

GLASGOW BAR ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee Meeting

Via Video Conferencing

on

Tuesday 3rd November 2020 @ 5.45pm

MINUTES

- **Sederunt**
- Billy Lavelle, Moira Deeney, Fiona McKinnon, Craig Dewar, Alison Heron, David Fiskien, Umar Hussain, Eddie Gilroy, Tracey Mulholland, Jim Bauld, Lindsay Gaughan

- **Apologies for Absence**
- Lorna McCann, Michael Gallen, Scott Adair, Katy Wilson

- **Minutes of Last Meeting**
 - Proposed: BL, Seconded: TM

- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Accounts in Credit.
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- **President and Chief Executive's Report** (See Action Points)
 - Membership – today is the first day of the new year and invoices have been sent to all members
 - Social Ideas – Quiz/Christmas drinks will be organised (Covid-19 regs. Factor)
 - CPD Sub Committee – the subcommittee met before today's meeting. It is likely that for this year coming, we will have a hybrid arrangement for CPD with the initial sessions taking place online via videoconference and hopefully the later sessions taking place face to face. MD is in the process of organising for the Family Law Conference to take place via Zoom. Sol Ad CPD is being arranged too. We recently had the mandatory ethics CPD running and this was a big success. We are very optimistic about the year ahead. We consider that being able to run sessions via zoom will be cost effective also
 - Foodbank Drive – UH and AH to organise by providing a list of requirements – this will be organised for collection in December via the Bar Common Room
 - Charity – we have sent a cheque for £190.00 to the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice
 - **All other action points continued to next meeting**

- **Matters requiring Special Attention**
 - **Court Issues**
 1. Feedback from LANT re funding request

There is still an embargo on information from the S Govt being released and so, we are still no further forward in relation to this. However, the Office Bearers met following the last email from the Law Society and published a letter which has been met with a good response.

- **Action:** Continue to next meeting

2. Fee Review Panel

There is still no word in relation to this. LANT are considering matters from their end.

- **Action:** Continue

3. Feedback from FMcK's meeting with PF

FMcK noted that there was a problem with letters being matched up for Pleading Diets. A mail backlog has been caught up with. FMcK requested again that an email address be set up for Pleading Diet letters specifically, however, this was resisted on the basis that it will cause too much admin for the PF. FMcK will do an update to members and circulate.

- **Action:** Take off agenda

4. Letter from SP / BL's Meeting with SP

BL had a positive meeting with the SP about the running of the court. He will arrange to send out an update for members.

- **Action:** Take off agenda

5. COVID issues in the courts

AMcI has sent an email to members, passing on other agencies concerns in relation to social distancing. CD has received an email from the PF re social distancing. We discussed that it would help if PFs could be available in court from 0930. BL will send an email to that effect to PF. We will issue correspondence to SCTS.

6. Availability of CJSW

This is something that we are going round in circles in relation to. We are trying to seek another solution.

- **Action:** Take off agenda

7. Jury Trials

We have been monitoring the situation here. We understand that there are to be Sheriff Court jury trials starting in Edinburgh and Glasgow from 1 /12.

- **Action:** Take off agenda

8. Cell areas

There is nothing further to report at this time.

- **Action:** Take off agenda

9. Summary written records and ID position

DF is looking into this.

- **Action:** Continue to next meeting

10. Member issue Rape Crisis

A meeting with the member who raised this will be arrange

- **Action:** Continue to next meeting

11. Civil Hearings

We understand that there was a staffing issue last week as a result of COVID. We have been told that CJSM emails accounts are not compatible with the family section email.

- **Action:** Take off agenda

12. Court Facilities and commencement of tuckshop

We have now commenced a tuckshop and have use of the kitchen in the Bar Common Room. We hope that this will be a success.

- **Action:** Continue to next meeting

13. Bank Holiday Courts

This is to be continued to the next meeting to monitor the corresponding situation in relation to payments.

- **Action:** Continue to next meeting

- **Organisational issues**

1. Shrieval Retirements and elevations – continue to next meeting
2. Furlough of GBA staff – this will be discussed by Office Bearers separately
3. Mandatory Ethics course and CPD programme for next year – covered above

- **Constitutional issues**

1. AGM arrangements – this is progressing well
2. Office bearers – BL has sent a President’s letter to members. He has also endorsed FMcK as new President. Moved BL, seconded EG
3. Honoraria – to be discussed
4. GBA charity – As noted above

- **Current Consultations**

- **Next Meeting**

To be confirmed at AGM. Proposal they will now be first Tuesday of each month

contd.... Action points/

Action	Owner	Close	Continue
Membership	MD/ALL		2020 membership drive
Social Ideas	LG TM EG		March event

CPD	EDUCATION SUB COMMITTEE		Update
Date for Next AGM	Constitution SC		Update
Update constitution	Constitution SC		Update
Membership Category for those not practising	Constitution SC		Update
Staff Contracts	FMcK and BL		Update
Judgment re late Payments	FMcK		Update
Changes in practice for Civil Practitioners	LM		Update
SLAB Duty Scheme	DF and LG		Update
SLAB Quarterly meeting	MD and Office Bearers		Update
Independent review of complaints handling	BL, MD, EG		Update
Foodbank Drive	AH/ UH		Update
Card Reader	FMcK		Update