

## **BCS SOUTH WEST BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING**

ROYAL OAK, SOUTH BRENT, 24th February 2015, 19:30

### **Present**

Steve Furnell (SF), Kevin Chamberlain (KC), Janet Kneller (JK), Paul Dowland (PD), Alistair Revell (AR), Shirley Atkinson (SA), Jonathon Fieldsend (JF), Ted Draper (TD)

Ismini Vasileiou (IV) was welcomed as guest to the meeting.

### **Apologies**

Nathan Clarke (NC)

### **Minutes of last meeting**

It was noted that whilst a full branch committee meeting had not been held since 28th November 2013, dialogue between committee members has been maintained electronically, with face-to-face discussions held at branch events where necessary. Until now there had been no further need to meet.

The minutes of the meeting on 28th November 2013 were approved.

### **Matters arising**

- JK had obtained funding for the secure SW event. This had gone ahead.
- AR/ED progressing the meeting at the Bridge Inn, Topsham with Colin Pearson for March 2015
- JF had noted the very active Computer Science Society in Exeter but development towards a Student Chapter would prove problematic until BCS accreditation was in place. This would not be in place until a full cohort had graduated.
- JM not in attendance. The development of a BCS Student Chapter in Plymouth provided opportunity to discuss committee support for an event proposed by them.
- JF reported no further progress with YPG in Exeter.
- AR discussions with Primary Health Care Trust had drawn a blank.
- AR reported no further progress with Global Cafe.

### **Finance**

JK reported the current financial position. The branch was allocated a budget of £3,900 plus special project funding. Currently £582 has been spent. The committee discussed upcoming events and the forecasted expenses and determined that the budget was appropriate.

JK requested help in putting together the bid for the next financial year to be complete by 3rd March 2015. The bid covering this financial year had originally been for £4836 requested but the Branch was awarded £900 less. The committee discussed whether the bid should be any different from last year and determined that the only reduction required would be to reduce the amount budgeted for committee meetings as more was being done virtually. **ACTION:** JK to

produce the new bid using the figures from last financial year and reducing the amount for committee meetings.

## Events

IV and SF had met with students in Plymouth, and reported that there was now movement in regard to setting up a Student Chapter. JF had been contacted by the BCS in regard to setting up a student chapter in Exeter. Exeter has a very active Computer Science society and consideration was given to linking a BCS chapter to them. The committee agreed they would support a networking event proposed by the Student Chapter in Plymouth once they are suitably established. A budget of £200-300 was agreed.

The following events were in place.

### March

- Colin Pearson at the Bridge Inn.
- 10th March - Doug Williams had been rescheduled from the AGM in October 2014.
- 19th March - WISE. This event is focused on supporting women in their career progression in the industry, and IV has arranged a speaker for this occasion. The committee agreed to support the following for the event: catering to encourage networking event; transport for students coming from Exeter; and the production of a poster to send out to the big employers in the area. **ACTION:** AR agreed to produce a press release.

### April

- Secure SW 2nd April. Committee agreed to support the event. **ACTION:** PD to raise the invoice.

### May

- Dr Mike Evans

### June

- Code Skool for June, SA to complete special funding form.
- National BCS Appathon to be held 13th June. IV introduced how the event will run. Committee agreed to offer an additional SW prize. Information will be passed on as it arrives.

### Potential events

- KC exploring possibility of visit for new fire system. This would be an Exeter-based event.
- AR exploring potential for a speaker from Trustworthy Software initiative. As with other security-related events, this would be something that could be promoted in conjunction with the IISP.

## AOB

BCS Convention is being held on Thursday 12th March. AR and KC attending but not representing the branch. TD expressed his interest in attending.