

Minutes for ACCU Committee Meeting 22th of February 2014 (Google Hangout)

Start at 11am. Finish at 11:52am

1. **Attending**

1. Alan Griffiths, Dirk Haun, Roger Orr, Giovanni Asproni, Tom Hughes, Chris O'Dell, Matthew Jones, Mick Brooks

2. **Apologies for absence**

1. Martin Moene, Rob Pauer, Mark Radford, Andrew Marlow, Astrid Byro, Seb Rose

3. **Minutes from last meeting**

1. Approved.

4. **Actions arising**

5. **Other matters arising**

6. **Reports**

1. **Advertising**

i. No report

2. **Conference**

i. No report

3. **Local groups**

From email from Matt.

Please could we discuss this at the next meeting (which, being at the end of half term, I might not make).

I briefly replied saying:

We pay for meetup for Bristol & Bath, so covering that should be OK.

A mic and possibly camera, won't cost much, and if we require that they publish all recordings, the entire membership will benefit.

I asked for specifics, if they have them, so we have an idea of budget.

Cheers,

Matt

Matthew Jones,
Walter Vannini,
Jon Kalb,
Brian Grimshaw, and
Dane Van Dyck:

Hi Matt,

We have been successful in keeping the Silicon Valley Chapter up and running for years with minimal expenses.

However, there are some relatively recent expenses that are becoming to be noticeable. :) Our presence at Meetup has been paid for by Dane since the beginning: <http://www.meetup.com/SFBay-Association-of-C-C-Users/>

Additionally, we would like to have our own recording equipment so that we can publish the talks for others to see. Apparently, the most important item is a high-quality lapel microphone. A camera would be useful too but almost everyone has a camera that they can use for occasional recordings.

Can ACCU help us with these expenses?

Thank you,
Ali

We can give them some money, but we need some specifics?

4. **Membership**

- i. No report. From Mick, not an awful lot from last time. Working well from Micks's end. Matt taking over. Loads of new members due to the conference (40 or something). But last year happened the same and most of them dropped off.

5. **Treasurer**

- i. Standing Order for Alison Peck has been implemented.
Adding Matt to signatory list is progressing but one minor issue has arisen which I will deal with.
Spoke to Alison about the extra work in respect of Overload but there is no financial impact.
Liaising with accountant on production of accounts.
Bank balance remains healthy.

6. **Publicity**

- i. No report

7. Standards

- i. No report

8. Website

From Martin. Simplified layout.

Replaced [ACCU logo](#) and [ACCU buttons](#).

Replaced [favicon](#).

Improved organisation of menu (should better answer "I want to...").

Added new Google [Calendar](#)

Added [Google customised search](#) for whole (public) site.

Added CSS for printing (removes (almost) all decoration).

Added missing heading (H1, important for [SEO](#)) to Conference page

Expanded the [Journals](#) menu as follows:

- [C Vu Archive](#) - Archive of C Vu issues (requires member login).
- [C Vu by Cover](#) - C Vu journal covers (display only).
- [C Vu by Article](#) - Bibliography of C Vu articles, newest first.
- [C Vu by Author](#) - Bibliography of C Vu articles, sorted by author.
- [Overload Archive](#) - Archive of Overload issues (free access).
- [Overload by Cover](#) - Select Overload Journal PDF by cover.
- [Overload by Article](#) - Bibliography of Overload articles, newest first.
- [Overload by Author](#) - Bibliography of Overload articles, sorted by author.

There are (new) icons for search, e-mail, GitHub, Facebook, Linked-in and twitter in the head of the website now. From Roger: doing quite well with splitting up individual articles from the journals in pdf and other formats.

9. Mentored Developers

- i. No report

10. Publications

- i. Things going along very well. Rick's taken over from Frances for the last issue of Overload. Overload may technically qualify as a peer review paper, so it can be valuable for academics. Alan said we should advertise it. One of the reasons Scott Meyers writes on it is the quality of the reviewing. Nico told Roger DrDobbs is not that good anymore, and they don't give much feedback to the authors.

7. Electronic and remote voting

1. Looked into some solutions. Will report during the meeting.

8. Elections. No Chair and Secretary candidates

1. From Alan. My interpretation of the constitution:

Only those candidates properly nominated for election by the 11th can be considered by the AGM:

"5.3.3 Any member of the Association can stand as a candidate for election to any role on the committee. Any such member shall notify the Secretary in writing (letter or email), including names of a nominating member and a seconder, on or before the Proposal Deadline..."

Except Chair and Secretary (which are "officer positions"):

"5.3.4 If no candidate for an officer position is nominated according to the procedure in 5.3.3, nominations for a caretaker to fill the vacancy can be taken from the floor. The duty of a committee with at least one caretaker officer will be to organise a new election for that role. In the meantime, that committee will be limited to ordinary administration of the organisation."

So, during the AGM someone could be appointed as a "caretaker" Chair or Secretary. But then the resulting committee would have limited authority and be required to organize an election for that post.

We don't have to do that as, if no caretaker is appointed at the AGM, then the committee can appoint a Chair or Secretary and does not need to organize another election:

"5.4.1 Should any member of the Committee resign or cease to act during the life of the Committee, or a *vacancy otherwise arise*, the Committee shall have the power to co-opt a member of the Association to fill the vacancy."

My thoughts:

As I'll be running the AGM I'd appreciate guidance on which of the two above outcomes is the more satisfactory. (I don't think "can be taken from the floor" means we are *required* to take nominations.)

It might be a good idea for the incoming committee to meet in Bristol at the end of the conference to resolve this matter. I'm sure we can arrange use of a room with the hotel.

2. We had a conversation about the options above to understand the problem better. We'll go for option 1 (accepting nomination). Roger proposed to send an email to explain what is going to happen. Alan will put it on the next Chairs report. We decided to encourage members to act and elect a caretaker. If that doesn't happen the committee will co-opt someone. Alan said it would be a good idea to have a committee meeting after the AGM with the incoming committee for the hand-over, and people could turn up and volunteer to be co-opted to help out. Chris suggested to add it to the conference schedule to make people aware.

9. Any other business

10. Next meeting

1. After the AGM at 4pm for 30 mins. The purpose is to decide what to do about the Chair and Secretary, co-opt members and pick the day for the next meeting.

ACTIONS

- **Alan:** Email accu members to explain the implications of the current situation with the lack of Chair and Secretary candidates.
- **Alan:** To contact Julie to make the committee meeting just after the conference part of the official conference schedule.
- **Chris:** Ask people if there is interest in running several study groups in parallel.
- **Giovanni:** Publish the motion about the rolling of the hardship fund into the general fund.
- **New committee:** Ask for help with an article in CVu, and emails to accu-members and accu-general for migrating the membership system.
- **Asti:** Follow up with corporate contacts (list sent to her by Mick)
- **Asti:** Talk with the conference committee about a press release in January to attract new Joiners (Rob created a draft and circulated to her and Jon) and keep Rob in the loop
- **Matt:** to polish the wording of the proposal for the local group sponsorships and send it around for review.
- **Matt:** Contact the US and european chapters and have an hangout to see how we can collaborate together, and investigate if they want to participate to committee meetings. Crosses over with the US chapter.
- **Matt:** Follow up to see what's happening with corporate memberships (corporate members renewing as individuals).