Minutes for ACCU Committee meeting

1st April 2017, via Hangouts

Meeting started at 14:35.

1. Attending

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

Apologies for absence

None

2. Minutes from last meetings

The minutes of the meeting on 22nd January were approved.

3. Actions in progress from previous meeting

Actions from previous meetings:

46. Bob to consider incentives for editing/writing Overload/CVu articles for the next meeting. The committee discussed some further options; Bob has written to potential beneficiaries and received comments. Martin continues to offer his time for nothing (Martin does a great job and the committee are very grateful!). Fran would like to donate her 'free' membership; the committee are happy to accept this; details should be passed to Matt for signup (there isn't any procedure for something like this yet). Bob will write to Fran and Steve advising them that the committee have approved donating their 'free' membership. Done.

68. Malcolm to ask Asti to elaborate on how we may be able help with book reviews. Asti has asked to pass on book reviews to someone else. Malcolm has a volunteer but is waiting for more information from Asti. Ongoing.

69. Matt - Send letter to members who are not paying the correct amount asking them to change.

71. Roger - Note link between isocpp.org and accu.org. The isocpp archive has been downloaded; Roger has worked out how this could be used and will email details. Hopefully we can get this moved permanently after that.

73. Malcolm to look into whether we can have more than 1 person access Election Buddy.

74. Bob - Draft procedure for violations of Code of Conduct/Diversity Statement created. Has been reviewed and perhaps should emphasise contacting police and should have a 'checklist' that committee members can carry to refer to. Needs to be aligned with Code of Conduct for conference so that we have consistent policy for conference and local groups. No further comments; Bob will produce a draft and move/copy to main ACCU site.

81. The 'sign up for conference' on the main site could be more prominent. Roger to talk to Russel. Done

82. Roger will ask Russel if we can email conference speakers to offer 'dry run' sessions at local group meetings. Done.

83. Bob will add a section in the 'View from the chair' section of CVu referencing ACCU support for Code Club and other computing in schools. Done.

84. Bob will discuss with Martin possible website changes too clarify membership categories. Ongoing.

85. Matt to contact Honorary Members to see if we can list them on the website. Ongoing.

86. Matt will create a document that we can use to start to fill in what we know of ACCU committee history. Perhaps add something to notice board at conference?

87. Matt to ask for extra magazines (200?) for 'give away' at ACCU 2017 (and ensure that issue selected should have a 'Join ACCU advert'). 200 extra copies ordered; advert in progress.

88. Matt to provide committee with update on status of membership system. Schedule meeting with Archer Yates at conference (Bob, Matt & Malcolm). Done.

Actions added by this meeting:

89. Bob to send email to Rob with contact details for additional auditor.

90. Committee propose to co-opt Roger Orr to continue with Publications. Malcolm to ask Seb and Jon if they want to continue with Advertising and Standards.

4. Reports

4.1 Advertising

No report.

4.2 Conference

Report by Roger Orr:

Possible WG21 meeting in Belfast in 2019; perhaps will also have ACCU mini-conference.

4.3 Local Groups

Report from Nigel Lester:

The good news is the local group Meetup membership has grown by nearly 6% since last committee meeting Jan 2017, to nearly 3.8k members (the stats). The main groups are all running meetings.

ACCU Oxford local member Robin Williams gave a talk to an ACCU Bay Area (Mountain View) meetup on 8th Feb 2017. Looks like over 100 went.

Not had a strong response for conference dry run slots but we have had some. I had to back fill a free talk slot, but fortunately Phil Nash came to my rescue.

In Oxford, OxAM have been positive about us partnering with them on the Oxford University Strachey lectures that they sponsor. Great if we can make this happen as this event would be a magnitude larger than the sessions we do currently. OxAM are looking for a big name for one of these events.

Bristol local group is considering a new venue (although zero cost, current venue is not very welcoming!). Committee happy to consider this so Emyr can go ahead and consider alternatives.

4.4 Membership

Report from Matt Jones:

Nothing much to report. Membership figures, as ever, are here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_DBWE4ya54atjshmEMzA4qdWEa-bagJVc4A36u_YOpQ/edit

Numbers remain essentially flat. There has been the usual flurry of joiners to get a conference discount.

4.5 Treasurer

Report from Rob Pauer:

The society's bank balances remain healthy and there have been no unusual transactions.
The financial records are with our accountants who should submit the draft accounts to me by the end of the month.
Then I will liaise with our Hon Auditors.

Rob has now received the draft accounts. Bob to send email to Rob with contact details for additional auditor.

4.6 Publicity

No report (no publicity officer)

4.7 Standards

No report.

4.8 Website

Report from Martin Moene:

- Added links next to the ACCU logo/home button to the Conference website and the Conference registration page.
- Created a recipe to create and publish C Vu as ePub[1] and mentioned it in the web editor section on the posts & roles page[2].

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[1] https://gist.github.com/accu-org/c7d67a70d2c9eca6c04a8d59d55790a2
[2] https://accu.org/index.php/members/committee/posts_and_roles#website_editor (requires login)
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4.9 Mentored developers

No report.

4.10 Social Media

No report.

4.11 Publications

Report from Roger Orr:

Business as usual, apart from planning extra copies for the "conference edition" and adding an interview with Emyr.

Fran & Steve announced the winners of the 'best article of 2016' in February's Overload

For Overload, in joint first place we have:

- Jonathan Wakely for C++ Antipatterns
- Steve Love for A Lifetime in Python

For CVu, we have one clear winner:

- Silas S. Brown for Why Floats are Never Equal

5. Any other business

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

There was some discussion about how to interpret the constitution; the view of the committee at the time was that the only things that could be decided at the SGM were items that would be voted on using electronic voting (which clearly did have sufficient numbers), however a strict interpretation of the constitution (7.8) suggests that there the meeting should have had a quorum of 10 voting members. There was also some discussion about what it means for voting members to be 'present' at the meeting (Hangouts,

phone-ins, chat are all possibilities). Malcolm's view is that the constitution does not need changing as it is now clear for any future SGMs that 10 members should be present and SGMs are rare (AGMs generally have well above the quorum as they are held at the conference venue). The 10 members limit should not be hard to achieve and is beneficial as a check on the committee.

Chair will make a statement at the next AGM.

5.2 Computing in Schools

~~Chair has been asked (by Russel Winder) to consider what we can do to support computing in schools. See also http://www.computingatschool.org.uk.~~ Bob has written a follow up in CVu.

5.3 Website documents on starting and funding local groups

The committee approved How do I create an ACCU Local Group? & Local Group Funding

5.4 Electronic voting

Each electronic vote costs ACCU $99 to use Election Buddy. The committee discussed whether it makes sense to have an electronic vote if there is only one candidate for all committee posts and there are no other proposals. We agreed to continue with electronic voting for the time being (since we have only limited experience with this) but consider possible alternatives in future.

5.5 "Thank you" presentation document

Bon has created a "Thank you" document that could be shown at the conference, listing those people who have contributed to the organisation (writing articles, helping out with website/local groups etc.). The committee will review this document. Could be shown on laptop at ACCU conference table or perhaps before lightning talks.

6. 2017 AGM Schedule

Announce date	29 Jan 2017	(AGM - 90)
Proposal deadline	28 Feb 2017	(AGM - 60)
Draft Agenda	8 Mar 2017	(AGM - 42)
Agenda Freeze	1 Apr 2017	(AGM - 28)
Voting Opens	8 Apr 2017	(AGM - 21)
AGM	29 Apr 2017	

7. Date of next meeting

The date of the next committee meeting will (provisionally) be Saturday 20th May 2017s, via Hangouts.