

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 May 2007 at 1 Lambeth High Street, London, SE1

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Present

President	Mr H Patel
Vice-President	Mr G Alexander
Treasurer	Mr J Jolley

Mr M Astbury	Mr J Buisson
Mr D Carter	Dr B Curwain
Mr S Dajani	Professor S Denyer
Mrs D Drury	Mrs D Eustace
Dr P Entwistle	Mr J Gentle
Mr A Gush	Mr J Hanlon
Mrs S Hikins	Mrs C Hunt
Mrs L Jacobs	Mr A Kershaw
Professor B Michell	Mrs L Morgan
Mr G Phillips	Mr C Ranshaw
Ms Marcia Saunders	Mr D Simpson
Mr D Thomson	Mr S Wells

In attendance

Mr Paul Bennett, Chairman, English Pharmacy Board
Dr Rose Marie Parr, Chairman, Scottish Pharmacy Board
Mr Peter Jones, Chairman, Welsh Pharmacy Board

07/35 Apologies for absence

Ms S Agha, Mr R Jobling, Professor M Schofield.

07/36 Declaration of interests

The President reminded Council members that declarations of interest should be made by individual Council members at the beginning of the relevant item.

07/37 Report of the DH Working Party on Professional Regulation and Leadership in Pharmacy

The President welcomed the publication of the report and the recognition in it that the Society will form a major component of a future professional body.

07/38 Motion to Council

The President asked Mr John Gentle to propose the motion, which had been circulated with supporting information at 07.05/C/41.

Mrs Lesley Morgan declared an interest as a member and a member of the Executive of the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK). Mrs Corrine Hunt declared an interest as a member of the APTUK.

Mr Gentle proposed the following motion:

“This Council believes that as soon as possible the Society should begin a process to enable it to recognise affiliate bodies whose members benefit from paid services agreed to be provided by the Society.”

In proposing the motion Mr Gentle stated that following the process to date of engagement with the membership and more widely in the profession on the white paper proposal that “a body akin to a Royal College” be established, it was imperative that the Council had concrete proposals to put forward. He felt there was a view outside the Society that it had not been open and inclusive in its deliberations to date, which needed to be addressed. The motion called for investigation of the possibility of affiliate status for organisations, which would illustrate the Council’s commitment to working with others towards a future professional body.

In seconding the motion, Mr Andrew Gush, welcomed the proposal as a proactive and inclusive way to signal the Council’s intention for the future.

Mr Peter Jones, Chairman of the Welsh Pharmacy Board outlined the concerns of the Board. The Board considered that there needed to be an informed debate throughout the profession on the future professional body, which could be an inclusive organisation engaging with bodies, some of which included non-pharmacist members. The Board felt the motion would pre-empt decisions which should rightly be taken following such a debate.

The following points were made in debate.

- The Society’s Scoping the Profession report had already identified that there were a large number of pharmacy organisations, which would like to work with the Society.
- A number of Council members voiced concerns that the motion seemed to be urging Council to take a decision which would constrain Council in future discussion of the development of a professional body.
- A number of Council members were concerned that the motion effectively precluded non-pharmacists from membership of a future professional body, which, although that might be the ultimate determination, should not be determined at this stage.
- The proposal of affiliate status was one of several potential mechanisms of engagement which needed to be fully explored as part of the work moving forward.
- The motion proposed that the Society should work towards affiliate status; the debate had been about a future body.
- It would be important to describe what affiliate status would offer to other bodies, if that was one of the ways forward.

Mr Alan Kershaw proposed the following amendment:

“This Council believes that as soon as possible the Society should begin a process to enable it to recognise affiliate bodies whose members benefit from paid services agreed to be provided by the Society and who as individuals would not thereby later be excluded should it be so decided, from associate membership of a new professional leadership body for pharmacy.”

Mrs Corrine Hunt seconded the amendment.

In debating the amendment the following points were made.

- The Society was working with others to lead the development of a future professional body and it was important not to give the impression outside that decisions had already been taken about the role, function and structures of that body.
- A number of Council members were of the view that the amendment did not mitigate the exclusivity of the motion.
- Some Council members expressed their view that any future body should be for pharmacists.
- It was important that the Council communicated to the membership that at the appropriate stage in the process they would be asked for their views.

The President asked the Council to vote on accepting the amendment to the motion. Council voted and the amendment was lost.

The President asked the Council to vote on the motion as submitted by Mr Gentle.

Mr Sultan Dajani proposed that a named vote be taken. Mr Martin Astbury seconded the proposal. A vote was taken and the proposal for a named vote was carried.

Council voted on the motion as follows:

In favour: Mr M Astbury, Mr D Carter, Mr S Dajani, Mrs D Drury, Mrs D Eustace, Mr J Gentle, Mr A Gush, Mr G Phillips, Mr D Simpson, Mr D Thomson, Mr S Wells.

Against: Mr J Jolley, Mr J Buisson, Dr B Curwain, Professor S Denyer, Dr P Entwistle, Mrs S Hikins, Mrs C Hunt, Mrs L Jacobs, Mr A Kershaw, Mrs L Morgan, Ms M Saunders.

Abstentions: Mr G Alexander, Mr J Hanlon, Professor B Michell, Mr C Ranshaw.

As there was an equality of votes cast for and against the motion, the President used his casting vote against the motion.

The motion was lost.

07/39 Order of business for the 2007 Annual General Meeting

The Secretary & Registrar introduced paper 07.05/C/42, which had been circulated.

Council

received

- i. the order of business for the 166th Annual General meeting, and

noted

- ii. the arrangements for the meeting.

07/40 Retiring Council members

The President thanked the following Council members for their work whilst on the Council and wished them well for the future: Mr Sultan Dajani, Mrs Davan Eustace, Mrs Corrine Hunt, Professor Michael Schofield and Mr Stephen Wells.

07/41 The implementation of the new Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive (Directive 2005/36/EC) and consequences of a three-part register

Council

noted

the report, which had been circulated at 07.05/C/43 and that Council would receive a paper on the implementation of Directive 2005/36/EC in June 2007

The President closed the public meeting.