BCI East of England (BCIEoE) Chapter – Management Committee Meeting 29/04/2022

09:00 – 10:00 GMT

Attendees:

Mark Suttle, Chair

Brian Kinch, Secretary

Lauren Kinch, Administrator Key:

Jim Barrow, Committee Member **Current Actions**

Tim Cracknell, Committee Member **Carried Forward Actions**

Matthew Neall, Committee Member **Late Actions**

Apologies:

Richard Verrinder, Vice Chair

Adrian Jolly, Committee Member

Peter Horsted, Committee Member

Welcome:

MS welcomed everyone to the call and made apologies from those who were not able to attend. The Committee wished a speedy recovery to AJ’s father.

MS suggested, due to time restrictions, the meeting should be focused on preparations for the Summer Chapter Event.

MS asked the Committee if there are any other matters that needed discussion. BK suggested revisiting who would be willing to be the new Chapter Chair, and to discuss the Autumn event.

Review and Formal Approval of meeting Minutes 11th March 2022:

The Committee have reviewed and approved the minutes from 11th March 2022 for publication without any amendments.

Update on actions from prior meeting Minutes:

01/210122 – Closed. BK advised that in his latest liaison with David Thorp he had been advised that three strong candidates for the replacement Head of Communities & Operations were being actively interviewed and an appointment expected shortly.

1. Closed. LK has made amendments to the minutes from 21/01/22. This will not be published as of yet, as BK is waiting for BCI support to fix a technical issue to allow publication (see below).
2. **Carried forward. BK is still in liaison through David Thorp in an attempt to redress the web-page corruption and publication issues.**
3. **Carried forward. BK to send 21st January minutes to MN to post on the BCI LinkedIn page.**
4. **Carried forward. MN to post the minutes to the BCI Chapter LinkedIn page.**
5. Complete. BK had confirmed the precise origin and nature of the public BCI criticism and determined, through David Thorp, that an independent investigation is on-going and the BCI Board had decided not to be drawn into a public exchange on the matter.
6. Complete. LK has sent the event photos to be posted on LinkedIn.
7. **Carried forward. AJ to report back at the next meeting on the potential new Committee member.**
8. **Carried forward. TC to establish viability of using Ipswich port.**
9. Complete. All Committee members looked for contacts in their networks.
10. Closed. LK spoke to Tom Rashbrook regarding Tilbury Port, but he did not have any contacts.
11. Complete. The Summer and Autumn Chapter events were a priority on the agenda.
12. Complete. The Chapter Chair was a priority agenda item.

Chapter Chair Arrangements:

MS explained how, due to personal and business commitments with DRII, he was needing to step back as Chair, and asked if any other Committee members would like to take the position. MN offered to step forward. The Committee fully supported this decision, and the motion was passed without challenge, especially as other Committee members had commitments that would prevent them from being able to take this on.

The Committee thanked MS for all his work as Chair, and wished luck to MN who would take this on from the next formal meeting.

Summer Chapter event:

BK summarised the prospective ideas for the Summer Event. The Committee had agreed to hold the event at a port, originally looking at Felixstowe Port. Owing to Covid-19 restrictions, Felixstowe are, however, unable to hold such a public-facing event in the foreseeable future. The Committee then looked at contacts at Tilbury Port and Ipswich Port, to try to secure a venue. Regarding the presentations, BK explained the ideas socialised previously were based on challenges with Brexit, Covid-19, and Supply Chains. BK indicated that whilst we are aiming for the event to be held on 17th June, this can be pushed back if necessary.

Per action 08/110322, TC is liaising with the group treasurer at ABP and he is in outreach to see if one of their ports can provide a venue and a speaker. TC is currently waiting on a response.

TC asked if there are other speakers lined up for the event. BK indicated that we have a couple of people who were spoken about including Mark Browne, but wanted to hold off securing the speakers until we had a definite date.

TC questioned if there needs to be a cut off time to have these plans secured. BK suggested, given 4 weeks’ notice required by BCI Events, to give the time to send out the invitation, in aiming for 17th June, the cut off would be 17th May.

**Action 01/290422: MN to contact the yacht club in Burnham, to see if there is any possibility of using their venue either as fallback or as a dedicated future option.**

MS suggested, whatever other plans are considered, ensuring the venue has been confirmed first. JB indicated, unless this can be sorted in the next few days, the event may need to be pushed back. MS agreed, and suggested the Committee keep in touch regarding preparations made.

BK mentioned the RNLI Lifeboat Station in Southend, that was going to be a previous event venue, which could be another possibility to use if its needed. MS suggested reaching out to them anyway.

**Action 02/290422 – BK to reconnect with RNLI in Southend.**

BK also mentioned the Westcliff rugby club, which had recently undergone a physical relocation owing to compulsory purchase of prior buildings and land for new developments, as this could be an interesting venue to speak about the logistics of change management, etc. MS agreed and suggested keeping this idea as another possibility.

Autumn event:

In that time allowed, the Committee turned their attention to the planning for the Autumn event, intended for September or October. MS noted that this had been suggested as an event focusing on cyber security, especially in the wake of the Russia and Ukraine conflict, plus the challenges for such security caused by remote working, etc.

MS queried whether any speakers have yet been identified? BK advised not as yet as discussions were still iterative. JB questioned whether a former presenter at a BCI Chapter event, Tony Gimple, might be available and BK advised he was still in contact and could make an outreach if necessary. Meantime, though, MS advised he had seen STORM Guidance (https://www.stormguidance.com/) present at a recent customer event and that they may be an even better option, and seemed keen to engage, albeit they would not be able to offer a venue and would probably prefer a London-based arrangement.

**Action 03/290422 - BK is to liaise with AJ about having a further conversation with Andrew Lawton of Fortress (based in Docklands) about supporting this event in supplying their venue. A longstanding refurbishment had prevented Andrew helping previously, but this should now be completed.**

**Action 04/290422 – ALL are to give consideration to any other potential venues, targeting 16th September or 21st October, but being flexible with our dates if need be, and maybe looking at a different date that is not around half term.**

TC noted that the heritage UK based Sungard business seemed to have gone into administration which may bring further pressure to bear on the availability of venues for the resilience community. BK agreed and also expressed concern that, as a Chapter, our most recent event had been held in London, and that there seemed to be a similar risk of operating in the London Chapter ‘territory’ in this planning too

MS acknowledged the challenges brought about by a changing environment for both premises availability and location, and the potential conflict with the London Chapter who are clearly looking at relaunching and have been seeking Committee members. That said, MS knows the new London Chapter Chair very well and, far from seeing an East of England event as non-complementary, he believes it could even be positioned as a joint Chapter event if they wanted and is eager to re-establish lines of communication.

**Action 05/290422 - MS is to liaise with the new London Chapter Chair to find out his plans, and explain ours with the London based venue, and to see if we are able to align.**

Any Other Business:

BK advised that fellow erstwhile Committee Member, Ken Clark had announced recently on LinkedIn that he was subject to redundancy at ARM. Most of the Committee had not seen this on the social media channel and expressed their empathy and good wishes for Ken in his search for a new role. The Committee wondered whether Ken might be tempted to rejoin the Committee as his work pressures abated.

**Action 06/290422 – BK is to contact Ken Clark and see if he would consider rejoining the Committee.**

BK queried whether, owing to PH’s recent absence level from Committee meetings, we should be giving consideration to asking if he is still able to commit.

**Action 07/290422 -** MS is to drop PH a line to ensure that he is ok and still able and willing to participate in the Committee.

There were no further comments from the Committee.

Close:

Being no further business, MS thanked those for joining the call and closed the meeting at 10:00.