



Association of Costs Lawyers Legal Aid Group

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on 15th April 2013

1. Present:

Murray Heining, Sue Nash, Linda Kann, Paul Seddon, Tracey Jack (by telephone) and Amanda Barnett (by telephone).

2. Constitution

Murray Heining had provided a draft constitution for consideration and discussion. It was agreed that the committee members would consider the draft as to suitability and additions and this would be discussed at the National Conference.

3. Chairman

In the light of the election of Murray Heining as Chairman of the Association of Costs Lawyers his future role as Chairman of this group was considered. Murray Heining indicated that he was happy to continue to chair the group, if this was the wish of the group, but warned that his work might be such that he would have to stand down as chair of this group. In that event he would still support the group and deliver seminars for the group.

4. Future Seminars

It was agreed that the following future seminars would be delivered:

- Early July 2013 Birmingham
- September/October 2013 Manchester (in conjunction with the ACL Autumn Conference)
- November/December 2013 Milton Keynes (in aid of Sheila Chapman)

There was discussion of cost. It was agreed that the delegate cost for the Birmingham seminar would be the same as the March 2013 seminar held in London. A price for LAPG delegates is to be determined. It was agreed that the committee members would put forward ideas of topics. It was suggested that that practical topics be given priority.

5. National Conference

There was discussion as to the Legal Aid programme for the National Conference. Given the finalisation of the main programme and the possibility of a LAA speaker it was resolved to see if the Legal Aid programme could be changed to:

9.30/10.00 to 10.45 Legal Aid Costs Protection: Murray Heining

10.45 to 11.30 Very High Costs Cases: LAA speaker

12.00 to 1.00 Costs Budgeting: Sue Nash

2.00 to 3.45 LASPO: Murray Heining

It was agreed that Linda Kann and Paul Seddon would chair the breakout session.

6. Legal Aid Criminal Costs Consultation

It was agreed that notice of this be given on the Forum and members invited to send any contributions to Murray Heining.

7. Member Register

It was agreed that a register of members was required and that Dianne would be asked to send a registration form to all members, including trainees.

8. The Costs Lawyer magazine

It was agreed that an update would be submitted by Murray Heining. Linda Kann agreed to send an article on errors by the LSC.

9. LAPG

The proposal as to the link-up will be put to the council at its next meeting.

10. Any Other Business

There was no other business.