

Minutes of IT Leaders Forum meeting held on 4 July 2023

Attendees

David Miller (Chair)
Chris Fowler (Communications)
Jacqui Hogan
Norman King (Inclusion Officer)
Shakeeb Niazi
Gill Ringland
Christos Stavroulakis

Apologies

Phil Crewe
Ian Golding
Jonathan Leeson (Vice Chair)
Algirdas Pakštas
Karl Smith
Matthew Taylor
Gordon Thompson (Treasurer)
Haiyan Wu

Absent

Jon Hall
John McCarthy.

1. Chairs report (David)

- 1.1. The minutes of the last meeting (9 May 2023) were accepted as accurately reflecting the discussions of the committee meeting on 9 May and can now be found on Basecamp.
- 1.2. Seven committee members attended via Teams including the Chair and so the meeting was declared quorate.
- 1.3. Shakeeb's Meritorious Service Award was presented to him after the last meeting and he thanked the committee for his nomination.
- 1.4. The Nurturing Leaderpreneurs Paper is complete so, again, well done to Shakeeb and his team especially Stephen Castell and Colin German. See Communications below for how we can all help to promote this more widely.
- 1.5. IT Leaders conference 2023. HQ informed me that they now intend to run a separate event for corporate members hence we can proceed to organise the 2023 and 2024 conference programmes. The 2023 conference will be held in September and we are considering a Resilience, Ransomware and Cyber Crime theme. The committee was asked to consider ideas for the 2024 conference which will revert to Q1.
- 1.6. We are now adding internal and external collaborations to the diversifying range of ITLF member activities. Further collaborations are being planned with the Consultancy SG, Police Special Operations, and the Quality SG (this last one as part of the activity of the Service Resilience working group). It is possible that these collaborations will give rise to further working groups and opinion pieces.
- 1.7. HQ has established a community support committee and it is conducting a survey. They would like all member group committee members to participate in the survey in order that it can be as representative as possible of our thoughts. The link to the survey is as follows: <https://bcs.welcomesyourfeedback.net/volunteer-satisfaction-2023>

- 1.8. The cancelled CCI event. It has always been our aim to “provide a pressure-free, non-commercial setting for networking, problem solving, and discussion” so the decision of the UK Board of CCI to not restrict their paying sponsors in any way was unacceptable. They also wished to survey our members without assurances as to how the member data was to be used. Again, this was unacceptable and in the same month Meta was fined Eur1.2 Bn for a similar offence. We all belong to other organisations but, please, if you think that you may have a conflict of interest, please bring it to the attention of the committee.
- 1.9. To end on a positive note: a member recently posted the following on our LinkedIn Group, “I am heartened that this forum has grown into a true place to articulate views and exchange good practice. Despite the advertisement posts and the occasional less than helpful post; I believe that it is achieving its broader aims. I’d like to thank everyone who has kept the forum pure as a place to exchange views and experience. Catching up on posts during the last few months has made me proud that I’m a member of the IT community, and the British Computing Society.”

2. Fellows Group

Sonia Patel has received our feedback re ideas for further discussions on improving the Fellow experience but we have not received a reply. A further suggestion offered was for the BCS to consider a Fellows badge similar to those given to members of the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists. ACTION: DM to pass this information on to Sonia.

3. Membership report

Date	BCS		Total BCS	IT LEADERS FORUM BCS membership							Total ITLF	ITLF		LINKEDIN Grp Total	Notes
	Total FBCS	Total MBCS		M	F	U	Fellow	Profess'l	Other BCS	Overseas		Non BCS	TOTAL		
30/11/2018				3078	274	40	1395	1980	17	320	3392	22	3414	1632	Memsec AGM data
03/12/2020		31675									2487	22	2509	1650	Migration to Salesforce
20/01/2021	2870	33944		1705	125	437	1195	1059	13	251	2267	22	2289	1649	First data available from PowerBI
22/01/2021	3066			1869	142	477	1310	1164	31	251	2488	22	2510	1649	
09/02/2021	3073	31885		1867	142	477	1308	1164	31	252	2486	22	2508	1649	
06/04/2021	3049	32002		1859	141	476	1296	1157	23	183	2476	22	2498	1651	
07/04/2021	3049			1859	141	476	1296	1157	23	253	2476	22	2498	1664	
05/05/2021	3054	31580		1854	141	476	1295	1152	24	253	2471	22	2493	1665	
19/05/2021	2884			1723	115	443	1214	1054	13	230	2281	22	2303	1663	
04/08/2021	2890	26367		1686	122	430	1212	1015	11	227	2238	22	2260	1669	
27/09/2021	2928	26443		1701	119	434	1222	1021	11	229	2254	22	2276	1668	
23/11/2021	2924	26305		1681	120	429	1213	1006	11	224	2230	22	2252	1673	10 requests waiting to be approved
29/12/2021	2915	26250		1663	119	420	1204	987	11	222	2202	22	2224	1675	5 requests waiting to be approved
18/02/2022	2898	26001		1625	117	415	1187	959	11	224	2157	22	2179	1678	2 accepted, 5 waiting to be approved
22/03/2022	2897	25961		1609	116	409	1172	951	11	217	2134	22	2156	1677	2 accepted, 5 waiting to be approved
06/05/2022	2834	25599	47484	1575	111	404	1143	936	11	215	2090	22	2112	1680	2 accepted, 4 waiting to be approved
23/06/2022	2865	25741	47920	1575	114	399	1140	937	11	213	2088	0	2088	1683	1 accepted, 8 pending
30/08/2022	2870	26396	48952	1568	114	400	1142	929	11	214	2082	0	2082	1685	4 accepted, 1 pending
13/10/2022	2847	26480	48959	1558	111	397	1131	924	11	217	2066	0	2066	1684	7 pending
24/11/2022	2843	31067	49548	1541	107	395	1122	911	10	210	2043	0	2043	1684	4 requests pending
10/01/2023	2827	31305	49926	1522	108	391	1107	904	10	204	2021	0	2021	1681	11 request pending
03/03/2023	2831	32255	51388	1505	109	386	1102	889	9	206	2000	0	2000	1684	3 requests pending
09/05/2023	2807	32270	52357	1462	100	380	1085	850	7	205	1942	0	1942	1683	11 requests pending
03/07/2023	2792	32539	52864	1431	101	374	1070	829	7	193	1906	0	1906	1682	2 accepted, none pending

During the discussion of the latest membership numbers, it was noted that about 10% of our members are “Overseas”. Since ITLF members are senior in the profession, it was said that we might leverage these people and the concept of virtual events perhaps drawing on existing material to seek to develop the overseas membership. This would serve to both improve the UK’s standing in a post-BREXIT world, and also expand membership in countries with young and fast-growing work forces. ACTION: Gill to create an initial draft plan for discussion.

4. Budget

In Gordon’s absence, David reported that the latest budget update showed that we were underspent by £784.

5. Inclusion Norman.

Norman and Chris had obtained a proposal from Fearless Futures whose work was well known and highly regarded. There were some minor issues that could be overcome but the cost was

£2900 + VAT which was beyond our reach. Clients were typically large enterprises and so they were applying this business model to the BCS. ACTION: Norman and Chris to go back to the company to see if something more modest could be developed for our members, and if not to look for an alternative solution.

6. Working Groups

6.1. Service Resilience.

Gill's full report is in Basecamp but she was asked if she was happy with the way it was proceeding. There are four streams of work at the moment and the plan is that these will be handed over to other interested parties during this current phase.

6.2. Other Working Groups.

Matthew Taylor (Early Career Leadership and Mentoring), Jonathan Leeson (Future CEO), and John Hall (IT Leadership Courses for Higher Education) did not attend. ACTION: David to contact each of them for an update.

7. Events Q3 and Q4

7.1. September: conference. ACTION: David to liaise with all parties to fix a date and details.

7.2. 17 October: Service Resilience working group.

7.3. 16 November: Consultancy SG and ITLF collaboration hybrid event: "How do we plan a career in leadership through consulting?" (a panel discussion exploring the cycle between consultancy and leadership). The panel will consist of 4 ITLF members and one Consultancy SG committee member. ACTION: David to finalise the arrangements.

7.4. 28 November: ITLF AGM and Symposium.

8. Communications (Chris Fowler)

8.1. The IT Leaderpreneurs working group paper is live on our web site and it will feature in the November edition of ITNOW.

8.2. David asked that all committee members now help to promote it and HQ will be assisting in this. Chris has placed a guide, "IT Leaders Forum Practices for Sharing Information on LinkedIn" in Basecamp which can be found in the Marcomms folder.

9. AOB

There was no further business. The date of the next meeting is 5 September, 2023.