Minutes for ACCU Committee meeting

16th May 2015, London

Meeting started at 14:40.

1. Attending

Nigel Lester (remotely), Matthew Jones (remotely), Ralph McArdell, Malcolm Noyes (remotely), Roger Orr, Robert Pauer (remotely), Emyr Williams (remotely)

Apologies for absence

Alan Lenton, Jonathan Wakely

2. Minutes from last meetings

The minutes of the meeting on 29th March 2015 were approved.

3. Actions arising/ongoing

12. ~~Survey to ask members what we can do that would encourage them to attend conference.~~ *Roger: ask Russel for a formal summary of the survey results.*

16. ~~Matt: Discuss website/membership system integration with Martin and Archer Yates. Matt discussed with Tim Pushman & Martin; responses need to be converted to requirements list.~~ *Matt to send out proposal for comments/discussion.*

39. *Matt to send out proposals on membership system to committee to comment.*

40. *Malcolm to send email to Martin asking about handover of social media accounts.*

4. Reports

4.1 Advertising

No report.

4.2 Conference

Brief verbal report from Roger Orr:

This year's conference: Numbers roughly the same as last year; Survey Monkey questionaire has gone out. Russel Winder will get the results of this survey - Roger will ensure that action 12 happens this time (redirect action 12).

Next year's conference: Hoping for the same venue. Hoping to video 2 tracks.

4.3 Local Groups

Report from Matt Jones:

We have a local group being started by new corporate member Paul Parry, a member of staff at Sheffield Hallam Uni. There is interest in a Greek local group, although we only have 1 registered member. I recommend that we support them regardless, since they wish to grow a community there. There were a number of Greek programmers at the conference. Goodness knows why they didn't join.

Ewan (registered holder of our meetup account) has passed on information about changes in fees, but we probably want to expand beyond the basic limit of 3 groups, so we can have all our groups registered to the same account. I shall be looking into this.

Ewan is going to dig out logos which Sheffield are asking for, for new publicity material. These will go to Nigel as well, to contribute to a

local groups starter pack (and as general resources for all groups).

I gritted my teeth and blundered/guessed[0] my way through some SQL and mined a small amount of data:

Disappointingly there are fewer members in the Yorkshire area than I though. Nonetheless I shall put them in contact with the Sheffield group so they know about each other.

Membership numbers by country:

```
381 GB
 48 US
 41 DE
 25 CH
 24 SE
 18 NL
 12 FR
 11 NO
  9 AU
  8 PL
  7 CA
  5 IE
  5 DK
  5 BE
  4 HU
  4 AT
  3 SG
  3 RO
  3 IN
  3 ES
  2 TR
  2 SI
  2 RU
  2 NZ
  2 HK
  2 FI
  1 ZA
  1 TW
  1 SM
  1 PT
  1 LT
  1 KR
  1 IT
  1 HR
  1 GR
  1 FX
  1 EE
  1 CN
```

Discussion: Conference session on local groups was very successful (especially interest from Sheffield Hallam Uniiversity). There was some concern over what constituted an "ACCU" local group; the consensus was that a new group should at least have an ACCU member.

There was also a question about when (if ever) we would want to veto a local group; likely to be only being too close to another local group.

Nigel noted that Oxford have multiple offers of venue (including the possibility of a Saturday venue).

Local group organisers sould also ensure that Public Liability Insurance in considered when booking venues - ACCU do not have any formal cover for this but it is usually covered by the venue.

The list of people who are prepared to speak at local groups needs to be collated and distributed more widely so that more people are aware that potential speakers are available.

Matt to look at meetup - we have membership for 3 groups but will look at changing this for more.

4.4 Membership

Report from Matt Jones:

Full Membership: 532 Full Membership, Student/Retired/Similar: 21
Basic Membership: 38 Basic Membership, Student/Retired/Similar: 3
Gratis: 17 Honorary: 23
Complimentary: 30 Corporate: 25
Link to Joint: 1

Total paying members: 619 (655 last report - 36 less)

4.5 Treasurer

Report from Rob Pauer:

Final accounts agreed.

4.6 Publicity

No report (no publicity officer).

4.7 Standards

Report from Jonathan Wakely:

... will be writing [his first] report on the meeting that just finished.

4.8 Website

Report from Martin Moene:

Once upon a time I set out to collect information and design/build (a prototype for) a next generation ACCU website.

I no longer aspire to do this. Designing and creating a new ACCU website is better left to someone well experienced in building websites with current presentation styles and current techniques.

Collected information is here:

```
https://github.com/accu-org/website-v3
https://github.com/accu-org/website-v3/wiki/
```

Prototype website is here:

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http://prototype.accu.org/
```

To support mobile and desktop alike, it's probably sensible to strive for a responsive design [1].

What I've learned from shaping the prototype I've folded back into the current site.

4.9 Mentored Developers

No report (no co-ordinator for this role).

4.10 Social media

4.11 Publications

Report from Roger Orr:

Nothing important to report except that Steve Love has been editor of CVu for 5 years.

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5. Any other business

5.1 Who should be a committee member.

The constitution allows the committee to co-opt members for a service rather than being full committee members (this affects how many members are required for a quorum at committee meetings). Whilst these members might being doing useful activities, they are often unable to attend committee meetings, so in these circumstances it makes more sense to co-opt them for a service.

For this year, the committee have co-opted the following:
Martin Moene co-opted for a service (Website).
Russel Winder co-opted for a service (Conference Chair).
Ali Cehreli co-opted for a service (US Agent).
Nigel Lester Co-opted to the committee.

5.2 Officer for Disabilities

At the AGM Francis Glassborow raised the issue of an ACCU officer for disabilities. ACCU previously had a an officer for disabilities but apparently this officer was never required to carry out any actions so the post lapsed. The committee felt that it was something that ACCU *should* have a policy on and something should be added to the webpage - possibly a statement on diversity on the 'About' page? Alan needs to consider potential wording.

5.3 Were the conditions for a quorum at the SGM met?

Deferred to next meeting (it was felt that Alan should be involved in this discussion).

5.4 Future direction of website and membership database

Deferred to next meeting. Matt to create Google document summarising "what the current site does" and "what is the wishlist for the future".

6. Date of next meeting

The date of the next committee meeting will be Sunday 6th September @ 2:30.

Outstanding Actions

12. ~~Survey to ask members what we can do that would encourage them to attend conference.~~ *Roger: ask Russel for a formal summary of the survey results.*
16. ~~Matt: Discuss website/membership system integration with Martin and Archer Yates. Matt discussed with Tim Pushman & Martin; responses need to be converted to requirements list.~~ *Matt to send out proposal for comments/discussion.*
39. *Matt to send out proposals on membership system to committee to comment.*
40. *Malcolm to send email to Martin asking about handover of social media accounts.*

41. *Matt to look at meetup - we have membership for 3 groups but will look at changing this for more.*
42. *Alan needs to consider potential wording for statement on diversity (including disabilities).*