

BCS Digital Accessibility Specialist Group

Draft Minutes Committee Meeting 10/04/18

2:00 pm at BCS, First Floor,
The Davidson Building,
5 Southampton Street
London, WC2E 7HA

1. Attendance

Welcome:

HL: Welcomed the meeting and explained that would be chairing this meeting as GC, our new chairman, is unwell. HL wished GC a speedy recovery on behalf of the meeting.

The meeting also sent best wishes to Peter Dudley after his stroke.

Present:

- Peter Abrahams (Secretary)
- Claire Milne
- Malgorzata van Leeuwen
- Nigel Lewismcc
- Geoffrey McMullen
- Howard Leicester (deputising chair)
- Terence Freedman (Treasurer)
- Jean Irvine
- David Rippon
- Rob McLaren
- Ray Waddington-Jones

Remote

- Tracey Mimna

Apologies:

- Gill Whitney
- Andrew Barnes
- Teum Teklehaimanot
- EA Draffan
- Graham Collins (Chair)

2.Minutes of last meeting

Accepted.

Matters Arising not dealt with elsewhere

David Rippon has been elected to the BCS Council.

NL told the meeting that he is leaving Abilitynet and joining Clarity. He will keep in contact with DASG but in the short term is unlikely to have time to be active in DASG.

The meeting wished him luck in his new role.

3.Engagement with DASG membership – All

Actions not taken because GC ill, carried forward.

4.GDPR and communications with members – Peter Abrahams

There are now centrally held distribution lists for:

- Members of DASG who are members of the BCS and have registered their interest through My BCS
- Members of DASG who are either not members of BCS or have not registered through my BCS
- Members of the DASG committee this needs to be formalised and updated.

Action PA: add an item to next agenda to formalise members of the committee.

5.BCS Webinars around diversity/inclusion/social mobility report back – Nigel Lewis

NL is presenting on May 9.

Action NL: to send details of webinar when known.

6. Assistive Technology week 19 March at University of Arts London report back – Howard Leicester

Event went well. Presentation by Hector Minto.

This led to a discussion on whether students with disabilities are being listed and if statistics are available. NL says not all info is available some is. What is recommended is public knowledge. See student access work site. Access to work has stats on different disabilities. NL has BATA got stats?

Action HL: contact John Lamb BATA and ask him what stats are available and hopefully JL will come to our next meeting.

7. Robotics Event – J.Irvine/G.McMullen

Difficulty contacting Givindar Sing. WCIT medical council suspended. Therefore no agenda as yet for 20th June. Need to make decision by end April.

Action JI: Write to Givindar Sing and BCS Health to give date for cancellation.

8. Best Practice Committee: Inclusion Officer – P. Abrahams

The inclusion Officer Role has still not been announced.

There were problems with the accessibility of the BCS council elections, the on-line system did not work for screen readers. PA and DR raised this issue and found a work around. It was also agreed that the system would be fixed before the next election and tested by screen reader users before going live.

Next Council meeting July 9 is on A11y including Chris Reeves Paul Fletcher.

It was agreed that DASG should send a letter to the President highlighting the importance of accessible systems using the Election problem and legal implications as an example.

Action JI: to draft letter.

9. NHS – Accessible Information Standard (AIS) – J.Irvine/N.Lewis/H.Leicester

The AIS is in place in GP but not acted upon, especially in hospitals.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is meant to check its use but that is not happening yet.

Health Watch work together with CQC but not obviously active.

BCS Health should be interested.

Action HL: report back if there is something substantive.

10. Assistive Technologies Interest Group – P.Abrahams/H.Leicester

PA and HL set up a LinkedIn group to enable users of assistive technologies to discuss issues with other users and experts in the technologies. It has not been a success because of lack of users and experts.

NL: Stated that there are already several initiatives in this area and there needs to be a way of bringing them together.

Action JI HL: Will write to John Lamb of BATA asking how to resolve.

Action PA: to remind DASG members of the existence of the LinkedIn group, and ask for feedback on its usability and suggest other existing groups that could be used instead.

11. IAAP Membership – N.Lewis/P. Abrahams

Put in funding bid for connection rejected by Finance.

Put in questionnaire to DASG members as to how much they would use it if available.

Action PA: to include question in questionnaire

12. Accessibility Training/SFIA+ – P.Abrahams

Suggested changes to SFIA were submitted by DASG. Beta of SFIA v7 was not yet available.

Action PA: to report when substantive

13. Collaboration with software testing SG – P. Abrahams

No action.

14. University procurement of AT – R.McLaren/E.A.Draffan

Need to get better understanding of what Universities are doing re IT budget.

RMC is talking to teaching excellence framework as to how Universities can meet excellence through IT.

Action RMcC: Take forward and then come back to us when we can help.

15. Disability, accessibility, personalisation, inclusion and design Presentation – P. Abrahams/J.Irvine/G.Whitney

Action PA to continue

16. BDF Conference – J.Irvine

Action GMCM: are we still members of BDF.

17. Finances – Terence Freeman

We have about 1900 still in budget before end August.

Need evidence of IAAP benefit.

Event at Southampton.

Robotics event could produce surplus.

There is rollover

18. Succession Planning for secretary – Peter Abrahams

Complete.

Action PA: to give GMC access to distribution lists.

19. AOB

Digitally Disadvantaged draft report.

Paul Martynenko, immediate past president, has commissioned a report on the Digitally Disadvantaged. He sent DASG, via DR, the draft of the report for comment.

Action PA: to distribute draft to DASG members and ask for critiques.

Action DR: to coordinate response.

20. Dates of 2018 meetings:

- Tuesday 17th July 2018

Action PA: Set up two more dates.

All meetings will be from 2 pm to 4 pm and a sandwich lunch will be available at 1 pm.