

## MEETING OF COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2019 Council Chamber - The Royal College of Anaesthetists

#### Members attending:

Professor R Mahajan, President	Dr H Johannsson
Dr Janice Fazackerley, Vice-President	Dr C Shannon
Dr S Fletcher, Vice-President	Dr J Strachan
Dr W Harrop-Griffiths	Dr F Plaat
Professor J Pandit	Dr M Swart
Dr K May	Dr S Muldoon
Professor M Grocott	Dr B Miller
Professor E O'Sullivan	Dr C Waldmann
Dr D Bogod	Dr D Lowry
Dr F Donald	Dr A Theron
Dr K Ramachandran	Dr D Selwyn
Dr L Williams	Dr K Ferguson (AofA)
Professor Judith Hall	Professor D Lambert
Dr C Carey	Dr C Pellowe
Dr R Perkins	Dr M Nixon
Dr C Mallinson	
Dr S Ramsay	

**In attendance:** Mr T Grinyer, Ms S Drake, Mr M Blaney, Ms K Stillman, Ms Claudia Moran.

The President welcomed Dr Kathleen Ferguson as Chair of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI) to her first council meeting as well as Jonathan Whale, President's Office Manager and Natalie Dowsett, President's Office Co-ordinator.

**Apologies for absence:** Dr M Forrest, Mr R Ampofo

#### 1. CEREMONIAL - New Council Members

The recently elected Council members: Dr Felicity Plaat, Dr Mike Swart and Dr Sarah Muldoon, were admitted to council.

#### 2. Guest Speaker - Professor Derek Alderson, President, Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) – provided an overview of the work of the RCS with a focus on the generic issues raised in the long-term NHS plan, the future of surgery and how joint working continues in perioperative care. Key areas highlighted included:

- A focus on the development of new technologies being made available to impact on surgical future development, particularly in surgical robotics.
- Development of staff within the multi-disciplinary teams to support new technologies.
- Simulation to support future training particularly in technical competencies.
- The importance in how the colleges can collaborate and agree on the future of perioperative care and the improvement programme. The focus would be on a team-based effort, particularly when supporting patients before any surgical procedure.

- Work that the RCS is leading on with the Academy which includes: harmonising relationships between the NHS and independent sector and in ensuring identical standards to include: transferring data and governance arrangements.
- Training and the need to preserve opportunities and in allowing exposure within the NHS independent sector.
- Regulation and registration of implants and current novel technologies being introduced within the NHS.
- Professor Alderson welcomed the establishment of the Centre for Perioperative Care, describing it as "one of the most important collaborative efforts that the colleges must engage in".

### 3. Council Minutes

**Motion:** Council approval was requested for the minutes of Council held on 21 November 2018.

The minutes from the last meeting of the Council were approved with a minor correction on point 5.2 (d). Dr A Theron and Professor D Lambert were included as being in attendance.

Council **approved** the minutes with these changes.

### 4. President's statement

Sadly the following deaths were reported and the Council were upstanding for a minute's silence in remembrance of the recently deceased:

Dr John Robert Lehane of Droitwich  
 Dr Anthony Leslie Revell  
 Dr Bill Walbank  
 Dr Sarah Honeywood Clegg  
 Dr Eileen Patricia Sapsford  
 Dr Keith William Dodd  
 Dr Geoffrey Tallent Spencer  
 Dr Douglas John Pearce  
 Dr Tanja Petra Pommereit  
 Dr John Alexander  
 Dr Norma Lynne Van Der Horst of the Netherlands  
 Dr John Roland Lewis of Market Drayton, Shropshire  
 Dr Narendra Mathur  
 Dr Andrew Thornton

A list of meetings attended by the President attended on behalf of Council was circulated. Other highlights included:

*NHS Long term plan*- Proposals for legislative change were published on Monday 7 January 2019.

*Workforce Strategy HEE – The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges is coordinating data collection to outline the number of consultants, SAS Doctors, doctors in training and the number of vacant posts to provide a comprehensive dataset for the medical workforce. The President and Vice President have attended meetings and thanked college staff who put together data from the college to form the basis of their workforce strategy.*

*Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC) – The President highlighted that the college continues to pursue its ambition of developing a multidisciplinary centre for perioperative care housed within the College and there has been support from surgeons, physicians, nurses and general practitioners.*

### 5. CEO update (relevant to Council business)

The council discussed and agreed a motion to the 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) implementing the decision around who votes for whom for RCoA council elections.

**Motion Agreed:** Council were happy for these changes to go to the AGM

## 6. Major items of business

### 6a Sustainability Strategy

The 2019 – 2022 strategy was circulated and Council were asked to review and approve. The strategy relates to:

- a. The College minimising its environmental impact
- b. Committing to encouraging our members to think about their environmental impact in clinical practice
- c. Reviewing our investment policy.

The strategy was welcomed and feedback is now being sought college wide on how to implement the strategy. It will be updated in line with the next overall College strategy.

Council also noted, NHS sustainability day will take place on *Thursday 21 March* and there was encouragement to widely publicise the strategy at this time.

**Motion Agreed:** Council approve the strategy document

### 6b Management of Glucocorticoids for Patients with Adrenal Insufficiency during the Peri-Operative Period

Dr Simon Fletcher circulated a revised version of the guidelines, which outline the administration of steroids in the perioperative period. The review arose as a result of two deaths and a suspected case of inadequate administration and was followed by a lengthy legal case. Following a lack of evidence the case was unsustainable. The guidance is now fully supported by Endocrinologists. Whilst the document does not require a substantial change from current practice it now allows a background to manage specific patients without any further risk of litigation on the basis of the original case. The guidelines now offer a consensus statement on steroid replacements. Dr Fletcher asked council to accept the guidelines but also encourage the opportunity of further research in this area.

**Motion Agreed:** Council were in agreement to support the current document

## 7. British Journal of Anaesthesia Liaison Group – Dr David Bogod

Minutes of the last meeting were circulated. The liaison group was set up to support both the college and the BJA.

*BJA complaints policy procedure* – if required a panel will be formed to include two representatives of the BJA (including a trustee) and an independent member nominated by the RCoA.

In keeping with the sustainability strategy, the BJA will look at ways in cutting down use of paper and printing and is currently looking at financial impact of accessing journals online only. They continue to work with Elsevier the publishing company.

## 8. Board Reports, Discussion items and Motions (Chair with Director to present)

### 8a Communication and External Affairs Board – Dr David Bogod

The minutes and chair's summary were reviewed – it was noted that all matters requiring decision were made at the Board of Trustees on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

*Dr Bogod noted current areas of work and highlighted:*

- The membership engagement strategy was approved by the Board of Trustees in February.
- Work will now focus on the major programme and roll out of the TSP project and the development of the Centre for Perioperative care.
- The Heritage committee paper sent to the board has not yet been approved due to undergoing work with external consultants on the archive project.

*Kathryn Stillman – highlighted current key major achievements which include:*

- Following the website scoping exercise in December 2018 a contract has now been signed and the build continues with completion scheduled for launch in July 2019.
- *Fitter better sooner* animation has now been produced into a powerpoint presentation for use by any GP or hospital service.
- The Patient Information Group are looking at enhancing compatibility of their material for future use.
- The policy report on *Perioperative Medicine and Integrated Care Systems* was launched in February and the report has been communicated via think tanks and other NHS organisations.
- President's Dinner held in February had the highest level of attendance from parliamentary policy makers.
- New lay committee members were inducted and started at the beginning of the year, work continues on finding a Northern Ireland candidate.

### **8b Clinical Quality and Research Board – Dr William Harrop-Griffiths**

The minutes and chair's summary were reviewed.

### **8c Education, Training and Examinations Board – Professor Mike Grocott**

The minutes and chairs summary were reviewed.

*Professor Grocott noted current areas of work and main matters arising included:*

- The probability of exam error has now been downgraded within the risk register, following implementation of recommendations by the Primary Exam Review Group.
- New members have been appointed to the Equivalence Committee. An option to run meetings on non-council days has caused difficulty in ensuring full attendance and there is a risk of losing expertise.
- There has been agreement to increase event fees marginally for 2019/20, the recommendation will go to the next Finance and Resource Board.
- Changes to the regulations around application to the examiner body has been presented and there is now a new system for appointing college tutors.

*Thanks were given to the Director and staff on key major achievements which included:*

- An increase in sold out events.
- Issues with Life Long Learning platform which have now been resolved and have fully recovered.
- The new format of the final examination which has now been successfully implemented.
- Anaesthesia 2018 was completely sold out, for Anaesthesia 2019 there are currently 11 sponsoring companies and it is on track to sell out.
- A summary of Key Performance Indicators show that they have all met with the Education Strategy.

## **9. Nominations Committee – Dr Kirstin May**

The chair's summary and minutes were circulated on behalf of the previous chair Professor Robert Sneyd, who was thanked for his time as chair. A paper was also provided outlining modernising and streamlining the nominations process to widen the participation process amongst fellows and members. The criteria for honours and awards and prizes have recently been reviewed in order to give an overview of how they are awarded by the college. The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine (FICM) awards have their own nominations committee and process.

There was agreement to continue to improve on the processes in place and work on modernising it. Consideration must also be given to review and consider equality and diversity issues, to support this Ms Jane Ingham (trustee) has been appointed as a representative to support the committee and there was a request to feedback on any issues or thoughts members may have to Dr May.

**Motion Agreed:** Council fully approved the documents with a request that the font size be increased slightly.

## **10. Appointments and re-appointments**

The following appointments were made:

Deputy regional advisers

- Dr I Whitehead as deputy regional adviser for the Northern region

- Dr M Jackson as deputy regional adviser for Wessex

## 11. Verbal update from Dr Kathleen Ferguson on the Association of Anaesthetists

Dr K Ferguson provided an update to note that:

- The association of membership survey is open and feedback will be shared in April Council.
- SAS survey on fatigue, which is a joint project with the College project is currently being analysed. The consultant fatigue survey is almost ready for publication and will be sent to fellows and members.
- Current campaigns continue to grow and they have support from other colleges. The campaign for World Sleep Day will take place on 15 March.
- Association trainee committee request to collaborate with the RCoA in the curriculum re-write to include material on fatigue and wellbeing
- The annual congress in Glasgow will take place in September 2019 and cyclists will raise funds.
- Safety – collaboration with the College – the anaesthesia safety group will move forward as SALG and the branding will be refreshed.
- SAFE Africa - the current amount raised is £96K of the £100K sought. The campaign will continue for 3 years.
- The Heritage Museum has recently been refurbished – The museum participates in the *museum lates* programme. Sessions are held on Friday evenings on dates throughout the year.
- Current activities will include – fire safety standards and a meeting with Snowmed to discuss computerised anaesthetic forms.
- The Commissions and markets authority (article 22) will now require independent practitioners in private practice to publish their fees.

## 12. Audit and Internal Affairs Committee – Dr David Bogod

*Review of 2019 Council Elections* - A specific issue to council was raised relating to canvassing for elections and use of social media to support this, this related to how much canvassing should be allowed.

*Risk management* – advised that the risk register is being devolved down to appropriate boards than reviewed at the Audit and Internal Affairs Committee.

*Backfill* - this should initially only be offered for the President and Vice President's role. A Decision for council is to ratify the principles for backfill (funding) approved by the committee based on similar rules in other colleges. There was a suggestion that for consistency across College activities (job plans), there should be a small working group established to review details. It was agreed to build an operational framework to support this.

**Motion Agreed** – Council supports the decision but there is a requirement to develop an operational framework

## 13. Report and any matters arising for Council from the Trustees meeting

No matters for discussion arose from the previous meeting.

## **Ceremonial**

### **Fellowship ad eundem**

Dr Jan Schumacher  
Dr Eschtike Schulenburg  
Dr Anand Gore  
Dr Sudhakar Marri

### **Humphrey Davy award**

Dr J-P Lomas  
Dr Nicola Heard  
Dr Roopa McCrossan  
Dr Nancy Redfern  
Dr Felicity Corcoran  
Dr Kathleen Ferguson  
Professor Jaideep Pandit  
Dr Emma Plunkett