

ACL Council Meeting
27 October 2016



Item 2: Minutes of ACL Council October 2016

Approved at the council meeting held on
1 December 2016

Held at the Hilton Hotel, Manchester Deansgate

Council Members Present: David Wright (DW), Iain Stark, Chairman (IS), Stephen Averill (SA), Francis Kendall (FK), Steve Davies (SD), Robert Cook (RC), Jessica Swannell (JS), David Cooper (DC)

Also in attendance Maurice Cheng, CEO (MC), Diane Pattenden, Head of Operations (DP), Kirsty Allison (KA)

Apologies:

Item	
1	The meeting started at 11.30pm
2	Minutes of the meetings held on 26 August 2016 and 23 September 2016
	The August minutes were approved subject to the following amendments: 1. (6.1) Change ‘conference’ to ‘Council meeting’. 2. (8.6) Change ‘T0’ to ‘two’ The September minutes were approved subject to: 1. (2.1) Change DC to IS 2. (2.4) Delete – renumber following items
3	PR&Marketing
	1. In the PR reports PRAM had suggested advertising new course to universities. KA said that Francis and her had spoken in September about this and that she felt that it would be better to consider advertising to colleges and 6 th forms – rather than universities. 2. The idea of holding more informal and fun events was discussed. Discussed that regional fun events were held by other legal organisations such as Law Society & CILEx – pie and a pint style meetings. All agreed that this would help on a professional level and would create good networking opportunities 3. DC suggested each council member look at opportunities in their areas. 4. There should be publicity on the website for such events. DP – ask Senior for a design template.
4	Chair’s report
	Nothing to report
5	Policy
	1. David ran through the key points in the report circulated prior to the meeting. 2. IS said that the ACL Bill needs to be circulated amongst costs lawyers. IS to send a note re the Bill to Andrew Gordon-Saker 3. DW to speak with Neil Rose and write a short note for the November/December Costs

	<p>Lawyer to advise link to the Bill and ask for feedback.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Council decided that a formal response to FRC doc is not required at this stage but observations will be published to the members. Suggested that Richard Allen was asked to respond. 5. Pro Bono – DC – said no clear coherence in relation to structure of the Unit which makes it hard for ACL to get involved. IS said that it was an opportunity to promote the Association. Carry forward to the next meeting. 6. The working party set up by the Law Society, Bar Council and CILEx have appointed an economist to assist them in considering the viability of a CLAF. Paul Seddon and Claire Green have been invited to meet with the economist appointed to assist with this.
6	Operations
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DP updated council on options for the venue for the 2017 London Conference. Finding a venue large enough to accommodate classroom layout is proving to be an issue. The Novotel at Hammersmith is an option but IS felt that it was too far out of central London and could preclude speakers from accepting an invitation to speak. IS suggested theatre layout works for other conferences and should see no reason why it would not work for the ACL conference. DP can therefore re-contact suitable hotels that had previously been considered too small – specifically the St Pauls Grange and Tower Grange. 2. IS suggested that anyone who is an ACL member will be offered the chance to attend the gala dinner at no cost – subject to availability. DP advised that the dinner usually attracts in the region of 160. IS suggested a possible cap of 300 – on a first come, first served basis. To be agreed and subject to capacity of venue and budget- at the November meeting 3. DP suggested that accounts management reports be prepared bi-monthly or quarterly. There were still issues with the headings/cross charges not being clear.
7	Website
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DP and DW to move website forward to launch 2. IS said that the knowledge hub needs to acknowledge Kings Chambers. DP to ask Kings (Steve Loxton) to write an intro to knowledge hub. 3. Include on Agenda for November – Website - finalising for launch 4. DW to talk with Sue/Matthew about the relationship with Kings and their involvement in keeping the case directory up to date. 5. MC advised that Lexis are keen to sell through ACL and may be interested in supplying content.
8	Education
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MC Confirmed that the accelerated course would launch in January 2. Discussion was held regarding the 'line' between regulatory responsibilities and education. 3. MC said that as the representative arm there was a responsibility to develop the professions and it was not the regulator's responsibility. 4. He stated that the regulator should set the minimum standards and structure; the remit of the Association was to develop the profession. KA said that ACL should be advising ACLT of the type of training required to further develop costs lawyers. 5. Discussion took place re the relationships between ACLT/ACL/CLSB 6. The minutes recorded are deemed confidential or contain commercially sensitive information 7. The minutes recorded are deemed confidential or contain commercially sensitive information.
9	CEO proposals on new structure for ACL and ACLT
	1 – 3. The minutes recorded are deemed confidential or contain commercially sensitive.

10	AOB
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. JS has spoken with Dominic Regan –he will attend London Costs Conference and will to be asked to write for the journal each issue.2. IS has had a phone call from a fee earner embroiled in a piece of litigation. In the contract it is written that the President of the Association will nominate a costs lawyer. IS suggested that the CLSB should have a policy on this.
11	Date of Next Meeting
	25 November 2016
12	The meeting closed at 5pm