Minutes of the BCS Fortran Specialist Group (FSG) AGM
Held at BCS London Office, First Floor, The Davidson Building,
5 Southampton Street, London.

The 2018 Annual General Meeting of the British Computer Society Fortran Specialist Group was held at 10:45 am on Thursday 27th September 2018.

Present:

Cliff Cheesman	AWE
Ian Chivers	Rhymney Consulting
Peter Crouch	Fortran Specialist Group
Sam Ellis	Ellis & Boscawen Associates Ltd
Paul Hollister	Cranfield University
Nick Macey	AWE
Michel Muller	ETH Zurich
David Muxworthy	
Clive Page	University of Leicester
John Pelan	Sainsbury Wellcome Centre (UCL)
John Reid	JKR Associates
Anton Shterenlikht	The University of Bristol
Nathan Sircombe	Arm
Jane Sleightholme	Fortranplus

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

(i)   Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Arthur Turrington.

(ii)   Minutes of previous AGM:

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and were approved unanimously (Proposed by Peter Crouch, Seconded by Cliff Chessman).

(iii) Matters Arising:

It had been intended to have a meeting in 2018 with the Open Source Specialist Group (OSSG). It seemed that OSSG had announced that the meeting would take place on the 15th November 2019 in Manchester without the FSG being made aware of this. Peter Crouch took an action to contact the OSSG to find out why we were unaware of the meeting and what arrangements had been made.

(iv) Chair's Report:

The Chair, John Reid, presented his report.

He also gave a brief summary of the results of the survey of Fortran Features that would be presented in detail during the afternoon meeting.

The report was approved unanimously (Proposed by John Pelan, Seconded by Clive Page).

(v)　Treasurer's Report and SG Development Fund Report:

The Treasurer, Peter Crouch, presented his report.

A discussion took place about avoiding BCS/Institute of Physics (IOP) invoicing for speakers' expenses at the FSG AGM. After some discussion, it was decided that it would be simpler to carry on with the old method i.e. speakers claim from IOP and BCS pay for other expenses. Anton Shterenlikht took an action to liaise with the speakers to ensure that this method was followed this year.

This report was approved unanimously (Proposed by John Reid, Seconded by David Muxworthy).

David Muxworthy, in his role as BSI Fortran Convenor, presented a report on the use of the SG support of Fortran Standards.

This report was approved unanimously (Proposed by John Reid, Seconded by John Pelan).

(vi)　Membership Secretary's Report:

The Membership Secretary, Ian Chivers, presented a detailed membership report, which provided breakdowns of the membership by gender, membership grade, title, job title, town, county and country.

He explained that there was less access to details than in previous years, arising from the introduction of GDPR. He suggested that a breakdown by Industry would be useful but that would require manual analysis of the data and going back, say, 10 years would be a significant task.

The report was approved unanimously (Proposed by Nick Macey, Seconded by Clive Pelan).

(vii)　Web Editor's Report:

The Web Editor, Harvey Richardson, was not present but had provided a written report. This report was presented by John Reid.

The information provided for Committee members and BCS staff on the FSG web pages was discussed. It was decided that addresses and phone numbers should be removed. Addresses were never used and if anyone needed to phone an e-mail could be sent to ask for the number.

Clarification of who can send e-mails to all members on the FSG mailing list was requested. Sam Ellis took an action to check this with Mandy Bauer, the BCS Specialist Groups Executive.

The report was approved unanimously (Proposed by Peter Crouch, Seconded by Jane Sleightholme).

(viii) Election of Officers

The nominations for the SG officers had been received by the Secretary according to the Constitution. All current Committee members were willing to stand again and there were no additional nominations.

John Pelan took over as Chair for election of the Chair. John Reid had been nominated (Proposed by John Pelan, Seconded by David Muxworthy). John Reid was unanimously elected and took over as Chair for the rest of the meeting.

John Pelan had been nominated as Vice Chair (Proposed by Peter Crouch, seconded by Anton Shterenlikht) and was unanimously elected.

Sam Ellis had been nominated as Secretary (Proposed by Ian Chivers, seconded by Jane Sleightholme) and was unanimously elected.

Peter Crouch had been nominated as Treasurer (Proposed by Harvey Richardson, seconded by John Reid) and was unanimously elected.

Anton Shterenlikht had been nominated as Standards Officer (Proposed by Clive Page, seconded by Peter Crouch) and was unanimously elected.

Ian Chivers had been nominated as Membership Secretary (Proposed by Jane Sleightholme, seconded by Clive Page) and was unanimously elected.

David Muxworthy had been nominated as Archivist (Proposed by Nick Macey, seconded by Ian Chivers) and was unanimously elected.

Harvey Richardson had been nominated as Web Editor (Proposed by Jane Sleightholme, Seconded by Ian Chivers) and was unanimously elected.

Cliff Cheesman, Nick Macey, Clive Page and Jane Sleightholme had been nominated as committee members (Proposed by John Reid, seconded by Peter Crouch) and were all unanimously elected.

The committee for the year 2018/2019 was therefore:

Chairman	John Reid
Vice-Chairman	John Pelan
Secretary	Sam Ellis
Treasurer	Peter Crouch
Standards Officer	Anton Shterenlikht
Membership Secretary	Ian Chivers
Archivist	David Muxworthy
Web Editor	Harvey Richardson
Committee Members	Cliff Cheesman Nick Macey Clive Page Jane Sleightholme

(ix) Future activities of the Group

Discussions took place about future activities and membership.

John Reid thought that the current activities were working well and would like to continue with these. The meeting with the OSSG should be pursued and joint activities with the IOP should continue.

Anton Shterenlikht wondered whether the Group could set up liaisons with "big" users e.g. the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting.

Cliff Chessman suggested we ought to reexamine the aims of the Group as it seemed that these aims had not had any scrutiny for a number of years.

Peter Crouch said that many talks to BCS meetings and BCS Specialist Groups and UK Branches had been given over the years to try to remove comments such as "Are you still using that?" in connection to Fortran.

Nick Macey said that BCS tended to treat Fortran as a minor language and there was a need for another Specialist Group for Scientific Computing in which Fortran could play a leading pert.

(x) Any Other Business

There was no other business.

(xi) Date of next Annual General Meeting

The date of the next AGM was chosen as Thursday 26th September 2019.

The Chair closed the meeting. He thanked everyone for coming.

After a buffet lunch there was a joint meeting with Institute of Physics Computational Physics Group. In addition to those at the AGM a further 14 people attended. The topics and speakers were:

Finalizing Fortran 2018 by John Reid, JKR Associates.

GNU Fortran by Paul Thomas, Glyme Consultancy Limited.

Arm in High Performance Computing: Fortran on AArch64 by Nathan Sircombe, Arm.

Hybrid Fortran – High Productivity & Performance for GPU Accelerated Numerics by Michel Muller, ETH Zurich.

Scientific computing on Arm processors by James Price, University of Bristol.

Fortran 202X progress by Anton Shterenlikht, University of Bristol.

The Chair closed the meeting. He thanked everyone for coming, in particular the speakers. He hoped that the meeting had been useful and said that all the reports and slides from the presentations would be posted on the website.