

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST BRANCH OF THE BCS HELD AT THE PACKHORSE INN, SOUTH BRENT ON June 25th, 2008

Present: Mr E Draper (ED), Dr S Atkinson (SA), Dr P Dowland (PD), Dr N Clarke (NC), Mr K Chamberlain (KC), Dr J Fieldsend (JF), Mr Max Hughes (MH), Mr Alastair Revell (AR)

Apologies: Prof S Furnell (SF), Mr. Chris Cooper (CC), Ms S Karatzouni (SK), Ms J Kneller (JK),

In the absence of the Branch Chairman, ED was elected chairman for the meeting

WELCOME NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ED welcomed MH & AR who were elected to the Branch Committee at the AGM, and asked all the members to briefly introduce themselves.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING 3rd March

The minutes were accepted as a correct record.

- Student Project –The competition was promoted to both universities, and judging took place online via branch website. This proved very successful with over 30 Branch members voting for the 5 projects submitted.
- Schools Competition – Less successful, but will be carried forward to this year
- Agile IT – **SF to provide details , NOT JF**

EVENTS PROGRAMME – 2008-09

- The Jurassic Cruise – a joint event with RSA/RGS has been promoted to members
- Cyber Security KTN: Pulse Programme – The Branch has been approached to host a joint meeting with this group. **SF to arrange, preferably for evening in October**
- Netgear – Offer for talk about Wireless networking from AGM is still available.
- Secure Test – CC had received an offer from Ken Munro to give a talk about penetration testing, and asked for a date to be agreed.

ED then suggested a ‘brainstorming’ session to identify other potential speakers/ subjects we might approach:

- FlyBe – suggested by a branch member – **CC**
- Brewery – Tour/use of IT – **ED**
- South West Water (or other regional company) – Use of IT in a regional company – **NC to construct an email to members asking for potential speakers**
- TCL – Software Testing - **JF**
- GCHQ – **JF**

- IBM (already scheduled to speak at Exeter Univ in spring term) – **JF**
- Air Traffic Control – Safety related issues – **JF**
- Robot Football – Plymouth Univ at Euro championships – **PD**
- Bletchly Park – ENIGMA machine, possibly linked to Schools visit – **PD**
- Hold a Debate – Health related, possibly NPfIT – **MH**
- Organise better ‘post event’ social to engage new attendees – **AR**
- Better advertising – utilise our members and their networks – **AR**
- Develop a Press list to publicise events – **contact HQ (ED & AR), and all to submit known press contacts**
- Liaise with other professional groups – **AR**
- Invitation to speak at IM&T re BCS membership – **MH + PD to give info and HQ contacts**
- Produce name badges for those registered for an event
- Photos of committee members for website, and name badges for events – **All to send photos to PD**

From these ideas the following dates were suggested:

Netgear – Last week Sept/Start of Oct, at Exeter on Weds eve – **KC to contact**

TCL – Plymouth , end of October – **JF**

Secure Test – November at Exeter – **CC**

Cyber Security KTN – Oct/Nov – **SF**

Debate – Pre-Christmas with social event - **MH**

FINANCE MATTERS

Project Bid ideas:

- **Security Conference sponsorship** – Proposed £200 in line with previous support
- **Student Prizes** – Needs to involve both Universities, but stick with the poster format as last year – **SF/JK to organise bid**
- **Schools Competition** – Need to engage IT teachers with professional members. **SA to ask teachers what they would find useful**
Suggestion of ‘Speed Dating’ – Teachers <-> IT professionals.
JK to confirm budget carry over
- **Graduate Prize** – **JK to confirm budget**
- **Business South West Exhibition** – KC suggested possibility of joint stand with Moortek, but generally thought insufficient benefit for Branch members. It would be better to promote BCS to IT Directors directly.
- **Internet World Coach** – Still thought to be a good idea – **KC to confirm details, and possibly involve Bristol/Swindon branches.**
- **Purchase Video Camera** – Recorded events appear to be popular, and Branch camera would be desirable, but need to justify the expenditure by the use of the recordings. – **PD to investigate how often recordings are watched**
- **Membership opinions** – Committee agreed to suggest possible questions for a short questionnaire to members, with possibility of prize draw for a bottle of champagne to encourage entry. Results to be discussed at Sept meeting – **PD to organise. ALL to suggest questions by 11th July.**

BCS HQ MATTERS

BMC elections:

KC reported that, following his 3rd place in the BMC elections, he has been invited to join BMC for 1 year from Autumn congress. This is because Ralph Miller (one of the members elected at Spring Congress) has now become Chair of International Sections, so will attend BMC in that capacity.

Branches websites:

Information has been received about new templates available for Branch websites hosted by HQ. Our existing Branch site is already content managed and easy to maintain, but PD agreed to review the templates and produce an updated design on a trial site if significant changes were required to match HQ style.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Branch website – Request for photos for all committee members, and any updates to the member resumes.

Also more content is desirable, especially from presenters.

Monday September 8th 2008, 7.30pm at somewhere near A38/Denbury (so SA can attend) – KC to confirm venue

KSC

05/07/2008