

UKNOF Annual Report

UKNOF 2023 Annual Meeting
1st February 2024

Keith Mitchell
UKIF Ltd Board

Agenda

- Opening remarks Nigel Titley
- Managing Director's Report Keith Mitchell
 - This is likely to be UKIF's final such UKNOF report to the community
 - https://indico.uknof.org.uk/event/63/attachments/1113/1731/Annual-Report_2023.pdf
- UKNOF Successor Update Dave Pumford,
Richard Irving
- Questions/Discussion

Meeting protocol/questions

- Zoom **meeting** not webcast
 - please **mute** your audio/video unless asked
- You may ask questions via Mattermost Chat or Zoom Audio
- <https://chat.uknof.org.uk/public/channels/town-square>
- please tag your Chat questions with **#questions**
- or raise your hand in Zoom
- the Chair will read your question out, or ask you to speak
- please un-mute audio and video when prompted

UKNOF Mission

- 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”*

All Good Things..

- The UK Internet Forum (*UKIF Ltd*) was set up as an Internet industry association in 2005:
 - Company limited by guarantee
 - Operated on not-for-profit basis
 - UKIF legal entity dedicated to supporting UKNOF for past decade+
 - Lightweight governance, volunteer support, oversight and accountability through various committees
- UKNOF has had sustainability challenges since the pandemic
- It is now clear the UKIF/UKNOF model is no longer viable

2023 UKNOF Overview

- UKNOF51 and 52 were well-attended, with strong content
- Revenue did not however support running costs, depleting UKNOF's reserves
- We can no longer commit to running future events
- We have not resolved difficulties in finding and funding people to run the UKIF Ltd business side of UKNOF

The Future

- The UKIF Board is no longer able to continue running UKNOF, and plans to wind up UKIF Ltd during 2024
- We are therefore calling upon the community to find solutions to continue the spirit and practice of everything that is valuable in UKNOF
- More about proposed new events/structure/entity from others later..

Events during 2023

- UKNOF51, April, Manchester/hybrid
 - 1½ day event
 - ~100 attendees
 - Content rating 83% positive
 - Thank You and Goodbye to Advisory Committee
- UKNOF52, September, London/hybrid
 - 1½-day event
 - ~120 attendees
 - Content rating 86% positive
 - Paused events, asked community for UKNOF continuity help

Programme Committee

- 16 volunteers
- <https://uknof.uk/pc>
- Ensures supply of interesting presentations and content quality control
- PC Charter published
- Currently no vacancies
- In a holding pattern pending future of UKNOF & UKIF
- Enthusiastic to contribute content to successor events

Programme Committee

- Additions
 - Harry Cross
 - Joshua Levett
 - Matt Jepp
 - Paul Dunbar
 - Paulius Judickas
- Chair functions
 - Split to manage workload
 - PC Admin
 - Dave Wilson
 - Anne Johnson
 - Event Content
 - James Bensley
 - Matt Jepp

Communications Committee

- Handles social media, mailing list, outreach, and comms processes
- 2023 Chair: Steve Karmeinsky
- Will remain in operation until UKIF winds up and UKNOF moves to whatever comes next
- Will continue to disseminate any required information via all channels

UKIF Board

- Current composition:
 - Nigel Titley: Chair
 - Keith Mitchell: Managing Director
 - Denesh Bhabuta: Events & Operations
 - Laura Winters: Treasurer & Co. Secretary
- Resigned during 2023:
 - Lou Ashtonhurst
 - Alex Bloor
- PC & CC Chairs have non-voting Board participation

2023 Financial Report

- Total revenue £37k

- Events sponsorship: £17k
- Events registrations: £11k
- Patronage: £ 9k

- Operating deficit of **£19k**

https://indico.uknof.org.uk/event/63/attachments/1113/1732/Financial-Report_2023.pdf

- Total expenses £56k

- Events costs: £37k
- IT platforms: £ 4k
- Expenses: £ 6k
- Consultants: £ 9k

- Balance

- Cash: £17k
- A/P: -£ 9k
- Balance sheet: £ 8k

Sustainability Observations

- Pandemic depleted our reserves
- In-person event attendance levels as low as half since
- Hybrid events more complex to produce
- Higher venue and meeting services costs
- Poor health of UK economy
- Reluctance/opposition to conference attendee registration fees
- More difficult vendor sponsorship budgets & expectations
- Reduced volunteer engagement across nonprofit Internet industry sector
- Lack of people willing and/or able to take on UKIF business support roles

2024 Finances

- We no longer have sufficient cash balance to make solvent commitments to venues for future events
- Priority is earmarking funds (~£5k) to keep online platforms running until handover or year-end
- There are outstanding contractor liabilities and intangible assets which we are working on valuing and settling
- Aim is to wind UKIF up during 2024 with neutral cash and balance

Community Resources

- UKNOF has generated assets of value to the community
- UKIF are merely stewards of these resources
- It is desirable they continue or are at least preserved
- We would like to hand these on to any appropriate successor entities/structures
- Some guiding principles have been drafted for doing so

Community Resources

- An archive of talks:
 - Slides(*Indico*), Video (*YouTube*)
- Various community collaboration platforms
 - E-mail (*mailman*), Chat (*IRC, Mattermost*), Video (*Zoom*)
- Websites
 - Wordpress, Wiki, URL shortener
- Event-running tools, resources
 - *etherpad*, drive, policy/process documents
- Loyal and potential sponsors and patrons
- Social media channels and groups
- uknof.* domains
- Event equipment for webcasts and network

Handover Plans

- UKIF Board wishes to enable continuation of UKNOF's role in the community
- Our role is to oversee a clean wind-up of UKIF's affairs, and ideally find a new home for UKNOF's community resources
- We will keep online platforms running meantime
 - Thank You A10 for sponsorship of this
- It is not for UKIF to dictate what comes next
- More from those working on these plans shortly..

It has been a lot of fun

- 50+ meetings since 2005
- I like to think we have made a difference
- Please *everyone* give yourselves credit for this accomplishment !
- I have no plans to be a stranger, but intend to get out of the way once I have facilitated handover to what comes next

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From: Keith Mitchell <keith.mitchell@ukif.org.uk>
Organization: UK Internet Forum
User-Agent: Mozilla Thunderbird 0.7.1 (X11/20040626)
To: uknof@ukif.org.uk
Subject: [UKNOF] UKNOF1 Meeting Tomorrow - Final Reminder
Date: Tue, 24 May 2005 16:55:00 +0100

This is just a quick note to remind you of tomorrow's inaugural UKNOF
event. You can find the agenda at:

    http://www.ukif.org.uk/page.php?cid=279

and the directions to the venue at:

    http://www.ukif.org.uk/page.php?cid=329

We have a full day of confirmed speakers, and around 50 people have
committed to attending. If you have not registered but still plan to
attend, please let us know ASAP. Thank you all for your interest and
support this far, looking forward to meeting you all tomorrow.

Keith
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Thank You !!

- Volunteers
- Speakers
- Committees & Chairs
- Directors, Contractors
- Suppliers, Venues
- Patrons, Sponsors, Friends
- Participants
- Production Crew
- many others

& the entire UKNOF Community for their encouragement and support

Questions ?

**New UK Operator
events/structure/entity
Update**

Richard Irving
Dave Pumford

Discussion