# UKNOF Status Update

UKNOF 29 Meeting,
Belfast
8th September 2014

UKNOF AGM
11th September 2014

**Keith Mitchell**
**UKNOF**

# Current Status

- We have run 28+ successful meetings ☺
  ~40-270 attendees each time
- Mailing list of ~1100 people
- Programme Committee
- Advisory Committee
- Board
- Meeting Commitee
- Committed regular volunteers
- Secure ongoing financial base

# UKNOF Remit

- From Charter:
  - *"To pro-actively support the sharing of knowledge, ideas and best practices to enhance the effective, stable and secure operation of the UK's Internet infrastructure as a whole."*
  - *"UKNOF's remit is technical, and any discussion or activities involving commercial, legal or political issues should be limited to where they have a direct impact on technical aspects of network operations."*
- Or:
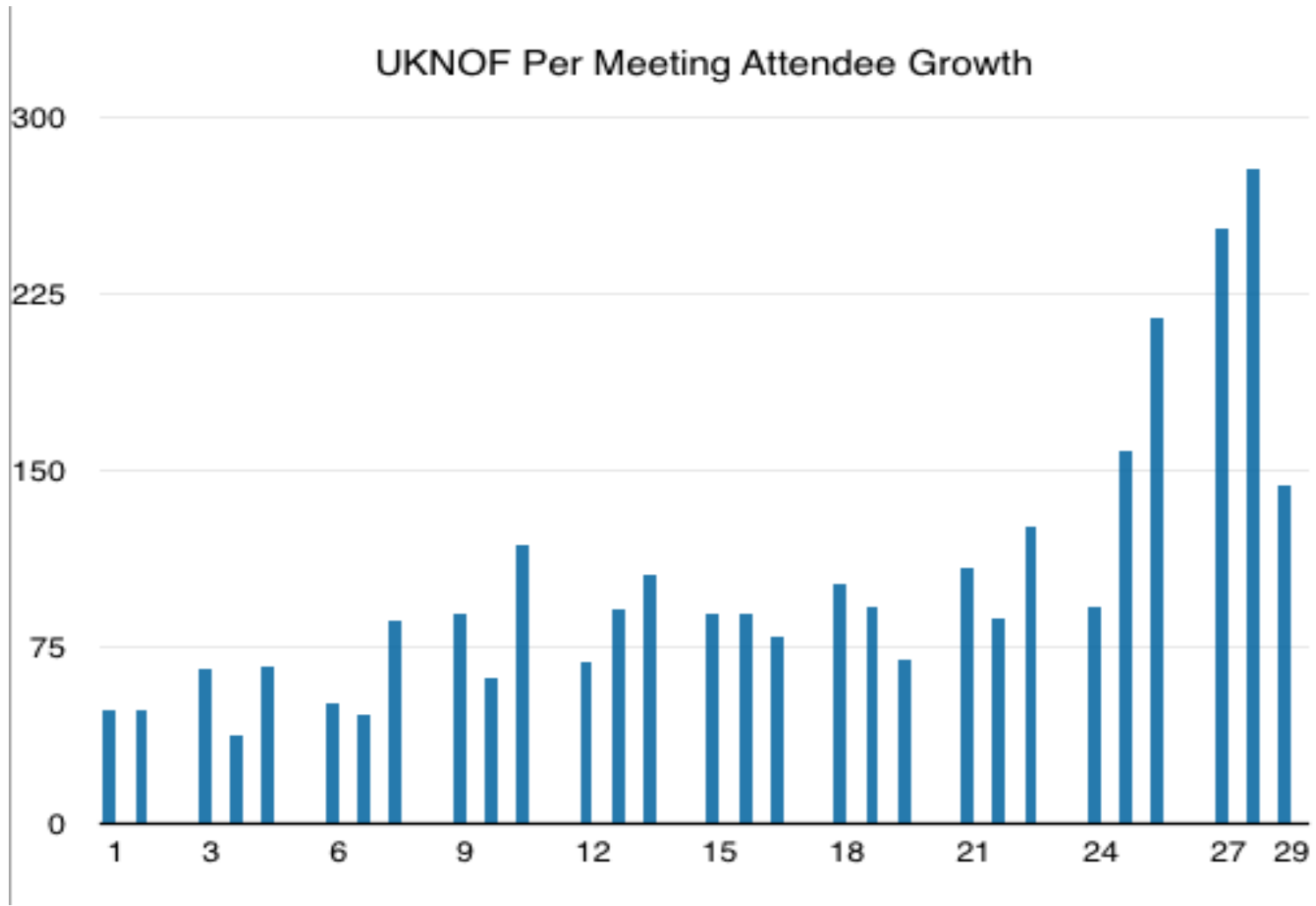  - *"Distribution of clue"* ☺

# UKNOF Activities

- ## Meetings 3 times/year
  - Current, interesting, stimulating, relevant sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices
  - Wider-ranging and less specific remit than other UK Internet bodies
  - OPEN to all, bring in new blood
  - Bring world-class international speakers to UK audience
- ## Mailing list, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Google+ groups
  - Mostly announcements

# UKNOF Meetings

- 3 times per year
  - At least one per year in London
  - At least one per year outside London
- Dates are now notionally 3$^{rd}$ Thursday of every Jan, Apr & Sep
  - subject to venue/calendar etc availability
- We are always looking for venues/sponsors

# Meeting Attendance



UKNOF Per Meeting Attendee Growth

# UKNOF Facilities

- Indico, Wiki and CRM VMs hosted by Bytemark
- Home Page, DNS and internal e-mail being migrated from Keith's server to VM hosted by Jump Networks
- Mailman mailing list VM hosted by LONAP
- Video archive on YouTube channel *"UKNOFconf"*
- Various parties help with VoIP, videoconf, meeting and webcast connectivity/archive

# Funding Model

- Non-profit
- We prefer to avoid charging meeting registration fees
- This has been possible so far through per-meeting vendor sponsors
    - want to continue this !
- Paid-for registrations to encourage early registration *only*
- We have a good operating cash buffer

# 2013 Development Strategy

- Remove logistic and funding barriers to provide enough spaces for *anyone* to be able to attend
- Pursue all sponsorship opportunities
- More professional, scalable organisation
- Distributed collaborative in-cloud team-working tools, less reliance on SPoF individuals
- Build operating reserve of ~2 meetings' costs

# Growth Approach

- Bigger venues (& catering) need to be paid for, and are more expensive per head
- Keeping attendance free means raising additional sponsorship funds
    - set meeting attendance and revenue targets
- Raising sponsorship funds needs more dedicated professional approach
- Funds raised need to pay for individual's time to do this, as well as cover meeting costs

# UKNOF Running Costs

- Typically about £25-35k per meeting:
  - Around £100-125/attendee/day
    - venue, catering
    - varies by city
  - also admin, badges, connectivity, travel, misc expenses
  - plus re-imbursed time:
    - 4 months @ ~120hrs/month of Denesh, Keith, Mike's time
    - aim to compensate these at £30/hour as we can afford it
  - Raise most of this through sponsorship plus a small amount of late/donation registrations
- Detailed accounts will be presented at AGM, and are always available on request

# Sponsor Scheme

- Host, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze levels
- Also Supporter and Social Recognition levels
- http://wiki.uknof.org.uk/Sponsorship/Overview
- So far achieving/exceeding annual meeting costs
- Also "Patron" sponsor level
- Denesh has been largely making all this happen, in Events Manager role

# UKNOF Governance

- Principle has been to put things on a stable footing, without over-thinking or creating structure with too much overhead

- We are **not** running monopoly, mission-critical national Internet infrastructure here !

- UKNOF Board accountable to community through stakeholder *non-profit* Internet organisations that contribute in some way to UKNOF's operation

- Implemented via *Advisory Committee* of individual representatives appointed by these organisations

- Appointment is by invitation from and approval by existing company members

# UKIF Ltd and UKNOF

- The UK Internet Forum (UKIF Ltd) was set up as an alternative Internet trade association in 2005
    - Public company limited by guarantee
- Hosted UKNOF secretariat as part of a number of proposed activities
    - Does book-keeping, invoicing, holds bank accounts
    - In practice supporting UKNOF its only activity for past ~8 years
- In Sep 2011, UKNOF effectively did a "reverse takeover" of UKIF Ltd
- UKIF legal entity now dedicated to supporting UKNOF
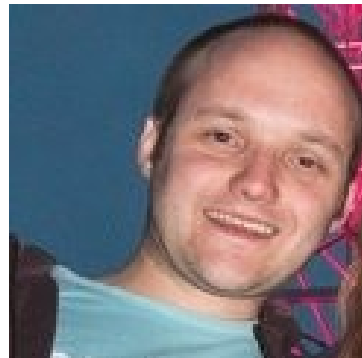
# UKNOF/UKIF Board



**Denesh Bhabuta (Executive)**

**Dr Willie Black (Chair)**
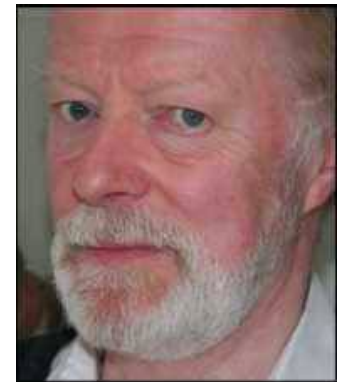
**Keith Mitchell (Managing Director)**

**Mike Hughes**

**Nat Morris**

**Nigel Titley**

**Steve Dyer**

# Board Powers and Duties

- The Board:
  - can appoint and remove committee members
  - signs off finances
  - can be natural persons only
  - has usual Company Director fiduciary duties
- 1/3rd of Board must step down for reappointment at AGM each year

# Supporting UKNOF

- Advisory Committee Members are not expected to make an ongoing financial commitment to UKNOF, but are expected to devote time and other in-kind resources needed for its smooth operation

- Individual membership for meeting attendees is something we've been considering, but need or demand not so far materialised

- In the meantime we believe that our Advisory Committee and thence UKNOF is accountable to the wider community through their own stakeholders

- If you ever have questions/concerns, please raise them through your AC representatives

# Advisory Committee UKN⦿F

- Comprises the following organisation representatives:
    - BBC:          Brandon Butterworth
    - IXLeeds:       Andy Davidson
    - ISC:           Stephen Morris
    - LINX:          John Souter
    - LONAP:         Will Hargrave
    - JANET(UK):     Rob Evans
    - RIPE NCC:      Jochem de Ruig

- *Other possible candidate member organisations might include ISPA, ISoc, Nominet...*

- Attend AGM and have Board/Fiscal oversight

# Programme Committee UKNOF

- 17 volunteers
- Ensures supply of interesting presentations
- http://www.uknof.org.uk/uknof-pc.html
- We are **always** looking for interesting, topical, relevant speakers and presentations
- Now issuing call for abstracts well in advance of each meeting to promote quality of material
  - http://indico.uknof.org.uk/conferenceCFA.py?confId=32
- Ideas and suggestions to: <pc@uknof.org.uk>

# PC Members

**Bob Sleigh**  **Cathy Almond**  Charlie Boisseau  **Chris Russell**  David Farrell
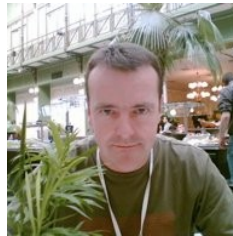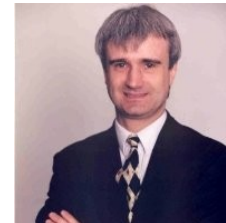
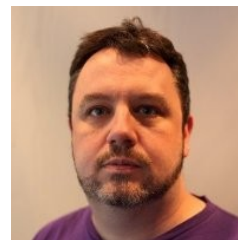**Denesh Bhabuta** Fearghas McKay  **Ian Meikle**  **Keith Mitchell**  **Mike Hughes**  **Nat Morris**

**Neil McRae**  Nigel Titley  **Ray Bellis**  **Rob Evans**  Steve Karmeinsky  **Tim Chown**

# Meeting Committee

- This comprises regular volunteers we rely on to make meetings happen
- <meeting@uknof.org.uk>
- Important to have "editorial separation" between programme content versus meeting logistics and sponsor interest considerations
- Co-ordinate per-meeting helpers

# MC Members

- Denesh Bhabuta (lead)
- Brandon Butterworth
- Chris Russell
- Debbie Casey
- Fearghas M$^c$Kay

- Keith Mitchell
- Mike Hughes
- Nat Morris
- Tom Bird
- Will Hargrave
- Willie Black

# Our Valued Volunteer Helpers

UKNOF

- **<volunteers@lists.uknof.org.uk> list**
    - **great way to get involved !**
- Too many to name them all
- And all our speakers
- **THANK YOU !!**

# Meeting Conduct Policy

- We want everyone attending UKNOF meetings to enjoy a respectful and encouraging experience at which they feel welcome and equal
- https://www.ripe.net/ripe/meetings/ripe-meetings/enjoying-a-ripe-meeting

# Next Meetings

- **RIPE69 "NOFBOF"**
  - London Hammersmith Nov 2015
- **UKNOF30**
  - London Bishopsgate 22nd Jan 2015
- **UKNOF28**
  - Manchester Central, 20th April 2015
- **UKNOF29**
  - Sheffield/Newcastle/TBC Sep 2015
- Always looking for speakers and sponsors !

# Recent Achievements

- Record 280 attendees at UKNOF28 !
- 2013 Development Strategy proving successful, greater *"clue outreach"*
- Meeting Committee fully established
- Formal rating/approval process for submitted abstracts, improving overall quality of material
- New Programme Committee members
- Requests to help other ccNOGs
- Multi-day meeting experiment

# Contact Details

UKNOF

| | |
|---|---|
| E-mail: | admin@uknof.org.uk |
| Prog. Committee: | pc@uknof.org.uk |
| Advisory Committee: | ac@uknof.org.uk |
| Meeting Committee: | meeting@uknof.org.uk |
| Board: | board@uknof.org.uk |
| Phone: | +44 20 7763 5293 |
| Web: | http://www.uknof.org.uk |

# Questions
# Discussion
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