

Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting
held on 27 June 2023
 via Teams



Council members present: Jack Ridgway (JR), David Bailey-Vella (DBV), Stephen Averill (SA), Kris Kilsby (KK), Julian Caddick (JC), Victoria Morrison-Hughes (VMH), Stephanie McBride (SM) & Amy Dunkley (AD)

Also present: Carol Calver (CC) Head of Operations

The meeting started at 10:00

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
1.1	Apologies were received from Laura Rees. JR welcomed all to the meeting.
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 30 May 2023
2.1	It was unanimously agreed that the draft minutes of 30 May were an accurate reflection of the meeting. It was agreed that items 5.2, 5.4, 7.2 & 8.2 should be redacted/partially redacted before publishing on the website.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 30 May 2023
3.1	Actions were reviewed and updated.
4	Chairman's Report
4.1	<i>Item 4.1 redacted due to confidentiality.</i>
5	PR & Marketing Committee Report
5.1	AD detailed a successful Costs in the City event on 22/06 with over 50 attendees. Plan to run another later in the year, perhaps a festive, December event.
6	Policy Committee Report
6.1	KK confirmed discussion with Bob Baker for LAG, Civil Legal Aid review will require support from the ACL.
6.2	KK confirmed a successful Newcastle Regional Costs Meeting on 01/06. Judge Searle very well received and increase in numbers / interest for future meetings.
7	Education Report
7.1	VMH confirmed accreditation from CLSB with no conditions.
7.2	<i>Item 7.2 redacted due to confidentiality.</i>
7.3	Budget will be re-forecast in September when final numbers known. <i>Redacted due to confidentiality.</i>
7.4	ACLT required to provide assurance of run off cover if course is terminated. JR approved sign off of ACL support if this occurs. Seconded by VMH & SA.

8	Finance & Internal Policy Committee Report
8.1	SA reported on balances of bank account and investments.
8.2	SA will complete review of investments with Paull Hazell at Enable on sale of underperforming funds, detailing back any implications with regards to capital gains tax.
8.3	SM confirmed an initial review of the Association by-laws and articles of association has taken place, further meeting is set to further review. JR to review suggested changes, followed by full Council.
9	Operations Report
9.1	CC detailed to Council the various versions of the ACL names in use, requesting permission to investigate changing from all previous versions to the Association of Costs Lawyers. On discussion with Council it emerged that as the ACL is registered with the Legal Services Act as the Association of Costs Law Draftsmen, the name cannot be changed. CC will work to update to one version going forwards – The Association of Law Costs Draftsmen T/A The Association of Costs Lawyers.
9.2	CC detailed progress on the website re-design, confirming a later transfer date than 01/08 as this is now likely unachievable. CC will select two proposals to move forward to present to Council (PR-AM & JR as a minimum), mid July.
9.3	CC confirmed that the LAG constitution and handbook amendments had now been finalised and accepted by Bob Baker and Paul Seddon, Co-Chairs of the LAG Group. Handbook to be signed off by LAG Committee Members during July.
9.4	CC provided an update on the ACL Special Interest Groups, Court of Protection, Commercial Costs & Solicitor / Client Costs and confirmed the intent to create private LinkedIn Groups for each so members can chat / raise questions / share information whenever.
10	Any other business & Date of next meeting
10.1	There being no further business the meeting ended at 11:25 Next meeting scheduled for 25 July 2023, 10:00 to 12:00 via Teams.