 year corporate plan.  There being no further business the meeting ended at 3.10pm