

Minutes for ACCU Committee meeting

22 November 2020, via Google Meet

Meeting started at 2.35pm.

1. Attending

Guy Davidson, Ralph McArdell, Bob Schmidt, Robert Pauer, Geoff Daniels, Felix Petriconi, Roger Orr, Matt Jones, Robin Williams, Patrick Martin

Apologies for absence

Adeel Nadeem, Jim Hague

2. Minutes from last meetings

The committee approved the minutes of the previous meeting

3. Actions in progress

Note: the Google Sheet for actions is here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RMTorasYR_A94VBjv-Dn6ghhTVWLbW0w1ekhN994qFI

Actions from previous meetings:

Action item	Action
122	Patrick: update the very old advertising card - get ad server stats and web visits from Bob and Jim
140	Phil to write up and pass round his suggestions for local group affiliations
143	Patrick: suggestions to define some central storage solution for ACCU documents. etc. consider GDPR - talk to Rob Pauer
146	Phil: Local groups: propose to add "affiliated groups" section underneath - Phil to send details to Bob
153	Patrick: to investigate setting up the safety account for the Paypal payments
156	Matt: Question: can corporate accounts get a list of emails?
157	Matt/Adeel: to start a Google Doc for ACCU publicity purposes
163	Adeel: find speakers for online "local" talks, contact Ralph/Phil about arrangements
164	Adeel: best way to connect to LinkedIn ACCU profile for those that can

122: Bob has sent statistics to Patrick, but will need to be updated with statistics for the new website. Need to contact Alison with regard to QBS re updating advertising links.

140: No news. Standing action to Secretary: need to send specific reminders before meetings in future.

143: No action. Everything is in Google Drive at present.

153: No action

156: Update wording to: “ask for updates in March/April, in time for the next committee election”.

157: Done and being used

163: No report. See also Section 4.3 below.

164: Addressed in Social Media report.

Actions added by this meeting:

165: Matt: follow up on student hardship membership. Will request proof of student status.

166: Robin: Add item to agenda of next meeting on whether an accu-jobs list might be a useful facility, or job listing page on web site.

167: Robin: Add agenda item on mentorship possibilities, e.g. offering code review. To be considered for when new membership system is in place.

168: Bob/Jim: Look into website stats to confirm current visitor numbers and update advertising material

4. Reports

4.1 Advertising

See action 122. Geoff will also explore possible leads. Discussed possibility of accu-jobs mailing list, or job listing page on the web site -- free to access may be best model.

4.2 Conference

Call for papers ended November 13. 40 new submissions being reviewed, + papers held over from 2020 meeting cancelled because of COVID, so a good schedule looks likely. Full conference will be held online in the Spring. Meeting to assemble conference schedule will be held in early December. Also considering Autumn conference possibilities. ACCU AGM will also need to be held online.

YouTube will be starting to introduce adverts in uploaded content, so will need to consider options. Early video content is on InfoQ and SkillsMatter. May need to look into whether SkillsMatter content will be available longer term. The content is likely to be owned by whoever recorded the video (Archer Yates/SkillsMatter). Will discuss with Archer Yates when holding conference review session on 5th December.

4.3 Local Groups

Ralph: no current speakers, haven't discussed with Phil. Guy Davidson has possible talk available, but will need to wait to not pre-run already agreed presentation.

4.4 Membership

Membership numbers are here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_DBWE4ya54atjshmEMzA4qdWEa-bagJvc4A36u_YOpQ/edit#gid=8

Bob, Jim, and I had an informal meeting about replacing the membership system, and we're happy to let

Bob continue developing his own system. Obviously this is highly dependent on how much time Bob can give it, and his health, so we will see how things are going in about 3 months. I will try to shadow his work: get a working system up and running on my home PC and follow his commits. As a fall-back, <https://webcollect.org.uk/> looked promising as it is cheap and very customisable.

Nothing else to report - business as usual.

Discussed security issues, which will be kept under review. Using up-to-date and maintained infrastructure should help with this.

4.5 Treasurer

Still some missing statements, which need to be reconciled, will contact NatWest to fill this in. Everything else looks fine, will prepare accounts for AGM. Will need to consider drain rate data due to loss of 2020 conference income.

4.6 Standards

First virtual meeting, 135 attendees (fewer than previous meetings). Some practical issues, only 13 polls taken suggesting reduced throughput into C++23. Stack trace library will be added, & fixes to e.g. Posix compliance and inclusion of C atomics. There has been a major rewording of the description of name lookup in the core C++ language. LWG queue for C++23 now full. Full report in next CVu.

4.7 Website

From Jim:

At present there's little to report on the hosting front. The switch to the new website has definitely reduced (but not entirely eliminated) load problems on our Bytemark host, and so I feel slightly less guilty about not progressing with the alternate Raspberry Pi host we discussed previously. I do still intend to move in that direction... when time permits.

The rather ad-hoc mechanism for updating the live website, where committers push to a 'deployed' branch and a periodic script updates and builds the site, is occasionally requiring manual intervention on my part, due to the stored Git credentials getting lost for reasons I've not nailed down yet. Apologies to Bob and Felix.

Magazines have been electronically published, next magazine has gone to Daniel James but he may be busy in the short term. Some feedback on new website, main issue is lack of search facility for reviews.

4.8 Publicity and Social Media

From Adeel:

The Social Media did take a back seat due to paternity leave, however it's back and i'm posting regular content which is getting some engagement. I'm also posting messages about joining ACCU and trying to promote to our existing followers. I'll continue this strategy over the next few weeks and see how this goes. I've also promoted ACCU to any Developers that i've spoken to and I know at least one signed up.

The Benefits of membership should now be complete -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MICBWhgX4ZE-j426loW9AitxvT2FYwETryalynxBmkU/edit#heading=h.ai6b6wff0qf87> If anyone had any edits, then feel free to let me know.

I've also checked with LinkedIn and you will only show as part of a company if you have ACCU listed in your experience section rather than the volunteering section. I wanted to suggest that anyone who does not have ACCU listed in this section, to add to their profile which will help to increase exposure.

The committee pass on their congratulations to Adeel on the birth of his new son.

Geoff Daniels has also been exploring leads with regard to giving talks.

4.9 Publications

Limited input, despite lockdown. Did get a very interesting article from Nathan Sidwell who is the implementer of modules in g++. Will run poll on best articles. Have moved to using paper envelopes, could include more material printed on envelope.

5. Any other business

Given the conference is on-line, plan to schedule the AGM at 7 pm (UK BST) on 17 April 2021.

6. Date of next meeting

The date of the next committee meeting will (provisionally) be 24th January @ 2.30 pm (UK), via Google Meet.