

Minutes for ACCU Committee Meeting

10th of November 2012 London

1. Attending

1. Alan Griffiths (remotely), Seb Rose (remotely), Martin Moene (remotely, general member), Roger Orr (chaired the meeting), Andrew Marlow, Stewart Brodie, Matthew Jones, Tom Hughes, Tom Sedge, Mick Brooks, Giovanni Asproni, Chris O'Dell

2. Apologies for absence

1. Robert Pauer, Dirk Haun, Astrid Byro, Mark Radford

3. Minutes from last meeting

1. The minutes from last meeting were approved

4. Actions arising

1. **Rob Pauer and Mattew Jones** local group setup and payment - *carry forward*
2. **Matthew Jones** Guidelines for commercial sponsorship of local groups - *carry forward*
3. **Astrid Byro and Tom Sedge** continuing to work on the website - *carry forward*
4. **Tom Sedge** to circulate analysis of survey about the association - *carry forward*
5. **Alan** to check with Jez about the book reviews - *carry forward*
6. **Andrew Marlow** to talk to Stuart Golodetz and/or Jez with contacts from Wiley - *carry forward*
7. **Roger** to talk to Dirk, Stuart & Alison about publication of individual articles - *stalled, carry forward?*
8. **Rob** to contact Tim about changing the email alias - *carry forward*

5. Other matters arising

1. Tony Barrett-Powell wants to step down from the moderation of accu-general. He says it is not a lot of work. Mick Brooks volunteered to step in while looking for another moderator among the members

6. Reports

1. Advertising

- i. Advertising is very slow. Less leads converting to smaller deals. Apparently, regular advertiser are doing this to support the association more than to make money. Seb is going to send the media pack to the committee reflector for comments. Alan Griffiths suggested to send it also the the general membership so that we may get more ideas on what to do

2. Conference

- i. Jon sent a last minute email with some updates which we discussed. The number of proposals and potential speakers is going up. From his email: "There are 100 proposals from 70 people. We are looking into theme the conservatory area as a pub with its own staffed bar. Also to get the headline sponsor to pay for putting some retro games into it"

3. Local groups

- i. There has been a meeting in Oxford where there were several non-members attending who didn't know about the ACCU. Probably they knew about it through meetup. There may be no clear reasons for them to join the association
- ii. Bristol and Bath group is doing well
- iii. NY group failed to meet. Distance among members seems to be an issue
- iv. Matt is a bit behind on putting some information on accu-members

4. Membership

- i. This year downward trend hasn't stopped yet (as usually did). It is a few weeks late on the uptick
- ii. Some members would be happy to pay the same price for the magazines in pdf only

5. Treasurer

- i. Finance position remains healthy and better than 12 months ago
Since the last committee meeting the only outgoings have been for the magazine production costs
On the advice of our accountant I have written to HMRC to clarify the circumstances of when our dormant corporation tax status may be reviewed

6. Publicity

- i. Asti is doing several treks but primarily a return to Everest Base Camp to benefit The National Museum of Computing. Have got corporate sponsorship for trek from Atlassian. It's hard to do anything else in the circumstance that website is not updated and we do not have a clear message for ACCU
- ii. Stewart commented on the impossibility of coming up with a single purpose for the association

7. Standards

- i. No report

8. Website

- i. We discussed Martin Moene's ideas for publishing content on the current website and accu-website mailing list. He proposed to make what we currently do visible and discuss the new website in parallel. According to Martin, some improvements that can potentially have a big impact will not be difficult to implement. He volunteered to do that. Chris asked if we had Google analytics to examine the site traffic. Martin volunteered to ask Tim Pushman
- ii. Martin said cannot really do more than what he already proposed as he has no time available
- iii. The book reviews are not being updated **[Check with AG what is happening on that front. He had an action from the last meeting about that]**
- iv. There is already a list for the ACCU website (accu-website) Mick volunteered to moderate that
- v. We talked about the forums proposal from Andrew Marlow and decided to ditch it as it is currently low priority

9. Mentored Developers

- i. Chris kicked off a book review group for "JavaScript: the Good Parts". We agreed to rename the group as "study groups" from "mentored developers", as it is a better description of what it is. We talked about renaming the mailing list: it may or may not happen depending on how cumbersome it is

7. Honorary membership or other award to Tony Barrett-Powell

1. We agreed we need to decide some general rules to follow to decide when to award the honorary membership. At the moment they are pretty random

8. WG21 Sponsorship

1. The ACCU will give money as underwriting of expenses. Roger will liaise with Rob Pauer and Julie Archer to clarify that
2. A limited number of people may be able to attend the meetings. WG21 attendance will be available via the booking website, with a paragraph from isocpp.org to explain a bit about attending.

9. Proposed constitutional changes

1. Discuss the changes proposed by Giovanni and Mick and decide a way forward to submit them to the membership. Alan Griffiths proposed to draft a mechanism to depose the committee and volunteered to do that. We mentioned that the same voting rules should apply to all general meetings, including the special one. Giovanni and Mick will add wording so proposals from the floor could be allowed at the discretion of the presiding member, provided they won't affect the way the association is run.

10. Any other business

1. No other business

11. Next meeting

1. 26th of January at Alan Griffiths home in Radcliffe-on-Trent (Nottingham)

Actions (for easier reference)

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6. **Andrew Marlow** to talk to Stuart Golodetz and/or Jex with contacts from Wiley - *carry forward*
7. **Roger** to talk to Dirk, Stuart & Alison about publication of individual articles - *stalled, carry forward*
8. **Rob** to contact Tim about changing the email alias - *carry forward*
9. **Roger Orr** to contact Ewan Milne to agree subscription to Meetup site and method of payment. The committee agreed to pay for the six month option (renewable)
10. **Roger Orr** to liaise with Rob Pauer and Julie Archer for WG21 sponsorship (money will be given as underwriting of expenses)
11. **Seb Rose** to send current media pack to the committee for comments
12. **Seb Rose** to enquire web ad options, which seem to be the interesting ones
13. **Martin Moene** to lead work on current website improvements to make what we do more visible
14. **Martin Moene** to liaise with Tim Pushman to check if we can have Google analytics on current site
15. **Mick Brooks** to become moderator of accu-website list
16. **Mick Brooks** to become moderator of accu-general while trying to find a member willing to step in
17. **Mick Brooks and Giovanni Asproni** to come up with guidance on accepting motions from presiding member during AGM
18. **Alan Griffiths** to draft mechanism to depose committee
19. **Chris O'Dell** to come up with plan for renaming the mentored-developers (if practical)
20. **Tom Sedge** to look into options for rules for awarding honorary memberships and report back to the committee