

Minutes for ACCU Committee meeting 16th January 2022, via Google Meet

Meeting started at 14.40 UK time.

1. Attending

Robin Williams, Guy Davidson, Ralph McArdell, Bob Schmidt, Felix Petriconi, Matt Jones, Roger Orr, Patrick Martin (part)

Apologies for absence

Jim Hague, Adeel Nadeem

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:

122	Patrick: update the very old advertising card - get ad server stats and web visits from Bob and Jim
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
177	Robin: clarify some Constitutional points: e.g. "Honorary Auditor"? and is the AGM announcement timeline still relevant? - Review / canvas wording for motion at 2022 AGM
180	Patrick: confirm when advertising contract comes up for renewal.
182	Patrick: Discuss YouTube channel promotion & monetization with Jim Roper.
185	All: Review Phil's local group affiliations draft towards approval at next meeting.
186	Ralph, Phil: Report on re-launch process for local groups & advertising in CVu.

122: From Patrick Martin: I believe this draft is "done, stick a fork in it", I haven't heard any objections. I propose to the committee we simply put it out there. Closed.

143: From Patrick Martin: Recap: Microsoft and Google have good offerings for charities that are free, otherwise we're talking at least a hundred or so pounds a year for just a few users. I propose we add an item for "Seek charitable status" in the AGM agenda and take it from there once the vote is in for yes or no. This need not preclude anyone who has a home brew document storage system we could manage

ourselves from suggesting we pursue that in parallel. Right now, there is no hurry.

146: No report.

153: From Patrick Martin: I spoke to the person who had expressed strong opinions on the matter, who is OK with proceeding with the monetisation as we can elect how to glean the monies (if!). I will follow up with Natwest, but there may be a blocker there until we can find someone to create the account. More anon.

177: From Patrick Martin: It's a simple matter - "7.9 The Honorary Auditor shall be appointed by the Annual General Meeting." We actually don't do precisely this - instead we have concurrent 2 auditor volunteers for limited terms. Suggest we simply update the wording as an AGM action.

From Robin Williams: Suggested updated election timeline

- 1. Announce Deadline: sent to members no less than 56 days before the GM*
- 2. Proposal Deadline: received by Secretary no less than 35 days before the GM*
- 3. Draft Agenda Deadline: sent to members no less than 28 days before the GM*
- 4. Agenda Freeze: modifications received by Secretary no less than 21 days before the GM*
- 5. Voting Opens: 14 days before the GM*

Move to action 188. Closed.

180: From Patrick Martin: QBS are not renewing the advertising. Closed.

182: From Patrick Martin: Jim R has been actioned and will set up the AdSense account for us and the channel configuration. Update from PM: FTR - Jim has done this. Closed

185: Distributed and reviewed. Closed.

186: No progress at present as a result of other commitments.

Actions added by this meeting:

187 Bob: Clarify wording of Honorary Auditor role for website

188 Robin: Submit motions revising constitution to AGM

189: All: Talk to companies/conference-sponsors to see if they want to advertise with us.

4. Reports

4.1 Advertising

See Action 180. Roger suggested talking to sponsors at conference about supporting ACCU publications.

4.2 Conference

Felix: Complete schedule available, to be published 20th January. Also conference call on 20th about meeting format (hybrid/virtual).

Invited speakers have accepted, positive feedback. Two new two-day workshop sessions being offered. AGM will be held as part of the programme, RW to liaise with FP about detail of hosting arrangements.

Consider offering trial memberships at conference again.

4.3 Local Groups

RW to suggest to Phil to send suggestion to accu-members about dry-run talks, also to be passed on to Bob as news item. See also actions....

4.4 Membership

Nothing much to report.

Membership figures are here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_DBWE4ya54atjshuEMzA4qdWEa-bagJvc4A36u_YOpQ/edit#gid=8

4.5 Treasurer

From Patrick Martin: Happy New Year! Insurance was renewed for this year; nothing much to report there. The docs are in Google Drive for anyone with insomnia.

Nothing untoward with the accounts and normal smooth running kudos to Matt as ever.

It's accounts time - so I will be reconciling the accounts and invoices etc, ready to go to the accountants; this year should be a lot more straightforward due to no gap in the records and also being better practised.

Also, any 2021 expenses, please send them over.

4.6 Publicity & Social Media

From Adeel Nadeem: There is nothing significant to note for publicity.

4.7 Standards

From Guy: Remote meetings continuing. New York summer meeting now cancelled, next in Hawaii in November. Executor proposal has got past library evolution, but there is unlikely to be bandwidth to adopt this for C++23 given technical difficulty and fundamental nature. Library or Core may hold face-to-face meeting, which may help with backlog of proposals. C++23 working draft in Summer, for potential adoption in 2023.

4.8 Website

From Jim Hague: Nothing dramatic to report on Web hosting.

** I've made a little progress on containerising the main website, but am not there yet. I'm aiming at a container that will serve the site and automatically update both site content and certificate.*

** Meanwhile we continue to have occasional disc space issues. I recently did a further clear-up and in the process discovered our internal backups had been stalled for lack of space (Bytemark also take backups, so we weren't unprotected). This is now rectified. A further prod at me to push to finish the container and deploy alternate hosting for the website.*

Discussion: A recent experience of hacking in the committee emphasises the importance of maintaining backups.

Bob: up to date with issues of CVu & Overload, changes to epub pipeline has interfered with some clients,

work ongoing. Continuing work on membership management. Code for handling account updates written, to be soft-released to committee in due course.

4.9 Publications

Roger: progressing as usual thanks to Fran & Steve's efforts. There have been problems obtaining sufficient material for publication in next month's Overload for final deadline in next few days, which may mean this version is cancelled if nothing additional can be found quickly.

5. Any other business

None.

6. Date of next meeting

The date of the next committee meeting will (provisionally) be 13th March @ 14.30 UK time, via Google Meet.