

**Minutes of Meeting of Legal Aid Special Interest Group Committee held on
Tuesday 24th January 2017 at 9:30 – 10.35**

Present: Paul Seddon
Rachel Perkins
Linda Kann
Charlotte Flanders
Bob Baker
Samantha Bagnall

Agenda

- 1 – Spring 2017 seminar/speakers/subjects
- 2 – Constitution
- 3 – Nominations/Election
- 4 – Agenda for Jarrow
- 5 – 2018 contracts
- 6 – AOB

1. Spring 2017 seminar

PS advised that Costs Judge James is unable to attend but is asking around at the SCCO. PS to chase Claire to chase CJ James (**AP1**). BB confirmed that Mr Edwards is unable to attend. Otherwise it was suggested that we ask a Regional Costs Judge from Manchester, but SB advised that they do not necessarily deal with Legal Aid matters. PS suggested Ian Besford, or alternatively LK advised that Murray may have a contact.

PS advised that he had not heard from Antony Leall and would try and telephone him today (**AP1**).

Currently we have filled 3½ hours (Matthew Gould, Carol Storer and Claire Green/Ken Corniss), but have 2 hours still to fill.

LK to chase DP re sending out booking forms (**AP2**). RP confirmed it is now on the website and SB had tweeted.

(Paul it was previously suggested that we have a panel session at the end of the day – is this viable?)

2. Constitution

CF confirmed that any votes to change the constitution had to be agreed by over 50% of the membership, not 50% of the vote. She has drafted a voting form which she had emailed PS that morning. The two points to vote on are 1) change of length of committee from 12 months to 24 months and 2) change vote required from 51% of membership to 51% of vote.

PS confirmed he could not see this being sorted this committee year, so may have to roll over. Discussions took place regarding electronic voting/survey monkey. CF to contact MC or KA to find out if this is possible (**AP3**).

CF stated she didn't see that the two votes could be done together. Committee initially agreed to vote on % of vote first, then deal with length of committee later.

However, CF then suggested that we try and get a vote out to change the length of committee as soon

as possible, and when this fails we use it as an argument to change the voting position on the constitution. CF to deal with asap – get vote out by 30th January to close on 10th February **(AP4)**.

3. Nominations/Election

Timetable agreed: **(AP5)**

Nominations 13th February -> 24th February

Election 28th February -> 14th March

4. Agenda for Jarrow

PS advised 8 attendees confirmed so far (including 3 committee members).

It was suggested that maybe the tour could be extended and the Q&A session shortened, especially as questions may be asked as we are taken around the various departments **(AP6)**.

5. 2018 Contracts

PS advised that the headline intentions had been released. He advised that nothing he could see would directly affect the ACL. However, he was aware that the LAA wished to reduce the number of procurement areas in London from 28 to 3. It was agreed that the ACL would wish to consider section 6 of the specification of the draft contracts.

6. AOB

None

Next committee meeting diarized for **Tuesday 28th February @ 9.30 am** (if required only).

Actions from this meeting		Owner	By when
AP1	PS to Chase CG to chase JJ(Ian Besford/Murray's contact) and Antony Leall	PS	ASAP
AP2	Contact DP re sending out booking forms	LK	ASAP
AP3	Contact MC/KA re electronic voting	CF	ASAP
AP4	Vote regarding length of committee	CF	ASAP
AP5	Nominations process	PS	Early Feb
AP6	Email LAA requesting slight change of draft agenda	PS	ASAP