



UKNOF Annual Report

UKNOF Annual Meeting
11th September 2019

Keith Mitchell
UKNOF

Current Status



- We have run 44+ successful meetings 😊
~40-350 attendees each time
- Mailing list of ~1500 people
- Programme Committee
- Advisory Committee
- Board
- Committed regular volunteers: “Crew”
- Stable 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

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 13+ years
- UKIF legal entity dedicated to supporting UKNOF

UKIF Board



**Denesh Bhabuta
(Executive)**



**Dr Willie Black
(Chair)**



**Keith Mitchell
(Managing Director)**



Liz Stevens



Nigel Titley



Steve Dyer

Board Powers and Duties



- <https://uknof.uk/board>
- 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 step down for reappointment at UKIF AGM each year

Programme Committee

- 14 volunteers
- <https://uknof.uk/pc>
- Chair:
 - Chris Russell
- Co-Chairs:
 - Cathy Almond
 - Fearghas McKay
- Ensures supply of interesting presentations
- Appoints Board Director
- Ideas and suggestions to: <pc@uknof.org.uk>

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
- Each meeting in 2019 started with concern about enough material, but PC always came through
- 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

Advisory Committee

- <https://uknof.uk/ac>
- Comprises the following organisation representatives:
 - BBC: Brandon Butterworth
 - IXLeeds: Andy Davidson
 - ISC: Stephen Morris
 - LINX: Kurtis Lindqvist
 - LONAP: Will Hargrave
 - JANET(UK): Rob Evans
 - RIPE NCC: Serge Radovicic
- Attend UKNOF Annual Meeting and have Board/
Fiscal oversight

2019 Board Changes



- Mike Hughes stepped down from Board
- Liz Stevens first PC appointee to Board
- PC Chair, Chris Russell, now has non-voting participation in Board meetings
- Board thinking about long-term succession planning

Meeting Funding Strategy



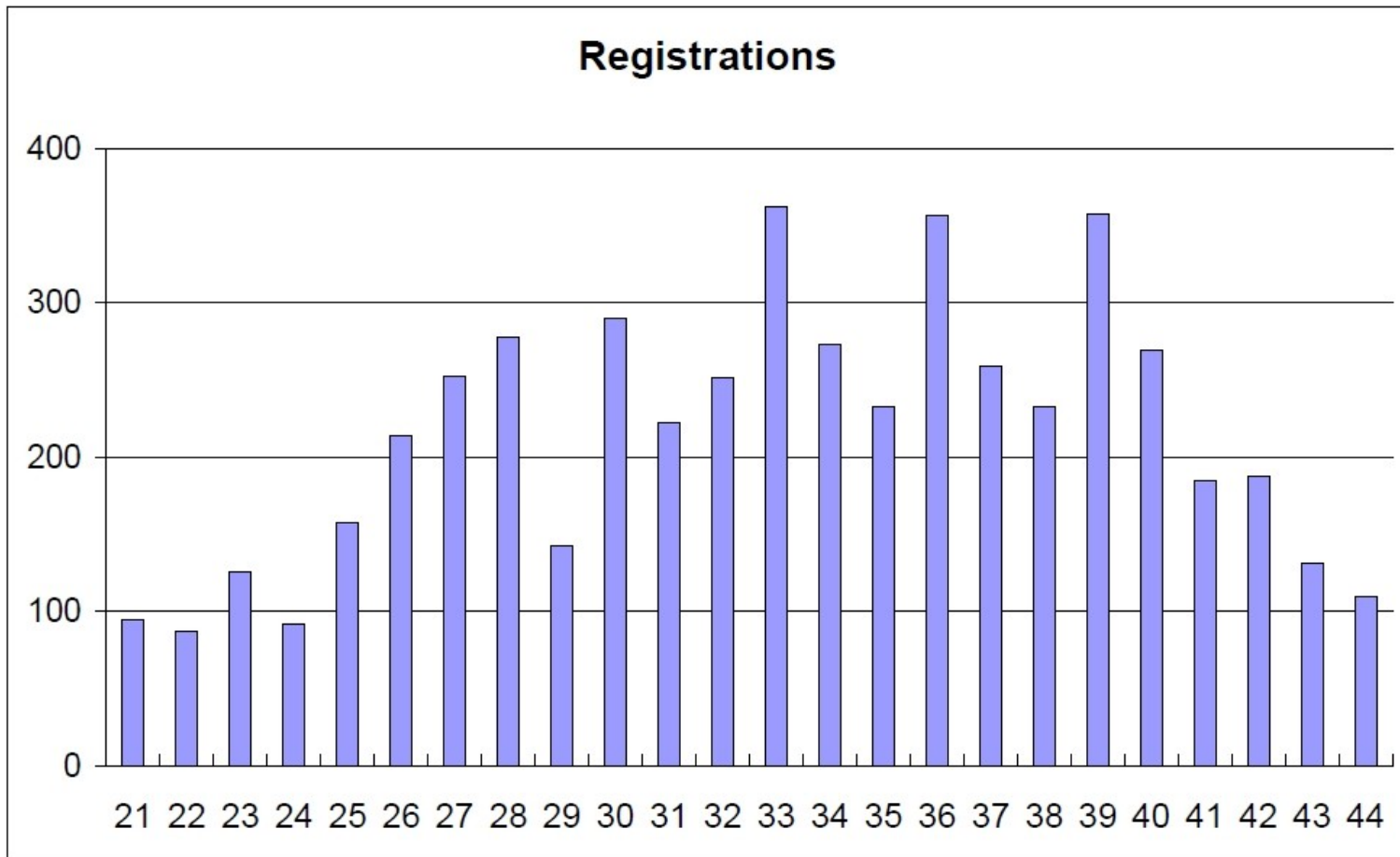
- Created a year ago to address challenges of:
 - industry consolidation and re-structuring
 - event costs increasing across the board
 - encouraging new blood, community participation, junior staff attendance
- Mixture of sponsorship, patronage, registration fees
- Some success/progress, but not done yet

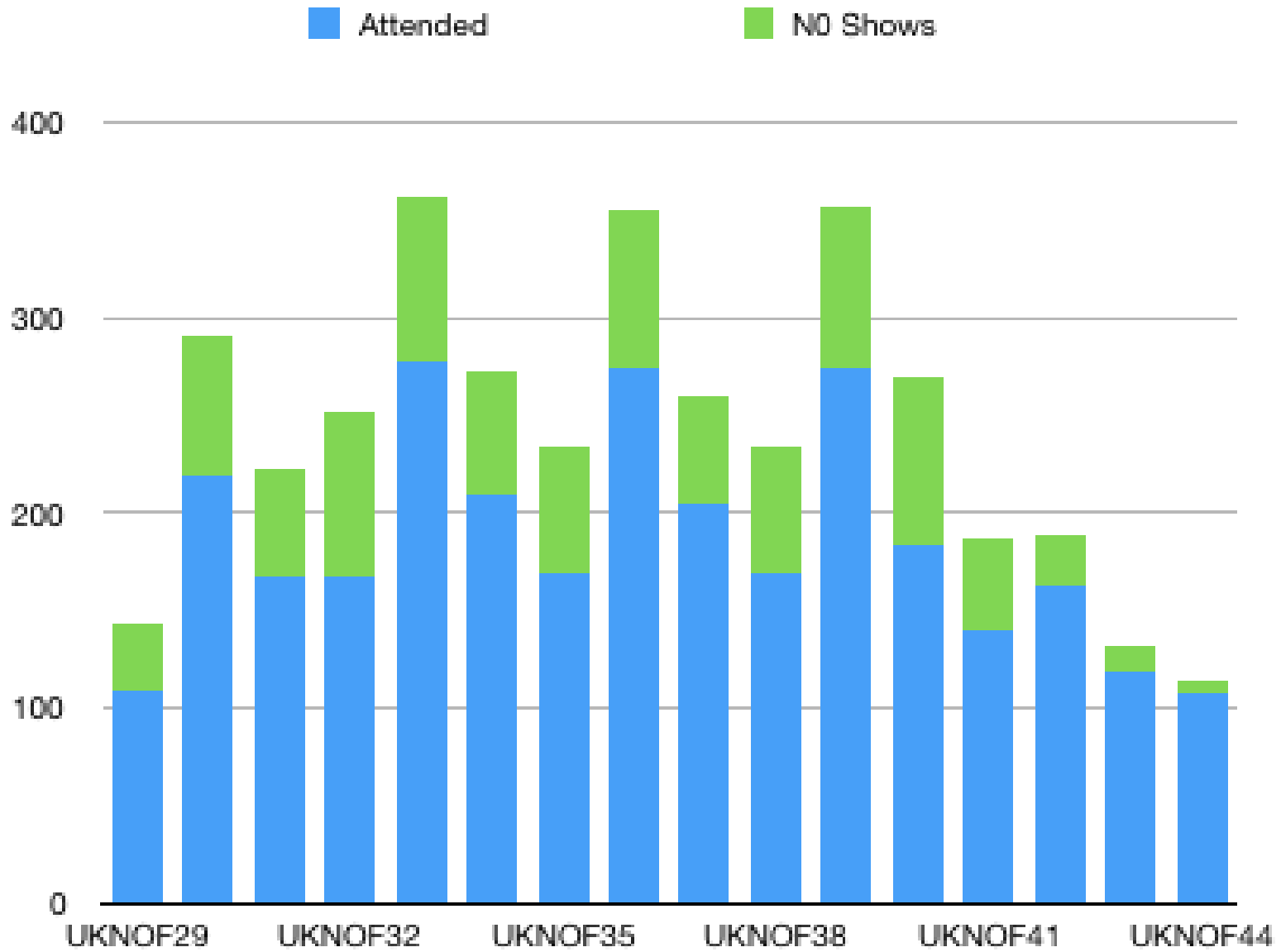
Meetings in 2019



- UKNOF42 & 43 attendance reduced by >30% after registration charging introduced 😞
- First time attendees remaining stable around 30%
- Attendee diversity fairly static
- No-shows significantly reduced

Attendance





UKNOF Running Costs

- Typically about £15-30k per meeting:
 - At least £100/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 are presented at Annual Meeting, and always available on request

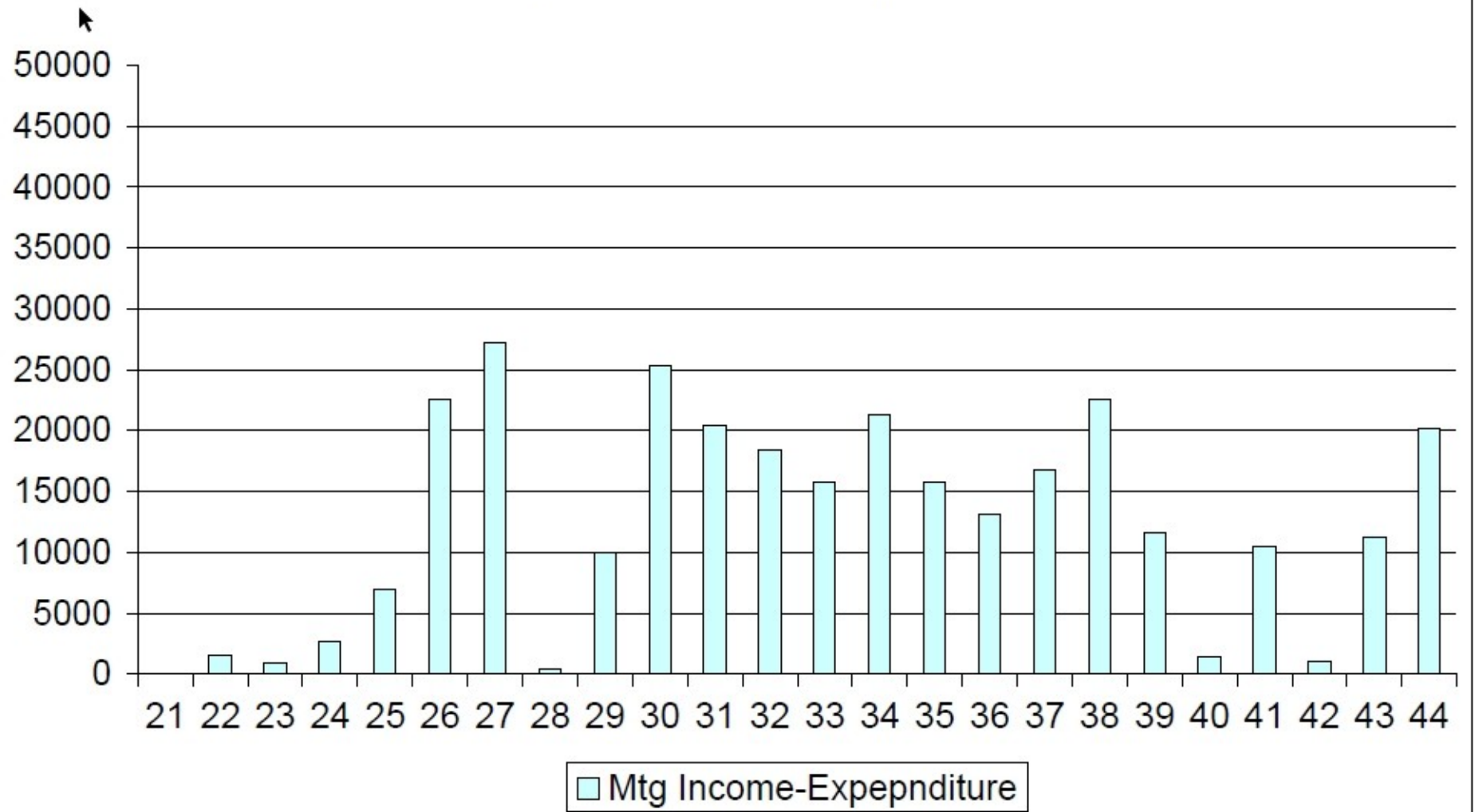
2019 Sustainability



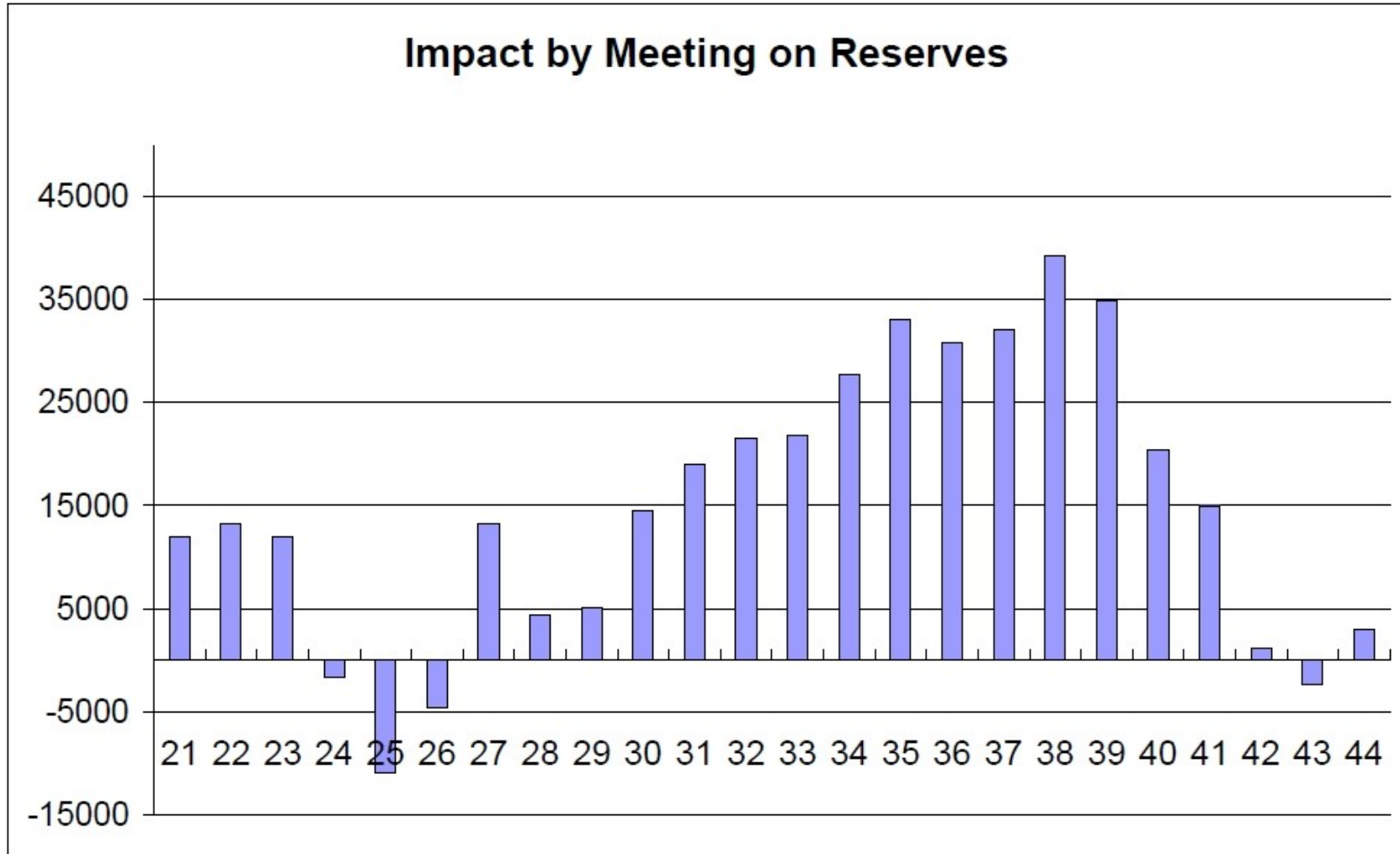
- Finding sponsors still challenging
- Per-meeting revenue vs hard costs have not always broken even
- Soft costs mostly unchanged
- Further decrease in reserves, only enough now for 1 meeting's costs



Meeting Income less Expenditure



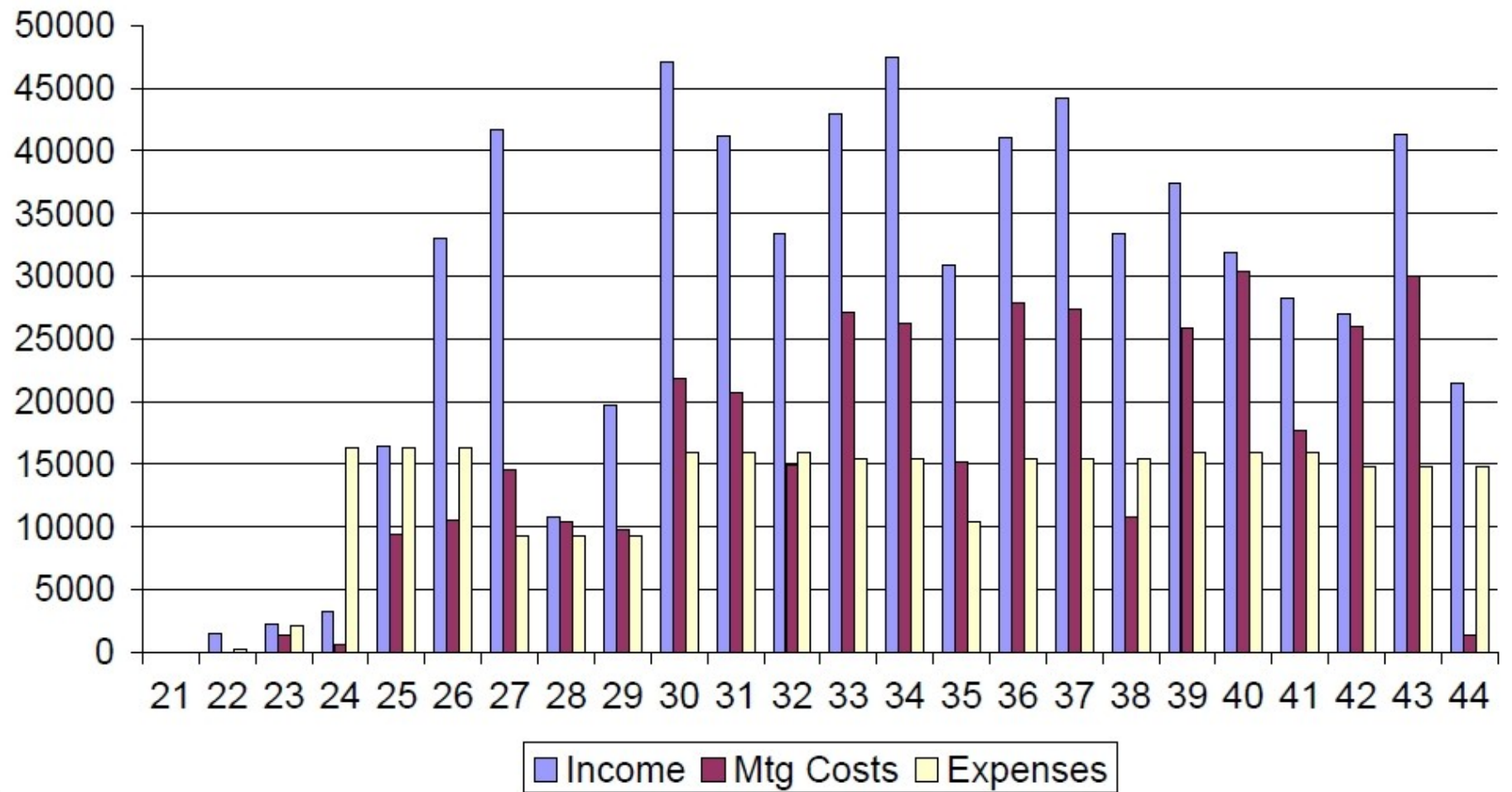
Cash Reserves



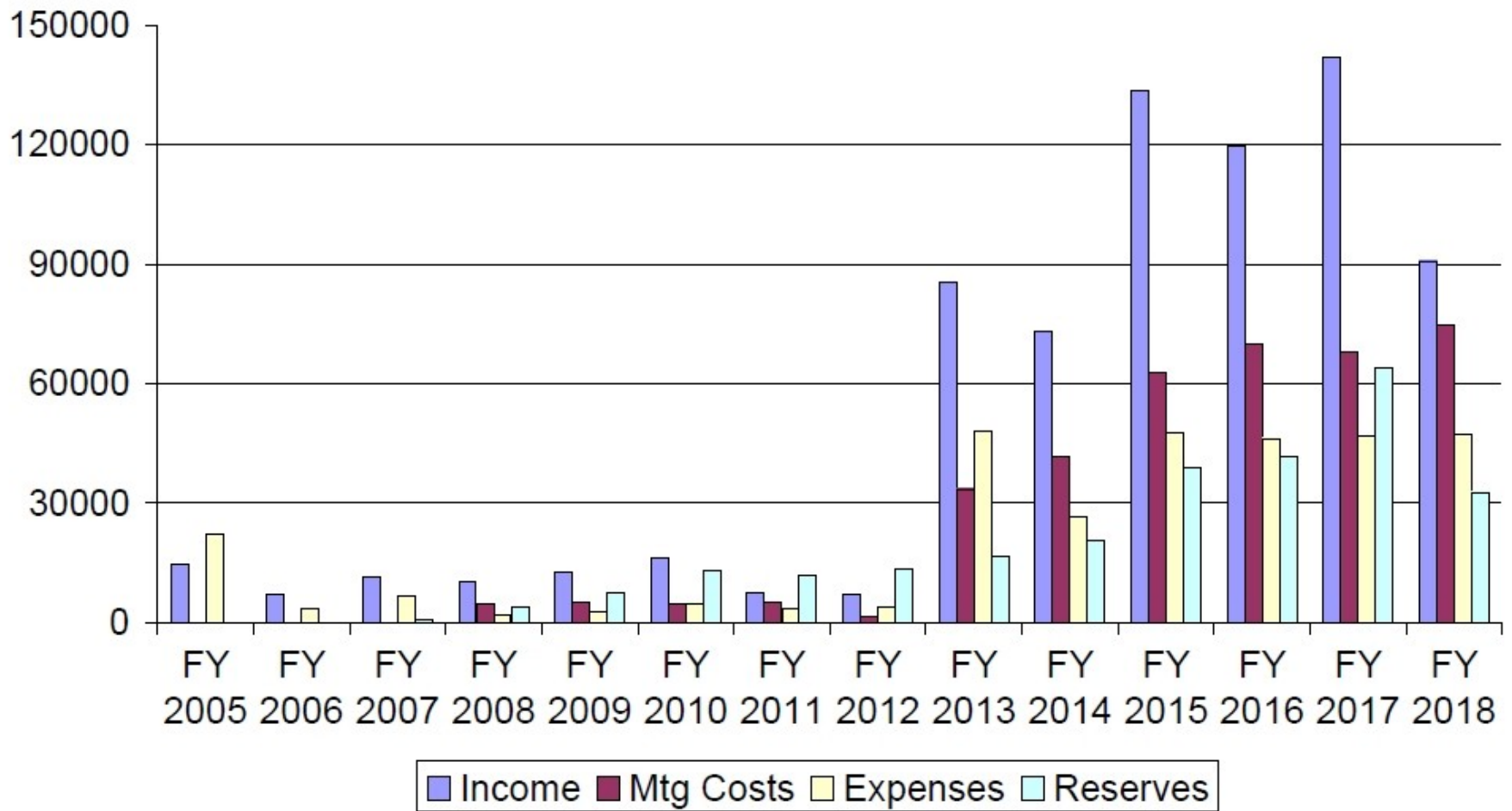
Registration Charging UKNOF

- We historically avoided charging meeting registration fees through meeting vendor sponsors
- Introduced nominal registration charging (from £50) from UKNOF42
 - immediate drop in registrations of ~30%
 - limited number of student/"unfunded" places always available
 - some rumblings and freeloading attempts, but no major dissent
 - have done some tweaking to early-bird discount tier timing/places
 - UKNOF44 Belfast attendance is close to UKNOF29
 - we will continually review the charging scheme for future meetings

Income and Expenditure



Company Accounts



UKNOF Systems



- Website, Indico, Mailman, Wiki and DNS have been hosted under managed contract with Mythic Beasts for past 3 years - continues to work well
- Major upgrade to Indico v2 successfully completed
- Still struggling however to find sufficient system development cycles, held up e.g. deployment of new website design
- Could ideally do with some volunteer help for these

2020 Plans



- *We may* be turning the corner on registration charging vs P&L – do we have any alternative but to stay the course..
- Re-do logo and make website re-design live
- Co-operation with NetMcr, NetLdn, NetNI..
- Do more work on diversity
- Progress succession planning

Questions Discussion ?