

Council Meeting

Hybrid meeting to be held **in committee** on Thursday, 21 April 2022 at 10:00 am in the Rosalind Paget Room at The Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN

Agenda	Classification ¹	Rationale ²
1. President's introduction	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
2. Apologies for absence	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
3. Declaration of interests	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
4. Minutes of the meeting held 17 March 2022		
i. Unclassified minutes	Unclassified	n/a
ii. Classified appendix	Private / Confidential	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
5. Matters arising		
a. Obituaries	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
b. Council correspondence	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
6. Matters for decision by Council and for report (confidential items)		
a. Under Care / Out of Hours Review	Confidential	1, 2, 3, 4
BREAK		
b. Council culture project – update	Confidential	1
7. Notices of motion	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
8. Questions	Oral report Unclassified	n/a

9. Any other College business	Oral report Confidential	# TBC
10. Risk Register, equality and diversity	Oral report Confidential	# TBC
11. Date of next meeting Thursday, 9 June 2022 at 10:00 am (reconvening in the afternoon). This meeting will be held virtually.	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
Dawn Wiggins Secretary, RCVS Council 020 7202 0737 / d.wiggins@rcvs.org.uk		

¹Classifications explained

Unclassified	Papers will be published on the internet and recipients may share them and discuss them freely with anyone. This may include papers marked 'Draft'.
Confidential	Temporarily available only to Council Members, non-Council members of the relevant committee, sub-committee, working party or Board and not for dissemination outside that group unless and until the relevant committee or Council has given approval for public discussion, consultation or publication.
Private	The paper includes personal data which should not be disclosed at any time or for any reason, unless the data subject has agreed otherwise. The Chair may, however, indicate after discussion that there are general issues which can be disclosed, for example in reports to committees and Council.

²Classification rationales

Confidential	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To allow the Committee or Council to come to a view itself, before presenting to and/or consulting with others 2. To maintain the confidence of another organisation 3. To protect commercially sensitive information 4. To maintain public confidence in and/or uphold the reputation of the veterinary professions and/or the RCVS
Private	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To protect information which may contain personal data, special category data, and/or criminal offence data, as listed under the General Data Protection Regulation

Terms of Reference (derived from the Royal Charter)**RCVS Council**

1. RCVS Council exists to enable the College to fulfil its objects, as laid down in the Supplemental Charter granted on 17 February 2015 to the Royal Charter of 1844, ie:
 - a) To set, uphold and advance veterinary standards, and to promote, encourage and advance the study and practice of the art and science of veterinary surgery and medicine, in the interests of the health and welfare of animals and in the wider public interest.
 - b) The Charter also recognises those functions provided for in the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966, in terms of the regulation of the profession, and also recognises other activities not conferred upon the College by the Veterinary Surgeons Act or any other Act, which may be carried out in order to meet its objects, including but not limited to:
 - i. Accrediting veterinary education, training and qualifications, other than as provided for in the Act in relation to veterinary surgeons;
 - ii. Working with others to develop, update and ensure co-ordination of international standards of veterinary education;
 - iii. Administering examinations for the purpose of registration, awarding qualifications and recognising expertise other than as provided for in the Act;
 - iv. Promulgating guidance on post-registration veterinary education and training for those admitted as members and associates of the College;
 - v. Encouraging the continued development and evaluation of new knowledge and skills;
 - vi. Awarding fellowships, honorary fellowships, honorary associateships or other designations to suitable individuals;
 - vii. Keeping lists or registers of veterinary nurses and other classes of associate;
 - viii. Promulgating guidance on professional conduct;
 - ix. Setting standards for and accrediting veterinary practices and other suppliers of veterinary services;
 - x. Facilitating the resolution of disputes between registered persons and their clients;

- xi. Providing information services and information about the historical development of the veterinary professions;
 - xii. Monitoring developments in the veterinary professions and in the provision of veterinary services;
 - xiii. Providing information about, and promoting fair access to, careers in the veterinary professions.
- 2. It is laid down in the Charter that the affairs of the College shall be managed by the Council as constituted under the Act. The Council shall have the entire management of and superintendence over the affairs, concerns and property of the College (save those powers of directing removal from, suspension from or restoration to the register of veterinary surgeons and supplementary veterinary register reserved to the disciplinary committee established under the Act) and shall have power to act by committees, subcommittees or boards and to delegate such functions as it thinks fit from time to time to such committees, subcommittees or boards and to any of its own number and to the employees and agents of the College. The Council is also responsible for the appointment of the CEO and Registrar, and the ratification of the Assistant Registrars. Appointment of all other staff members is the responsibility of the CEO and relevant members of the Senior Team.
- 3. A strategic plan is normally developed and agreed by Council to facilitate the delivery of these activities and to ensure ongoing development and quality improvement.
- 4. This scheme outlines how Council's functions are currently delegated.

Summary

Meeting	Council
Date	21 April 2022
Title	March 2022 Council minutes
Summary	Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 17 March 2022
Decisions required	To approve the unclassified minutes and classified appendix
Attachments	Classified appendix (confidential)
Author	Dawn Wiggins Secretary, Council 020 7202 0737 / d.wiggins@rcvs.org.uk

Classifications

Document	Classification ¹	Rationales ²
Paper	Unclassified	n/a
Classified appendix	Private / Confidential	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

¹Classifications explained

Unclassified	Papers will be published on the internet and recipients may share them and discuss them freely with anyone. This may include papers marked 'Draft'.
Confidential	Temporarily available only to Council Members, non-Council members of the relevant committee, sub-committee, working party or Board and not for dissemination outside that group unless and until the relevant committee or Council has given approval for public discussion, consultation or publication.
Private	The paper includes personal data which should not be disclosed at any time or for any reason, unless the data subject has agreed otherwise. The Chair may, however, indicate after discussion that there are general issues which can be disclosed, for example in reports to committees and Council.

²Classification rationales

Confidential	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To allow the Committee or Council to come to a view itself, before presenting to and/or consulting with others 2. To maintain the confidence of another organisation 3. To protect commercially sensitive information 4. To maintain public confidence in and/or uphold the reputation of the veterinary professions and/or the RCVS
Private	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To protect information which may contain personal data, special category data, and/or criminal offence data, as listed under the General Data Protection Regulation

Council

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on Thursday, 17 March 2022 at the Royal College of Anaesthetists, 35 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4SG at 10:00 am

Members:

Dr K A Richards (President in the Chair)	
Dr L H Allum	*Professor S A May
Mrs B S Andrews-Jones	Mrs C-L McLaughlan
Miss L Belton	Professor T D H Parkin
Professor D Bray	Dr S Paterson
Mr J M Castle	Professor C J Proudman
Dr D S Chambers	Mr M E Rendle
Dr N T Connell	Dr N C Smith
Dr M A Donald	Mr T J Walker
Dr J M Dyer	Dr C M Whiting
Ms L Ford	Professor J L N Wood
Dr M M S Gardiner	Ms J S M Worthington
*Dr M O Greene	

*Denotes absent

In attendance:

Ms E C Ferguson	Registrar
Ms L Lockett	CEO
Ms C McCann	Assistant Registrar / Director of Operations (DoO)

Guests:

Ms C Ashcroft	<i>MRCVS.co.uk/visionline</i> (open session only)
Ms A Findon	Head of Policy, Public Affairs and Governance, British Veterinary Association (BVA) (open session only)
Mr P Imrie	<i>Veterinary Times</i> (open session only)
Mr J Loeb	<i>Veterinary Record</i> (open session only)
Ms C Marcus	<i>Veterinary Practice</i> (open session only)
Ms J Shardlow	ARC Chair
Dr J Shotton	President, BVA (open session only)

President's introduction

1. The President welcomed guests and outlined the order of the meeting.

Apologies for absence

2. Apologies for absence were received from Dr Greene and Professor May.

Declarations of interest

3. Dr Smith had reverted to Col Smith following his appointment by Her Majesty the Queen as Honorary Colonel Commandant of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps (RAVC) from 1 March 2022.
4. There were no other declarations of interest to record.

Minutes of the meeting held 20 January 2022

5. Council had had the opportunity to comment electronically on the unclassified minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2022. There were no further comments.
6. A vote was taken:

For:	22
Against:	0
Abstain:	0

7. Dr Connell and Professor Wood experienced technical difficulties and submitted an oral vote for all decisions at the meeting. Dr Richards also submitted an oral vote for this decision.
8. The unclassified minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting by a unanimous vote. The classified appendix would be dealt with in the closed session of the meeting.

Matters arising

Obituaries

9. There were no written obituaries received. However, two notifications had been received for Council's information:
 - Mrs Jean Turner: a long-standing and prominent member of the veterinary nursing profession; the inaugural recipient of the Veterinary Nursing Golden Jubilee Award; and first veterinary nurse on the RCVS Knowledge Trustee Board. Further details about Mrs Turner were on the College's website; and
 - Mr David Wood: former Assistant Registrar of the RCVS.

10. Council stood for a minute silence to acknowledge all past colleagues and members of the professions that had passed since it last met, and also to remember all those who had died in the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Council correspondence

11. The President reported:

Ukraine

12. It was noted that a letter had been sent to the Ukrainian nationals on the *RCVS Register of Members* to offer support and to note that the Refugee Policy would also apply to Ukrainian veterinary surgeons holding non-recognised qualifications. It was heartening to see the generosity of spirit through numerous initiatives such as:
 - British Veterinary Professionals for Ukraine;
 - Defra had published details of the emergency support put in place for people fleeing Ukraine and entering the UK with their pets;
 - the government had updated its website to signpost details of schemes such as Homes for Ukraine; Ukraine Family Scheme; and, UK visa support for Ukraine nationals.
13. The situation would continue to be monitored.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022

14. The 2022 AGM will be held in person on Friday, 8 July 2022 at One Great George Street, Westminster. The provisional programme would commence at 11:00 am followed by a brief Council meeting; in the afternoon there would be the presentation of RCVS Honours and Awards followed by various addresses, the investiture of the new President and Vice-Presidents, and a talk from a guest speaker. The Events Team would send out full details in due course.

RCVS Council Election 2022

15. Information about candidates standing for election was on the RCVS website; this year there were 13 candidates standing: four women, nine men, and included one existing Council member eligible for re-election.
16. Voting opened week commencing 14 March 2022 and Civica Election Services, who ran the election on the College's behalf, sent emails to eligible voters with details on how to vote. All votes needed to be cast by **5:00 pm on Friday, 22 April 2022**. The small number of veterinary surgeons for whom the College did not hold an email address would receive a letter with instructions on how to vote, in addition to their security code to allow them access to the unique voting website; there was also the opportunity to call Civica Election Services who would be able to assist members with casting their votes.
17. Ahead of the start of the voting period, the College had invited members of the profession to submit one question to the candidates, who were then asked to record a short video of themselves answering two questions of their choice, which were published on the RCVS website. These videos were optional and not all candidates chose to submit a video.

Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) General Assembly

18. After two years of postponement the General Assembly was now expected to be held in person in London from 16 – 19 June 2022.

Presidents' Reception

19. After an extended pandemic-enforced break, it was reported that the Presidents' Reception would take place on the evening of Wednesday, 20 April 2022 at the Royal College of Nursing – this would be a multi-President event for Drs Connell, Greene and Richards to celebrate what had been achieved by the College over the last couple of years and help to thank a range of stakeholders for their support – more details would come from the Events Team in due course. Council was reminded that it was a social, non-compulsory, event so expenses would not be payable.

CEO update

20. The CEO introduced the update and reported that:

- most staff had moved into the temporary office space from 14 February 2022. There had been some challenges and a new hybrid form of working was ongoing; it would be a useful exercise to look at how best staff and College needs could be met before moving into the new College offices;
- the exit from Belgravia House was down to its final days. Grateful thanks were given to the Facilities, IT and RCVS Knowledge Teams for the work undertaken to get to that point. Large amounts of items were being distributed across the country including historical artifacts being relocated to a secure salt mine, the library service moving to the Westminster Archives, and thousands of boxes had been sent off-site. The next step of moving to the new premises in Hardwick Street would be considered once the College had closed the door on Belgravia House;
- from an operational perspective regarding the ongoing situation in Ukraine:
 - o Ukraine nationals with non-recognised degrees and refugee status could access support via the College's Refugee Policy;
 - o the College was divesting from its very small amount of Russian investments;
 - o staff affected were being offered support;
 - o the College was working with Defra regarding Ukraine nationals fleeing with their pets;
 - o there was an increased awareness regarding cyber attacks;
 - o some members of the profession wished to house refugees, but it was currently unknown whether any refugees were veterinary professionals; members offering housing would be directed to the government website;
 - o staff were looking to support the Ukraine refugees through a charity event to be confirmed;
- a report of the Workforce Summit event had been produced; this was *not* the action plan as there was still work to be carried out, for example, around public health; the action plan would follow in due course;

- re: Veterinary Graduate Development Programme (VetGDP): overseas organisations had been impressed by the mentorship training and had approached us for support in delivering something similar;
- a new online discussion forum had been set up to support the RCVS Fellowship in becoming a learned society;
- she was delighted to report that the RCVS Director of Veterinary Nursing, Julie Dugmore, had been awarded the British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) 2022 Bruce Vivash Jones Veterinary Nursing Award for outstanding contributions to the advancement of small animal veterinary nursing;
- the College would have a stand at BSAVA Congress to be held in Manchester the following week;
- there were a few matters relating to the Mind Matters Initiative (MMI):
 - o mental health would be represented at BSAVA by MMI hosting a series of Kite App Workshop, and a range of campfire chats;
 - o following the MMI Veterinary Mental Health Symposium in November 2021, a report had been published on the College's website;
 - o the Mind Matters International project in conjunction with the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) had recently held an online roundtable considering the workforce shortages and its effects on mental health;
- work was ongoing for the forthcoming FVE General Assembly to be hosted jointly with the British Veterinary Association (BVA) in the summer; it was important to maintain links with Europe now that the UK was no longer part of the EU;
- following the resignation of Richard Burley, the College had a new Chief Technology Officer (CTO), Darren Tysoe. He was from an educational background and was settling in well;
- thanks were given to the RCVS staff team who continued to work in a hybrid setting (part at home, part in the temporary offices) with the usual good spirit, enthusiasm, creativity and compassion.

21. The President added her gratitude to all members of staff.

22. There were no questions and the report was noted.

Matters for decision by Council and for report (unclassified items)

Discretionary Fund

23. The Director of Operations (DoOps) explained that the Discretionary Fund was an allocation in the budget for expenditure on items not provided for to allow for new ideas within a budget year,

and to enable strategically important changes to be fast-tracked. There were financial controls in place and the provision in the 2022 budget was £150,000.

24. There had been three applications to the Fund, two from the Academy, and one from Finance:

- (Academy) £13,800 for an Application Programming Interface (API) between the RCVS Academy online learning repository and the College's database, iMis;
- (Academy) £11,400 to develop the look and feel of the Academy;
- (Finance) £7,700 to upgrade the Sage accounting package.

25. The report was noted.

Changes to Statutory Instrument for Statutory Membership Examination (SME)

26. The Chair, Education Committee, introduced the paper and explained that the SME was for overseas veterinary surgeons who did not qualify for automatic recognition in the UK and had to pass the SME in order to register and practise as a veterinary surgeon in the UK.

27. Currently, only one written and one practical component was available each year. When undertaking the examination, candidates had to pass the written component before going forward to the practical examination, both components had to be passed within the same diet and within a 12-month period. The change was to enable candidates who had passed the written component and then failed the practical component to retake the practical component at the next available opportunity. If they subsequently failed the practical for a second time, they would have to re-take the entire examination.

28. Whilst recognising that most of the cost went towards setting up the practical examinations, there would be a minor reduction to the re-sit fee. If Council agreed to the amendment to the Statutory Instrument, the College would progress the changes through Defra and the Privy Council.

29. A vote was taken:

For:	22
Against:	0
Abstain:	0

30. Mr Rendle experienced technical difficulties and submitted an oral vote.

31. The changes were agreed by a unanimous vote.

Refugee Policy amendment

32. The Chair, Education Committee, introduced the paper. The Refugee Policy implemented in 2020 provided for financial support to refugee veterinary surgeons looking to sit the SME and included funding for the examination entry fee, costs of one attempt at a recognised English language test (if not exempt) and travel / accommodation costs for the practical examination (if the candidate reached that stage).

33. To date, refugees that had approached the RCVS had been from schools where the degree was not currently recognised by the RCVS, hence proposed as part of the SME. However, the current crisis in the Ukraine might result in refugee veterinary surgeons who wished to register with the RCVS who did not need to sit the SME, as one school had recently been awarded European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) accreditation. Although elements of the programme had been taught in English at the school, the majority was taught in Ukrainian, therefore graduates would still be required to pass an approved English language test in order to register, even though the degree was recognised.
34. The proposal before Council was to amend the current Policy to ensure all refugee veterinary surgeons could receive financial support to aid them to become eligible to Register with the RCVS.
35. It was questioned if this matter could be taken further and be extended for temporary registrants that had passed the SME / were from EAEVE-accredited schools that had not passed the English language test; at the moment the temporary registrant supervisor had to sign that they were proficient in all components (reading / writing / listening / understanding). Temporary registration was time-limited and was very easy to remove without going through the disciplinary process if a registrant was non-compliant. The Registrar confirmed it was possible to consider this matter and that it would have to go through the required process via Registration Committee and up to Council thereafter. It was highlighted that Temporary Registration was limited in its scope and could not cover working in the full range of veterinary services.
36. It was noted that refugee status had a narrow definition under the 1951 convention. Some people may instead come under the 'leave to remain' option as it was a humanitarian crisis that may not be covered. The President confirmed the College was working closely with the Refugee Council regarding other statuses and Council would be updated once this was known.
37. A vote was taken to approve the amendment to the Refugee Policy to allow all veterinary surgeon refugees financial support for English language testing where it was needed:

For:	22
Against:	0
Abstain:	0

38. The changes were agreed by a unanimous vote.

Reports of standing committees – to note

Advancement of the Professions Committee (APC)

39. In the absence of the Chair, APC, the report was introduced by the Treasurer, who highlighted:

- the RCVS / Veterinary Schools Council (VSC) Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Student Working Group Report had been presented to the Committee; this was now with VSC for comment prior to publication;

- a Task and Finish Working Party, along with its Terms of Reference, had been approved to review the role of Limited Licensure alongside what could be achieved via reasonable adjustments; this then went to Finance and Resources Committee (FRC) for final approval;
- a report of the Workforce Summit event had been in its final stages and, once published, would be sent to all stakeholders unable to attend on the day to encourage feedback; it would also be available on the RCVS website and circulated to the media.

40. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)

41. The Chair, ARC, introduced the report and highlighted:

- whilst the Committee usually took a 'deep dive' into a departmental risk register at each meeting, at the latest meeting it had instead considered the 'Leaving Belgravia House Risk Register' in which the exit from the building had identified some potential risks; some things that could go wrong and which could affect the move. The Committee was impressed at the degree of planning undertaken to identify the risks and the mitigations put into place to balance them;
- the new form of top 10 risks on the Corporate Risk Register as requested by the Committee, which would be further considered by Council at a later agenda item;
- the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) update was presented with the visitation work plan for vet school and veterinary nurse qualifications. The Committee was content with the level of assurance in place; its next update on progress would be before the Committee in May 2022.

42. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Education Committee (EC)

43. The Chair, EC, introduced the report and highlighted:

- changes to the Conflicts of Interest Policy for people acting as accreditation visitors had included the reduction in the timeframe between a potential visitor having an association with a vet school and being a member of the visiting panel from 10 years to five years; and added a period of three years' separation since a potential visitor was engaged as an external examiner by the vet school. It was hoped this would widen the pool of visitors;
- having students on the Committee provided good feedback particularly around Extra-Mural Studies (EMS). Upon reviewing the temporary EMS policy (in relation to Covid), it was noted that there still appeared to be problems for the 2024 cohort, so the Committee had decided to reduce clinical EMS from 26 to 23 weeks in total due to the difficulty in securing placements since the beginning of term in September 2021;

- the Veterinary Graduate Development Programme (Vet GDP) Advisor Training Report had been received and had been rated positive across all groups; furthermore, the VetGDP Surveys had captured feedback from almost 100% of new graduates going into clinical practice, which would help Education Committee going forward.

44. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Finance and Resources Committee (FRC)

45. The Treasurer introduced the FRC report and highlighted the following items that had been approved:

- a support package for veterinary nursing refugees;
- the Task and Finish Working Party on Limited Licensure (proposed by APC);
- an honorarium relating to accreditation visitor payments of eight days (five days for the visitation, plus three days of preparatory work / attending pre-visit meetings).

46. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Registration Committee (RC)

47. The Chair, RC, introduced the reports and highlighted the agreed changes to the Temporary Registration Form to make the onus on the supervising veterinary surgeon to review the English language capabilities of the Temporary Registrant and to confirm it in a stronger declaration.

48. There were no comments or questions, and the reports were noted.

Joint Education, and Registration, Committee (EC_RC)

49. The Chair, RC, who had taken the Chair for the joint meeting, introduced the report and highlighted that the joint Committee had considered a third method of English language testing at the meeting and had decided that there were not enough reassurances to include it as an approved method at that time. More work would be undertaken, and this would be kept under review.

50. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Standards Committee (SC)

51. The Chair, SC, introduced the report and highlighted:

- a total of 4,603 queries had been responded to by the team in 2021 over and above the papers on policy changes;
- the end to remote prescribing on 14 March 2022.

52. There were no comments or questions, and the reports were noted.

Veterinary Nurses Council (VNC)

53. The Chair, VNC, introduced the report and highlighted the review of the RCVS Day One Competences, Skills and Professional Behaviours for Veterinary Nurses.

54. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Preliminary Investigation Committee and Disciplinary Committee Liaison Committee (PIC / DC LC)

55. The Chair, PIC / DC LC, introduced the report and highlighted:

- recruitment for new statutory committee members was ongoing, to commence from 1 July;
- enquiry numbers remained high due to various reasons such as ongoing Covid arrangements; staffing issues at practices; the increase in pet ownership; and, increased financial hardship for clients;
- a number of new staff members had joined the team and were in the process of being trained; it was anticipated that shortly they would be in a position to take on their own caseloads, which would have a positive impact on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs);
- the annual DC statistic report had been considered to see if any group was being under- or over-represented at DC; it was noted there was no trend and the data remained inconsistent. This would be kept under review.

56. The Registrar commented that the number of concerns received by the College remained very high, with a high number also continuing to go into the Veterinary Client Mediation Service (VCMS); the team was suffering from the short tempers of the people contacting them so extra training was being provided. The breakdown of numbers going into VCMS and would be circulated following the meeting.

57. It was questioned if there was any specific species area for concerns, and it was confirmed that it was across all species, although noted that VCMS had more in the small animal sphere.

58. The report was noted.

Reports of statutory committees – to note

Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC)

59. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Registered Veterinary Nurse Preliminary Investigation Committee (RVN PIC)

60. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Disciplinary Committee and RVN Disciplinary Committee

61. There were no comments or questions, and the report was noted.

Notices of motion

62. There were no notices of motion received.

Questions

63. There were no questions received.

Recommendation for the appointment of Officers – President and Vice-President (Senior) respectively, for confirmation at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 8 July 2022

64. The President outlined the process and timeline for all internal elections.

65. In the absence of the current Vice-President (Senior), the Vice-President (Senior – immediate past), Dr Connell, took the Chair for this item whilst the President and Vice-President (Junior) left the room to ensure procedures and oversight were followed. As the item was a recommendation rather than an election, and related to internal roles within Council, no electronic decision had been loaded, nor paper voting slips provided.

66. Council was asked if it wished to have a private discussion, which was declined.

67. It was reported that Officer Team had recommended, in accordance with convention, that from the AGM in July, the incoming President to be Dr M A Donald, and that Dr K A Richards move to become Vice-President (Senior).

68. It was commented that Council was lucky to have two people of such high calibre for the roles. Council agreed the recommendations by a verbal 'aye'.

69. The President and Vice-President (Junior) returned to the room and were congratulated.

70. The President re-took the Chair.

Election of Vice-President (Junior) – recommendation for confirmation at the AGM on 8 July 2022

71. The President reported that there had been one nomination received:

Candidate: **Dr S Paterson**

Supporters: Dr N T Connell
Ms L Ford
Dr K A Richards
Professor J L N Wood

Date of first joining Council: July 2014 (Elected)
Current term due to end: July 2022

72. The candidate voted and left the room in order that Council could have a confidential discussion if it so wished.
73. Postal votes received in advance of the meeting and emails from remote participants to the Registrar were included in the vote. The Registrar and Director of Operations (DoOps) briefly left the room to count the ballot papers.
74. The candidate returned to the room and was congratulated on her successful election as Vice-President (Junior) (subject to successful re-election in the forthcoming RCVS Council elections 2022).

Elections of Treasurer – recommendation for confirmation at the AGM on 8 July 2022

75. The President reported that there had been one nomination received:

Candidate: **Dr N T Connell**

Supporters: Mrs B S Andrews-Jones
Dr M A Donald
Ms L Ford
Dr M M S Gardiner

Date of first joining Council: July 2013 (Elected)
Current term due to end: July 2023

76. The candidate voted and left the room in order that Council could have a confidential discussion if it so wished.
77. Postal votes received in advance of the meeting and emails from remote participants to the Registrar were included in the vote. The Registrar and DoOps briefly left the room to count the ballot papers.

78. The candidate returned to the room and was congratulated on his successful re-election as Treasurer.

Other elections

Chair, Advancement of the Professions Committee (APC)

79. The President reported that there had been one nomination received:

Candidate:	Dr S Paterson
Supporters:	Dr N T Connell Dr M A Donald Mr M E Rendle Mr T J Walker
Date of first joining Council:	July 2014 (Elected)
Current term due to end:	July 2022

80. The candidate voted and left the room in order that Council could have a confidential discussion if it so wished.
81. Postal votes received in advance of the meeting and emails from remote participants to the Registrar were included in the vote. The Registrar and DoOps briefly left the room to count the ballot papers.
82. The candidate returned to the room and was congratulated on her successful election as Chair, APC (subject to successful re-election in the forthcoming RCVS Council elections 2022).

Chair, Education Committee (EC)

83. In the absence of the Vice-President (Senior), the Vice-President (Senior – immediate past) took the Chair for this item as the (current) Chair was the candidate standing.
84. He reported that there had been one nomination received:

Candidate:	Dr K A Richards
Supporters:	Dr M A Donald Ms L Ford Dr M O Greene Dr S Paterson
Date of first joining Council:	July 2020 (Elected) (Previously 2015 – 2019, elected)
Current term due to end:	July 2024

85. The candidate voted and left the room in order that Council could have a confidential discussion if it so wished.

86. Postal votes received in advance of the meeting and emails from remote participants to the Registrar were included in the vote. The Registrar and DoOps briefly left the room to count the ballot papers.

87. The candidate returned to the room and was congratulated on her successful election as Chair, EC.

88. The President re-took the Chair.

Chair, Standards Committee (SC)

89. The President reported that there had been one nomination received:

Candidate:	Miss L S Belton
Supporters:	Dr M A Donald Ms L Ford Dr M M S Gardiner Dr N C Smith
Date of first joining Council:	July 2019 (Elected)
Current term due to end:	July 2023

90. The candidate voted and left the room in order that Council could have a confidential discussion if it so wished.

91. Postal votes received in advance of the meeting and emails from remote participants to the Registrar were included in the vote. The Registrar and DoOps briefly left the room to count the ballot papers.

92. The candidate returned to the room and was congratulated on her successful election as Chair, SC.

Any other College business (unclassified)

93. There was no other College business to report.

Risk Register, equality and diversity (unclassified)

94. It was questioned if the crisis in Ukraine was on the Corporate Risk Register, and confirmed it was.
95. There were no other items to add.

Date of next meeting

96. The President reported that the date of the next meeting will be Thursday, 21 April 2022 commencing at 10:00 am and reconvening in the afternoon. This meeting will be held **in committee**, classification rationales 1 – 5 refer (detailed on page 2 of these minutes).

Matters for decision by Council and for report (confidential items)

Estates strategy – update

97. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 1 – 6.

Draft accounts 2021

98. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 7 – 10.

Re-appointment of lay members due to retire in July 2022

99. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 11 – 16.

RCVS Honours and Awards 2022

100. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 17 – 22.

Any other College business (confidential items)

Classified appendices from Council or committee meetings

101. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 23 – 25.

Other College business

102. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 26 – 28 and 56.

Risk Register, equality and diversity (confidential items)

103. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 29 – 30.

Risk Workshop (confidential item)

104. This information is available in the classified appendix at paragraphs 31 – 55.

105. The meeting was brought to a close.