

CITY OF LONDON LAW SOCIETY – CONSTRUCTION LAW COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2024 via Teams

Attendees and Apologies/non-attendees

See Agenda for 13.3.24 meeting with rolling attendees.

Membership

No changes; industry representation for consultants is open for consideration.

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting had been distributed; no comments and therefore approved.

Update on CLLS activities

Kevin Hart provided an update on Committee activities including the new AI Committee proposals.

The CLLS is also following up on the new website with increased social media and LinkedIn Committee engagement.

Colin Passmore as CLLS Chair is the Committee's bridge contact and will attend future meetings as appropriate; Matthew Rous is doing similar as Chief Executive and bridge for other Committees.

Finally, the Court & Committees Dinner is for 20 March 2024.

Associate Committee

The working group (Stephanie Canham, Julia Court Francis Ho, Alistair McGrigor) have been progressing a constitutional paper on the creation and function of the Associates Committee. That is to be tabled to the Committee but is generally consistent with earlier updates to the Committee and discussions.

The objective is to have the Committee constituted and an event planned before Summer 2024.

Insurance market update

Water damage and timber claims continue to be an issue for insurers.

The bond market is particularly challenged, given contractor insolvencies and impact on risk for sureties.

Building Safety Act dutyholders are yet to have any definitive impact on PI insurance.

Committee Training Series

Final details of the 2024 programme were confirmed and Eventbrite is to be enabled to help with attendance, including the prior list of attendees.

Other Current Committee activities

- (a) Novation Agreement and guidance: There is to be a light review of the existing documentation. Matthew Jones and Richard Ceeney are to deal; others welcome.
- (b) TPR's and CIGA: It was agreed that this was worthy to progress further and the suggestion to the Chair was to seek out input from David Metzger.
- (c) Letter of Intent and guidance: This is to be published.
- (d) Escrow Account Agreement: It was acknowledged that law firms now customarily are not acting as agents, given the regulatory environment and policies on client monies. There is recognition that some escrow agents are providing instruments but the position is opaque on CLLS equivalent forms. Further engagement with industry was proposed and follow up by the Committee.

AOB

None.

Date of next meeting – 13 March 2024