



Report to Council April 2025

Decisions of CMT

ACES Terrier Dedicated Website:

Betty Albon has presented a report to CMT on the proposed Terrier Website together with the quotation from Marcus MacAulay which it is pleasing to see has not been increased from last time. Report and quotation on the website. **There was general consensus from the CMT that this was a good step forward for the Terrier and Council is asked to endorse the CMT decision to enter into a contract with Marcus as proposed.** It is noted that there will be a resource implication for the Association with regard to maintenance and advert invoicing which needs to be monitored. Link to draft website here: <http://marcusm82.sg-host.com/>

Social Media Manager:

Neil Webster submitted a report to CMT setting out ideas discussed with Sara Cameron with regard to the Social Media Manager role.

A meeting has been had with Sara Barton, who is known to Neil and others. She is an ex journalist now undertaking portfolio work. Her last big role was marketing and social media for the South of Scotland Destination Alliance. We have her CV and this is her on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sara-barton-tourism-copywriter-b2b-communicator/>

As a result of the meeting there is confidence that Sara Barton is capable and well suited performing the role and should be offered a position. CMT has agreed to take this forward as a recommendation to Council. The position will be subject to the previously approved JD, the current officer hourly rate and an indicative four hours a week.

Council is asked to approve this and instruct CMT to finalise terms.

Linked to this is the request from Jacqueline Cumiskey to have access to the main ACES LinkedIn account so she could post EB items and whether this should be extended to other branch secretaries. It is proposed the new Social Media Manager addresses this request.

2025 Junior Vice President:

The President and Immediate Past President have reported to CMT on a number of suggestions and approaches with regard to filling the vacant role of Junior Vice President. Discussions are ongoing and the latest position will be reported to Council accordingly.

Proposals for South East Branch

Following the decision of the January Council, Marcus Perry, in consultation with the President, held a number of meetings with SE Branch members and presented his proposals to CMT for approval. Details of the proposals are contained in the report published on the website and CMT has approved the proposed way forward.

Corporate Membership 2025/26

CMT was given authority by ACES Council in April 2024 to approve packages for existing and new Corporate Members for the next 3 years. In the light of experience gained and ongoing relationships with the existing CMs it has been proposed and agreed by CMT that the packages remain the same as those agreed for 2024/25. Discussions are now in hand with the four main CMs and progress is being made with signing up additional new CMs as interest in the 2025 Conference begins to strengthen. ACES Council is asked to note actions taken.

Priorities, Timescales and Resources for 2025

CMT re-affirmed that the Constitution Review, Membership Review and Data Management should be the immediate and core priorities for 2025.

The issue of progressing matters through volunteers when they are already burdened by heavy full-time job demands was considered again by CMT. As a result, it has been agreed with Assistant Secretary, David Pethen, that he looks to extend his current role to take a prominent lead on the priorities and to explore the mechanisms for further paid external support.

In response to this, David has developed, as requested at January Council, thinking on the impact of LGR/Devolution on the Association. CMT has agreed for a paper on this, and the consequences for the Constitution and Membership Reviews, to be presented to Council.

Trevor Bishop
ACES Secretary
April 2025