

# Minutes for ACCU Committee meeting

## 16th May 2021, via Google Meet

Meeting started at 14.40.

### 1. Attending

Robin Williams, Ralph McArdeell, Guy Davidson, Bob Schmidt, Roger Orr, Jim Hague, Matt Jones, Patrick Martin.

### Apologies for absence

Geoff Daniels, Adeel Nadeem, Robert Pauer, Phil Nash.

### 2. Minutes from last meeting

Reviewed and agreed.

### 3. Actions in progress

**Note:** the Google Sheet for actions is here:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RMTorasYR\\_A94VBjv-Dn6ghhTVWLbW0w1ekhN994qFI](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RMTorasYR_A94VBjv-Dn6ghhTVWLbW0w1ekhN994qFI)

122	Patrick: update the very old advertising card - get ad server stats and web visits from Bob and Jim
140	Phil: 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
163	Adeel: find speakers for online "local" talks, contact Ralph/Phil about arrangements
172	Robin: Add agenda item for meeting after conference to clarify benefits of corporate memberships.
174	Robin: contact Guy & Matt after the meeting to investigate corporate voting procedure
175	Jim & Bob: AdSense should be disabled on old members website
176	Jim & Bob: Investigate possibility of integrating a private Discord server on ACCU website hardware vs. use of standard Discord.com system.
177	Patrick: clarify some Constitutional points: e.g. "Honorary Auditor"? and is the AGM announcement timeline still relevant? - Review / canvas for others

### Actions from previous meetings:

122: Patrick has talked to Parchment to update advertising card, colour output now more economical to

*offer, in progress.*

*163: Adeel: I spoke with Rich Park and there is an ACCU online meet up arranged now for 20th May and I'm promoting it across social media.*

*We can mark this action as done, but will always be seeking speakers for future events.*

*172: Done.*

*174: Done.*

*175: Jim: AdSense removed from old site, Google Site Id still shows but linkage has been broken*

*176: Jim: No self-hosted option exists; ACCU channel has been created. Closed. General discussion: it seems like communication channels are very fragmentary at the moment, so it's difficult to know where to concentrate effort in the longer term. Discord is good for "ephemeral" material (e.g. conference), but not great for longer-term context and may have significant moderation overhead.*

*177: Ongoing. Robin presented suggested election timeline.*

### **Actions added by this meeting:**

*178: Matt & Adeel: check with AYA that discounts available to corporate members are affordable, update corporate membership factsheet with this, and on change to voting as discussed below.*

## **4. Reports**

### **4.1 Advertising**

*No report.*

### **4.2 Conference**

*No report. Need to review plans for 2022 -- this may be a hybrid meeting, will need to contact Felix & AYA.*

### **4.3 Local Groups**

*No report. Meeting to be held on 20 May.*

### **4.4 Membership**

*Matt Jones says:*

*Nothing to report.*

*Numbers as ever:*

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1\\_DBWE4ya54atjshmEMzA4qdWEa-bagJVc4A36u\\_YOpO/edit#gid=8](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_DBWE4ya54atjshmEMzA4qdWEa-bagJVc4A36u_YOpO/edit#gid=8)

*More magazines are being returned by postal services.*

### **4.5 Treasurer**

*Patrick: Pursuing QBS for payment for magazine advertising, accounts approved without drama, not much else.*

#### **4.6 Publicity & Social Media**

*Adeel: Nothing of significance to report.*

#### **4.7 Standards**

*Guy: Nothing much to report. Tentatively Portland Oregon, Jan 2022. Sub-committees meeting regularly. C++23 will small update, helping Roger with convening -- Guy focussing on libraries, Roger on language.*

#### **4.8 Website**

*Jim: actions as reported elsewhere. Running out of server disk space during site updates. Investigating changing hosts to Mythic Beasts or OVH. The committee agreed a spending limit of £300 for ongoing expenditure which can be reimbursed.*

*Bob: updating website, automatic build seems more costly in space than hand-build. Removed extra copies of magazines from old site, intending to clear up conference slides and out-of-date carousel slides. Need to add new auditors and AGM minutes. Next Overload & Cvu have been posted, Daniel continues to do e-pub. Benefits page has been updated and clarified.*

#### **4.9 Publications**

*Roger: Thanks to Steve & Fran for effort on editing, seems to be becoming harder to procure articles.*

### **5. Any other business**

#### 5.1 Clarify benefits of corporate memberships

How many votes, how many discounts for conference attendees? Limited interest from corporate members in voting, constitution (item 8) states 4 votes per corporate membership. Prepare benefits summary to discuss at next committee meeting and then distribute as needed, need to confirm costs with AYA. Suggestion that number of votes be decreased to one, retaining financial benefit of magazine and conference attendances. Actions: Matt check with AYA, Adeel to update card.

#### 5.2 Review wording of constitution (e.g. nomenclature, election timeline)

Already discussed.

#### 5.3 YouTube channel

From Jim Roper:

*I also have some good and bad news. The combined optimization work we have been applying to the newly released videos and comment approval/management service appears to be having a great effect on the channels viewership, so much so that the channel has already received more than half the views it normally would in an entire year, in just 5 months and more comments than any previous full year!*

*So this is great news for the channel, video viewership and public awareness of the conference and videos, however it does mean we will need to charge the increased rate while the comment volume remains high. I would expect this to slowly drop off over the year, but we received almost the same number of comments (273) in April of this year as we did in the entirety of 2020 (just over 300)!*

*We hadn't ever predicted such a huge surge in numbers, so our contract is now very much in your favour!*

*We stipulate that 'times of high volume' would require a double fee, however the volumes we are seeing are currently close to 10x! As a result, we have had to slightly reduce the scope of work in order to ensure we can reasonably process these higher volumes, so we have suspended the comment forwarding service until the number reduces a bit (sending numerous emails to the same speakers also seemed like it might annoy them).*

*We did also see lower volumes of comments in January and February, but have chosen to keep the fee at the standard rate of £100 as we otherwise would be discounting further on top of the huge increase in comment volume that isn't currently catered for within the contract, so we have kept these at the standard rate to mitigate against this increased workload, in a way that still works within the bounds of the contract.*

*I do hope this is ok with you. Please let me know if not and we can work something out.*

The point of this facility is to ensure questions are answered in a timely manner. This should be monitored to ensure that the average level of effort required to support this over the year is consistent with our contract with Jim.

#### 5.4 Lowson Ward Tax Investigations Service

ACCU's turnover is too small to make this service of value to us.

## **6. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next committee meeting will (provisionally) be July 18th @ 2.30pm (UK), via Jitsi (Google Meet will be paid by this date).