

**Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting
held on 14th May 2026**
The Treehouse Hotel, Manchester
7pm



Council members present: David Bailey-Vella (DBV), Victoria Morrison-Hughes (VMH), Jane Risley (JR), Nathan Cameron (NC), Nicholas Lee (NL), Nick Northrop (NN) & Hannah Buswell (HB)

Also present: Carol Calver (CC) Head of Operations

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
1.1	DBV welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Julian Caddick & Amy Dunkley.
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 28 th April 2026
2.1	It was unanimously agreed that the draft minutes of 28 th April meeting were an accurate reflection. Redacted items were approved.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 28 th April
3.1	Actions were reviewed and updated.
4	Chairman's Report
4.1	DBV detailed changes to sub-committees with NC moving to Policy and Hannah joining PR-AM.
5	PR & Marketing Committee Report
5.1	CC detailed to Council final plans for the Manchester Costs Conference the following day.
6	Policy Committee Report
6.1	An update will be provided for the next meeting.
7	Education Committee Report
7.1	A brief discussion took place regarding the progression of the apprenticeship scheme, with further budget revision and approval requiring sign off.
8	Finance & Internal Policy Committee Report
8.1	An update will be provided for the next meeting.
9	Operations Report
9.1	Following discussion at the February 2026 Council CC asked Council to vote on suggested amendments (Appendix A to these minutes) to Clause 6.1.3 of the ACL By Laws to clarify the scope of Council's discretion when considering applications for Fellow Costs Lawyer status, and to ensure a consistent and workable approach going forward. <i>Redacted due to confidentiality.</i>

10	Any other business
11	Date of next meeting
11.1	The next meeting is Thursday 25 th June, online via Teams, 10am