

Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting
held on 17 January 2020
at the Hotel Indigo, London EC3N 1LS



Council members present: Stephen Averill (SA), Derek Boyd (DB), David Cooper (DC), Francis Kendall, Vice-Chairman (FK), Jack Ridgway (JR) Adam Grant (AC) attended via conference call

Also present: Kirsty Allison (KA), Head of Education
Diane Pattenden (DP), Head of Operations

The meeting started at 1.30pm

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
1.1	FK welcomed all to the meeting.
1.2	Apologies were received from Natalie Swales, Paul Bracewell and Claire Green.
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 14 November 2019
	The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2019 were approved for publication.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 14 November 2019
3.1	Each point on the action list was reviewed and updated.
3.2	A new action for FK to have a general 'catch up' meeting in February with the CLSB was added.
4	Education
4.1	KA reported that there were 46 new students on the 2020 training course and that the split over the 3 units was as expected.
4.2	KA advised that due to the uncertainty over the future of the course in the last few years, the OLE had only been maintained as absolutely necessary and that she had developed a new OLE. The new OLE will be tested over the next few weeks. KA added that the new OLE would be able to support some commercial activities. DB/KA will discuss this further.
4.3	KA floated the idea of offering one day a week to ACL to develop and run webinars/seminars for basic, intermediate and advanced Bill training sessions.
4.4	KA reported that she would be running a Bill Training seminar in Cardiff in February.
4.5	DB advised that at the end of last year he had spoken with CG at length regarding the ACLT Board. He said an issue has arisen regarding the extent to which ACL has a right to 'veto' ACLT proposals. FK said that the involvement from ACL was required as a sanity check rather than to veto proposals. Discussion took place regarding the need for quality checks. KA stressed the need for students to have the right to approach an independent body. DB added that setting up the ACLT Board was ongoing and that the ACLT Executive should be responsible for this. He stressed that all comments are welcomed but there is a structure in place for ACLT. KA/DB/NS to arrange to meet w/c 20 January.
5	Policy
5.1	AG confirmed that he had submitted a response on 20 December to Professor Mayson's interim report. AG to forward a copy of the response to council members.
5.2	KW has been sent a copy of the draft MOU between ACL/CLSB and a response is awaited. FK suggested that this is reviewed at the meeting between DB/KA/NS.

5.3	AG reported on a recent meeting with the LSB and other regulators regarding CPD.
5.4	The CLSB have recently issued a consultation on CPD. AG felt that from an ACL policy viewpoint it was not controversial. KA also confirmed that there was nothing in the consultation that she was concerned about, but added that it could be more explicit regarding auditing. AG will raise this with KW. Council members agreed that AG should respond to the consultation on an informal basis. AG will also ask NR to seek members' views via a note on the e-bulletin. ACLT will provide a separate response.
6	PR
6.1	NR/KJ have asked for a review meeting with FK. FK will arrange this or suggest that they join the next council meeting.
6.2	FK to chase NR/KJ for the White Paper.
7	Operations Report
7.1	DP reported that the Manchester 2019 conference had been a success. 100% of delegates who completed the evaluation form said they would recommend the conference to colleagues, 78% rated the event as excellent (22% as good). The same venue has been booked for 'Manchester 2020' for 13 November.
7.2	The London Conference will be held on 26 June. DP will put together a list of potential speakers.
7.3	Subscriptions are in the process of being fully reconciled and the renewal rate is looking positive. This will be reported on further at the next council meeting.
7.4	Discussion took place on the ACL and ACLT five year projections that were circulated prior to the meeting.
8	Council member nominations
8.1	DP advised that FK's term of office was due to end within a few days.
8.2	Prior to the meeting, AG/DC had checked the Articles and Bye Laws in relation to the rules on co-opting members onto Council. They both confirmed that co-opting a council member for a further term was within the rules. FK was asked to leave the room for a moment. To maintain continuity council members agree that, in accordance with the rules, FK should be asked if he would be agreeable to being co-opted onto the Council for a further term. Council members voted unanimously to ask FK to stay on council. FK was invited back into the room and was formally invited to remain on Council for a further three year term of office. FK accepted, formally resigned his current position and was immediately co-opted to remain as vice chairman.
9	Date of next meeting
	The next ACL council meeting will be held at 2pm on 6 th March by conference call unless a need arises to meet in person
10	Any other business
	FK suggested that the following points raised at the open forum in November should be added to the agenda for the next meeting for full discussion :- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper Costs Lawyer • Students having access to course materials after they finish the course • PR report to be sent by email to members • CPD webinars

There being no further business the meeting ended at 3.30pm