



# **UKNOF Status Update**

UKNOF 38 Meeting,  
Sheffield  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Keith Mitchell**  
**UKNOF**

# 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.”*
- Or:
  - *“Distribution of clue”* 😊

# Current Status



- We have run 38+ successful meetings 😊
  - ~40-350 attendees each time
- Mailing list of ~1400 people
- Programme Committee
- Advisory Committee
- Board
- Committed regular volunteers
- Secure ongoing financial base

# UKNOF Activities



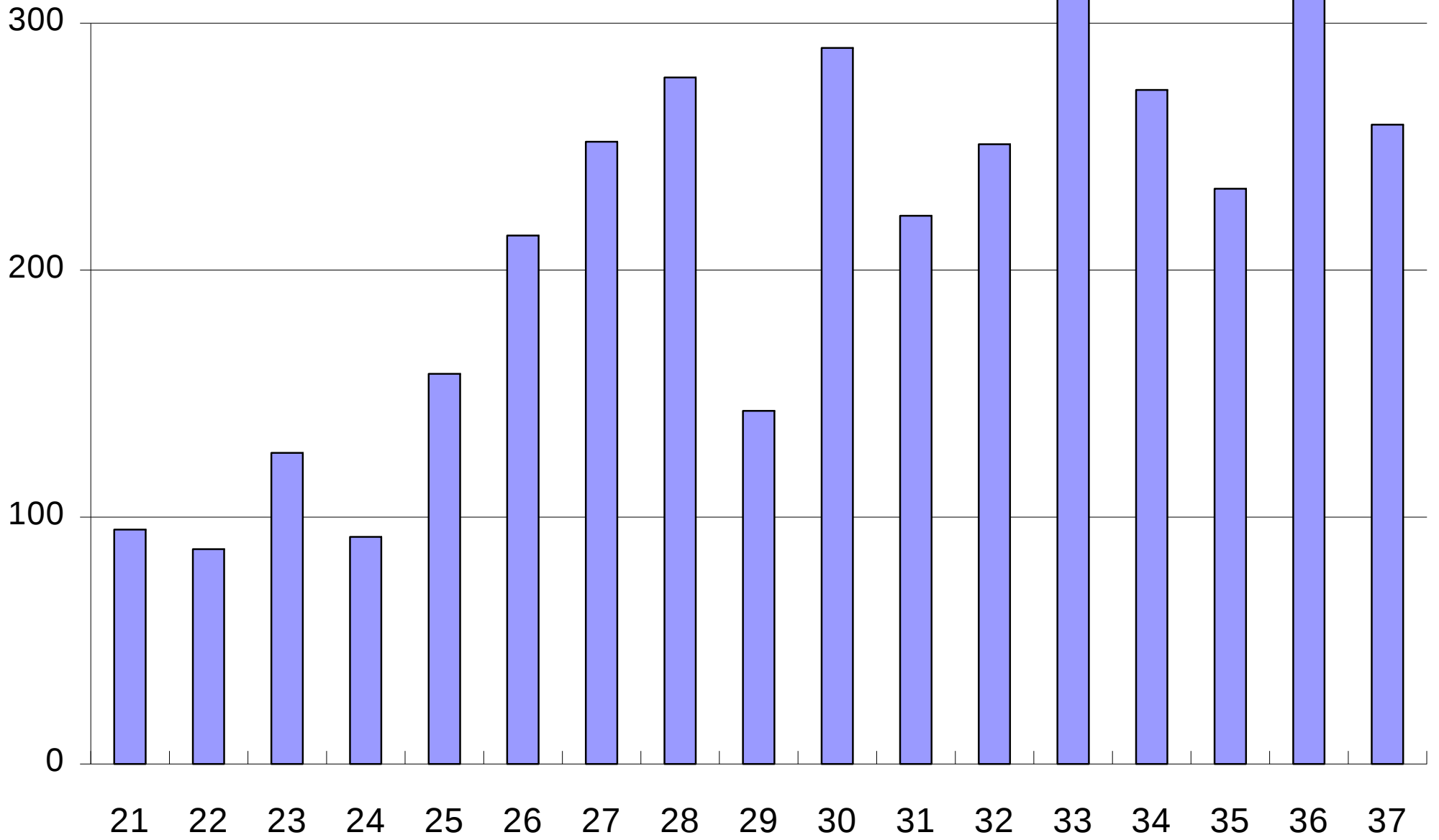
- Meetings 3 times/year
  - Current, interesting, stimulating, relevant sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices
  - Wider-ranging and less specific remit than other UK Internet bodies
  - OPEN to all, bring in new blood
  - Bring world-class international speakers to UK audience
- Mailing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

# UKNOF Meetings



- Frequency
  - At least one per year in London
  - At least one per year outside London (Manchester meetings are larger !)
  - September meetings elsewhere, usually >1 day
- Dates are notionally 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every Jan, Apr & Sep
  - subject to venue/calendar etc availability
- We are always looking for venues/sponsors

# Registrations



# Funding Model



- Non-profit
- We prefer to avoid charging meeting registration fees
- This has been possible through regular committed meeting vendor sponsors
- Please talk to Denesh if interested in sponsoring
- Paid-for registrations to discourage late registration *only*
- Contributions welcome via Patrons
- We have a good operating cash buffer, building this towards 2-meeting reserve

# Sustainability



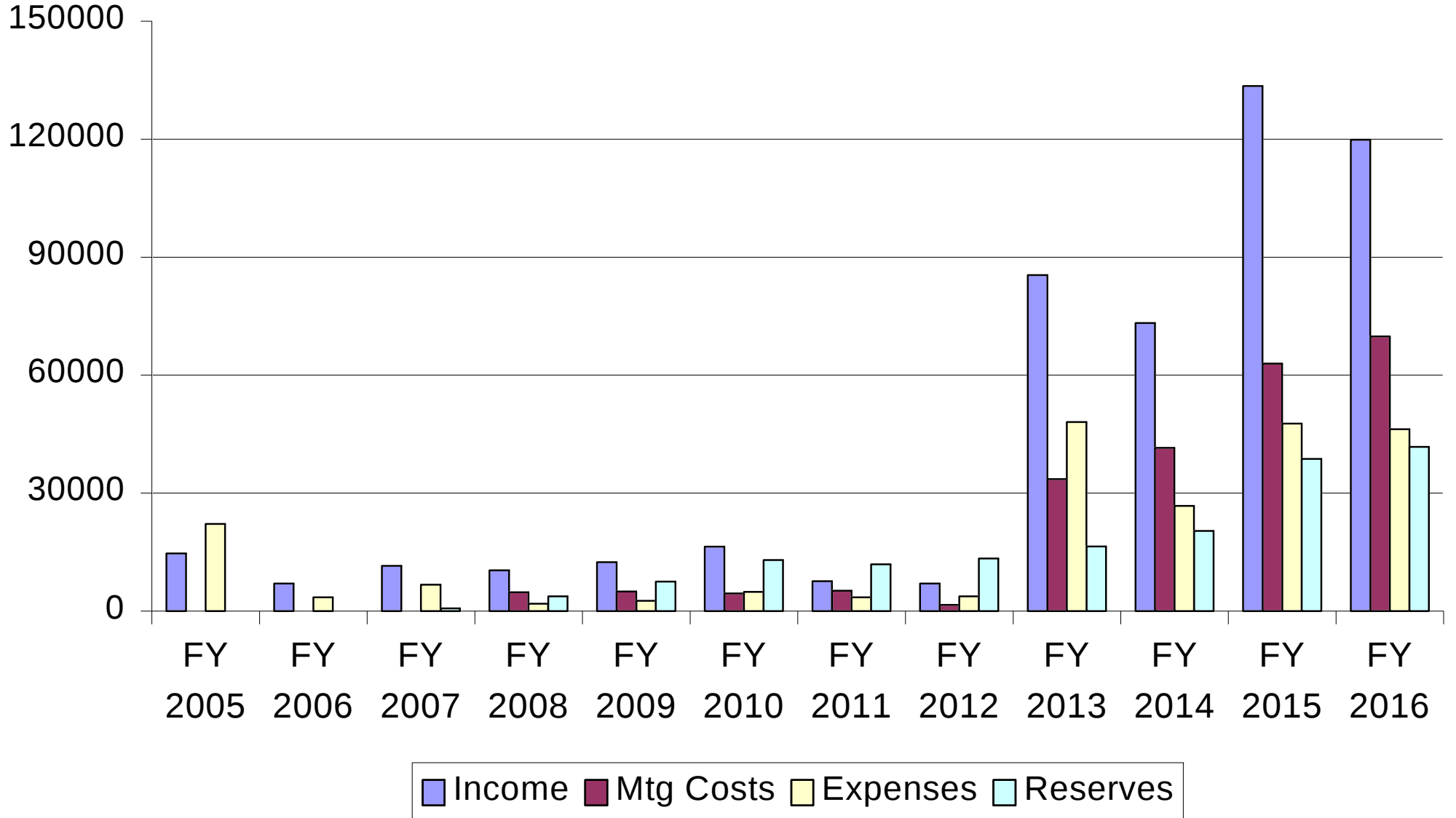
- Venues for 100->200+ attendee meetings (& catering) need to be paid for
- Keeping attendance free means raising sponsorship funds
- Raising sponsorship funds needs dedicated professional approach
- Funds raised need to pay for individuals' time to do this, as well as cover meeting costs
- UKNOF reimburses the time of individuals who make significant time commitment



# UKNOF Running Costs

- Typically about £15-30k per meeting:
  - Around £100-150/attendee/day
    - venue, catering, A/V hire
    - varies by city
  - also admin, badges, connectivity, travel, misc expenses
  - plus re-imbursed time:
    - 4 months @ ~100hrs/month of some Directors' time
    - aim to compensate these at £30/hour as we can afford it
    - compensated Directors submit fixed quotation for services at start of each year as input to Budget
- Detailed accounts (including per-meeting P&L) will be presented at Annual Meeting, and are always available on request

# Company Accounts



# UKNOF Systems



- Website, Indico, Mailman, Wiki and DNS have been hosted under managed contract with Mythic Beasts for past year – seems to be working well
- Partners Portfast and Bogons provide meeting connectivity and webcasting
- We could do with some volunteer help to freshen up site content

# 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
- If you ever have questions/concerns, please raise them through your AC representatives
- Appointment is by invitation from Board

# UKIF Ltd and UKNOF



- The UK Internet Forum (UKIF Ltd) was set up as an Internet trade association in 2005
  - Public company limited by guarantee
  - Operated on not-for-profit basis
- Hosts UKNOF secretariat:
  - Book-keeping, invoicing, holds bank accounts
  - Supporting UKNOF its only activity for past 10+ years
- UKIF legal entity dedicated to supporting UKNOF

# UKNOF/UKIF Board



**Denesh Bhabuta  
(Executive)**



**Dr Willie Black  
(Chair)**



**Keith Mitchell  
(Managing Director)**



**Mike Hughes**



**Nigel Titley**



**Steve Dyer**

# Advisory Committee

- 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: Serge Radovcic
- Attend Annual Meeting and have Board/Fiscal oversight

# Programme Committee

- 14 volunteers
- Chair: Chris Russell
- Co-Chairs: Cathy Almond, Fearghas McKay
- Ensures supply of interesting presentations
- [https://wiki.uknof.org.uk/Programme\\_Committee](https://wiki.uknof.org.uk/Programme_Committee)
- We are **always** looking for interesting, topical, relevant speakers and presentations
- Call for abstracts issued at end of previous meeting to promote quality of material
  - <http://uknof.org.uk/cfp39>
- Ideas and suggestions to: <pc@uknof.org.uk>



# PC Members



**Cathy Almond**



**Chris Russell**



**Fearghas McKay**



**Bob Sleight**



**Denesh Bhabuta**



**Keith Mitchell**



**Liz Stevens**



**Marek Isalski**



**Mike Hughes**



**Nick Ryce**



**Neil McRae**



**Rob Evans**



**Steve Karmeinsky**



**Tim Chown**

# Programme Content

- We take seriously ensuring high-quality content at UKNOF
- All submissions are scored by the PC, these scores are compared to survey feedback
- Submissions slightly down in 2017
  - contributions encouraged !
- Sponsor and Submitted talks are accepted on very different criteria
  - meeting sponsorship and talk submission are not generally permitted by the same organisation at the same meeting
  - the PC does however give feedback to sponsors to help them tailor their talks for our audience

# UKNOF Crew Changes



- Nat Morris has stepped down from Board
- Charlie Boisseau, David Farrell have stepped down from PC
- Welcome Nick Ryce and Marek Isalski as new PC members
- Serge Radovcic replaces Jochem de Ruig on AC for RIPE NCC
- Looking for 1-2 new PC members
- We could do with some volunteer help for our site content

# Our Valued Volunteer Helpers



*<volunteers@lists.uknof.org.uk>* list  
– great way to get involved !

- Too many to name them all
- And all our speakers
- **THANK YOU !!**

# UKNOF Governance Evolution



- UKNOF has grown its *own* community, overlapping with other UK “*i-orgs*”, but now distinct
- Is Advisory Council model/role sufficiently well-defined ?
- Is current model best way for future ?
- Is there some way to have more direct accountability to those who contribute and participate, without heavyweight governance approach ?
- Annual Meeting tomorrow open to interested parties

# Contact Details



**E-mail:** [admin@uknof.org.uk](mailto:admin@uknof.org.uk)

**Prog. Committee:** [pc@uknof.org.uk](mailto:pc@uknof.org.uk)

**Advisory Committee:** [ac@uknof.org.uk](mailto:ac@uknof.org.uk)

**Board:** [board@uknof.org.uk](mailto:board@uknof.org.uk)

**Phone:** +44 20 7763 5293

**Web:** <http://www.uknof.org.uk>



# Questions Discussion ?