Annual General Meeting of the Hereford & Worcester Branch of the BCS
10th November 2023, 6:10pm to 6:45pm
The Hive, Worcester

Present: David Workman (Chair), Keith Buncle (Educational Liaison Officer), Richard Stevens (Committee Member), Martin Farkas (Secretary) and 7 members.

1. **Welcome:** David Workman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Apologies:** Adrian Cobley (Treasurer)

3. **Minutes of 2022 AGM:** Available on the website and copy available during the meeting. These were accepted as a correct record.

4. **Election of Committee Officers**:
    The new committee was unanimously agreed as:

    -   Chair:
        David Workman (proposed Martin Farkas, seconded Keith Buncle)
    -   Treasurer:
        Martin Farkas (proposed David Workman, seconded Keith Buncle)
    -   Secretary:
        Martin Farkas (proposed David Workman, seconded Keith Buncle)
    -   Education Liaison Officer:
        Keith Buncle (proposed David Workman, seconded Martin Farkas)
    -   Committee members without portfolio:
        Chris Farnath, (proposed David Workman, seconded Keith Buncle)
        Phil Libell, (proposed David Workman, seconded Keith Buncle)
    -   Early Careers Advocate: Vacant
    -   Inclusion Officer: Vacant

    Confirmation outstanding to confirm Richard Stevens at the next committee as Committee member.

5. **Treasurer's Report:** The Chairman reported on the budget:

    Budget 2022-23 Requested £4,640, Allocated £1,355, Spent £1,442.03
    Budget 2023-24 Requested £2,043, Allocated £1,343

    The applied funds and actual fund spent did not match and had to be re-allocated/categorised. Majority of funds was spent on event refreshments.
    Books balanced at the financial year end.
    3CT sponsored event with £200 contribution.

    Fund allocations of £1,343 for the current financial year will need to be re-allocated/categorised again to match actual spent.

    We have finance up to and including March 2024 but nothing after that at the moment. Presentations are organised until February. We will need more

presentations for March going forward. If we can't find presenters who will contribute financially, we will run out of catering.

6. **Chairman's Report:**

Events since last AGM

       Thu 24 Nov 2022 AGM + 10 Years on from ICT in Schools
       Tue 14 Mar 2023 Your Future with BCS: Supporting your career development with BCS
       Thu 15 Jun 2023 Cyber Presentation
       Thu 5 Oct 2023 Your Future with the British Computer Society

Confirmed future events incl. today

       Thu 9 Nov 2023 AGM + Nominet Presentation
       Thu 7 Dec 2023 Big Data + Physical Data Security
       Thu 11 Jan 2024 Blockchain
       Thu 8 Feb 2024 ChatGPT

Future monthly meetings are in planning.

The chair as formed an alliance with:

BIPC Worcester to cross advertise events (BIPC has 1,200 members & BCS HW 360 members). Room Hire for events held at The Hive are therefore covered by BIPC.

DC441905 Worcester DEFCON group which meets around the corner from The Hive at Arch Rivals. Events are now cross posted.

University of Worcester Computing department. Student body changes every 12 months. Students often need encouragements to get involved. Engaging university staff members is challenging as most do not live local. Student number participation might increase if there is something else apart from the presentation they can take away. A certificate for student engagement might possibly be issued by BCS head office for active participation in the local branch committee. A possible Hackathon at the University was mentioned again. The spot robot is still an option to visit the university if desired.

Worcestershire Growth Hub.

Herefordshire & Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce.

Event attendance at the last event was 30. The aim is to double and then triple this number.

The chair aims to increase the number of BCS Organisational members in the two counties from the current number of zero.

Our BCS Events are advertised on the branch website, Eventbrite and the email list for members and non-members as well as LinkedIn and MeetUp (via DC441905).

The branch currently caters for Students, its members, and local businesses. Going forward the chair would like to include children and the elderly too.

7. **AOB**
   The Education Liaison Office will provide the Chair with the contact details for the Computing in Schools contact for possible funding conversations.

Presentation following the AGM

Lara Howlett, PhD, Chris Appleyard and Neal Smyth from Nominet delivered an outstanding presentation: Its always DNS! Understanding internet domain names.