

**Minutes of Meeting of Legal Aid Special Interest Group Committee held on
Tuesday 7th July 2020 – 8pm to 9.30pm**

Present: Bob Baker
Paul Seddon
Rachel Perkins
Charlotte Flanders
Steve Jepson
Fran Rigo

1. Approval of minutes

Minutes approved by BB/ CF and SJ – waiting to hear from PS/FR

2. Update on CCMS outage/removal of Court assessments

BB/PS/CF all advised that the recent meeting with the LAA had not been productive. BB to write to the LAA requesting their “wish list” for the new bill **[Action Point 1]**. Still no announcement re mandate date (post meeting note – announcement now made, mandate date 17th August). BB would be attending SPG on 8th July and CCCG 15th July.

BB did confirm that during the recent meeting with the LAA, the LAA had indicated their agreement to Costs Lawyers becoming ICAs and that hopefully this would be agreed by the next recruitment round. However, this would depend on the other representative bodies’ approval.

BB also confirmed that, although the outage was mentioned at the meeting with the LAA, no reasons had been given.

3. Autumn seminar

BB advised that DP had received a full refund from the hotel for 2nd September and believed losses from March were approximately £500 for lost hotel rooms/travel etc.

BB had spoken to Master Rowley at length and confirmed that he was prepared to attend a seminar by video.

A discussion took place regarding various platform options/cost, ie Zoom/Teams/Bounce, and that the seminar did not have to take place on the 7th September, but could be any date in the autumn. It was felt that an online seminar could contain a mixture of live and pre-recorded sessions. RP suggested that SB/RD from the LAA be included in the live sessions.

A Q&A session could be undertaken via the chat feature.

PS to make enquiries with CM @ LAPG and SJ to make enquiries with White Paper **[Action Point 2]**.

BB to advise DP to refund all delegates who had paid for March/September and send a communication stating that a seminar would take place on a date TBA **[Action Point 3]**.

Suggested speakers included Vicky Ling, Jason Rowley (SCCO), Rob Damiao and Stephen Barker on the abolition of Court assessments (LAA), Kate Wellington (CLSB), Kathy Wong (Bar Council), Rebecca Bidwell and SCCO on e-filing. FR agreed to approach Rebecca Bidwell **[Action Point 4]**.

It was agreed that the AGM could be via pre recorded presentation with a live Q&A session, and that this did not have to be during an online seminar, but could be a stand-alone session.

CF agreed to speak to a family member who had experience of working in TV [**Action Point 5**].

Agreed that further discussions would take place on 28th July once everyone had made their various approaches.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Carried over to next meeting

5. AOB

None

Next committee meeting – Tuesday 28th July at 8pm.

Actions from this meeting		Owner	By when
AP1	Write to LAA re “wish list”	BB	completed
AP2	Enquiries re various platform options for online seminar	PS/SJ	28.07.20
AP3	DP to refund delegates and send communication to members	BB	Completed
AP4	Approach to family member re online seminar	CF	28.07.20
AP5	Approach to speakers	FR	Completed