

# Minutes for ACCU Committee meeting

4th May 2014, London

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Meeting started at 15:15.

## 1. Attending

Roger Orr, Matthew Jones (remotely), Chris O'Dell (remotely), Alan Lenton, Martin Moene (remotely), Astrid Byro (remotely), Dirk Haun (remotely), Mark Radford, Malcolm Noyes, Ralph McArdell, Jonathan Wakely (general member, attended remotely)

## 2. Apologies for absence

Rob Pauer

## 3. Minutes from last meetings

Minutes of the previous meetings were not available until just before the meeting. The minutes were approved after some discussion.

## 4. Minutes of AGM

Minutes need to be reviewed and checked for errors:

- Change 'Chris Southers' to 'Chris Southern'.
- Add note that no candidates for chair or secretary had been received and that these posts were not filled.

Although the committee no longer has a specified publicity officer, the committee felt this role was still important and the organisation should have someone who could help - see below for action.

## 5. Actions arising/ongoing

1. Alan: *Email accu members to explain the implications of the current situation with the lack of Chair and Secretary candidates.* Done.
2. Alan: *To contact Julie to make the committee meeting just after the conference part of the official conference schedule.* Done.
3. Chris: *Ask people if there is any interest in running several study groups in parallel.* Parallel study groups now in progress.
4. Giovanni: *Publish the motion about the rolling of the hardship fund into the general fund.* Done.
5. Newcommittee: *Ask for help with an article in CVu, and emails to accu-members and accu-general for migrating the membership system.* Martin has had some response but changing the website is challenging. Ongoing.
6. Asti: *Followup with corporate contacts (list sent to her by Mick).* Asti has the list but many details are out of date. Those who shouldn't be on the list have been filtered out.
7. Asti: *Talk with the conference committee about a press release in January to attract new joiners (Rob created a draft and circulated it to her and Jon) and keep Rob in the loop.* Roger to follow up what happened.
8. Matt: *to polish the wording of the proposal for the local group sponsorship and send it around for review.*
9. Matt: *Contact the US and european chapters and have a hangout to see how we can collaborate together and investigate if they want to participate in committee meetings. Crosses over with US chapter. Local groups mailing list now setup.*
10. Matt: *followup to see what is happening with corporate memberships (corporate members renewing as individuals).* No recurrence of previous problem. Monitoring.

## 6.. Special General Meeting

The committee agreed that the sole purpose of the SGM should be the election of a new Chair/Secretary. Date proposed as 2nd August 2014 so that voting can take place before most people go on holiday. Venue to be confirmed later.

Roger has account details for electronic voting. Giovanni reported that it was difficult to modify the list of voters so Roger and Matt

need to work out how to get a list of eligible voters into Election Buddy.

In accordance with with clauses 7.2 and 7.3 of the constitution, the committee agreed to announce an SGM for 2nd August 2014 @ 3 p.m. (proposed by Alan Lenton, seconded by Roger Orr).

## **7. Reports**

### **7.1 Advertising**

No report.

### **7.2 Conference**

2014 conference feedback is good. Planning in progress for 2015.

Alan asked whether we could find out what we could do to encourage more members to attend (approx 200 out of 600+ members attended last year). Asti agreed to put together a survey to see if we could find appropriate questions that might answer that question.

### **7.3 Local Groups**

See discussion below (section 8)

### **7.4 Membership**

Handover from Mick completed. Matt noted that 1 person had difficulties with the volume of traffic on accu-members and had unsubscribed from the list - although this appears to be an isolated incident it could cause problems for future communications if individuals unsubscribe. There was some discussion about whether Archer Yates may be able to help us with the issues that we have with our current membership system (i.e the difficulty in changing the main site because of coupling to the membership system).

### **7.5 Treasurer**

No report.

### **7.6 Publicity**

No report (no publicity officer).

### **7.7 Standards**

Reports continuing in CVu.

### **7.8 Website**

Improvements are continuing but major changes are made difficult due the complexity of the existing site, especially the integration of the membership system. Recent discussions have also suggested other changes that could be introduced; the committee felt that no major changes should be considered until a new Chair/Secretary were in place following the SGM. Prior to that it would be useful to start a debate and Alan agreed to co-ordinate responses.

### **7.9 Mentored Developers**

New book (Thinking Fast and Slow, Daniel Kahneman) started.

### **7.10 Social media**

Some positive response to recent postings was apparent, especially around the time of the conference. We now have a new Facebook page as well as group (group may be 'closed' but anyone should be able to see the page).

### **7.11 Publications**

Magazines continue to be published.

## 8. Funding & local groups

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'Birds of a feather' meeting took place at conference - main issues were requests for help with funding room rental and equipment. ACCU currently pay meetup costs for 3 groups (Bristol, Oxford and London). Roger commented that perhaps ACCU should not offer open-ended funding commitments but could consider requests from local groups, with a preference for paying costs that local groups were unable to meet through local sponsorship or individual contributions. There was some discussion about whether the ACCU should have some 'standard wording' to encourage people that attend local meetings to join the ACCU. Malcolm agreed to trial this for Oxford group.

## 9. Any other business

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### 9.1 ACCU Oxford autumn mini-conference

Malcolm noted that the Oxford group were thinking of holding a longer meeting, something more like a 1 day mini-conference. Any help anyone could give to help organise this would be appreciated.

### 9.2 UK location for C++ meeting (WG21) IN 2016

Roger noted that the C++ Standards Committee (WG21) were exploring options for holding a UK meeting in 2016. Last time the ACCU provided financial assistance and the committee agreed to consider doing the same again, especially since members could be encouraged to submit conference sessions if the meeting could co-incide with the conference.

## 10. Date of next meeting

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Sun 8th June 2014 @ 3 p.m., physical at Roger's house, hangout as before (but this time hopefully more organised....).

## Outstanding Actions

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5. *Newcommittee: Ask for help with an article in CVu, and emails to accu-members and accu-general for migrating the membership system. Martin has had some response but changing the website is challenging. Ongoing.*
8. *Matt: to polish the wording of the proposal for the local group sponsorship and send it around for review.*
11. *Roger: followup whether a press release actually got issued prior to 2014 conference.*
12. *Asti: Create survey to ask members what we can do that would encourage them to attend conference.*
13. *Roger: send email address for auditor to treasurer.*
14. *Roger: add a request to chairman's report for anyone with publicity experience to come forward to contribute their experience to the committee - would not have to be a committee member but could liaise with existing committee member.*
15. *Roger: send email to accu-announce for SGM.*
16. *Matt: Discuss website/membership system integration with Martin and Archer Yates.*
17. *Alan Lenton: co-ordinate comments/responses to website proposals.*
18. *Malcolm: write some notes/slides for encouraging local groups to try to turn attendees into members. Trial at Oxford meetup.*