

Minutes of the BCS Fortran Specialist Group (FSG) AGM  
Held at BCS London Office, 25 Cophall Avenue, London.

The 2019 Annual General Meeting of the British Computer Society Fortran Specialist Group was held at 10:45 am on Tuesday 24th September 2019.

Present:

Kiran Chandramohan	Arm
Ian Chivers	Rhymney Consulting
Sam Ellis	
Nick Macey	AWE
David Muxworthy	
Clive Page	University of Leicester
John Pelan	Sainsbury Wellcome Centre (UCL)
John Reid	
Harvey Richardson	Cray UK
Anton Shterenlikht	Cray UK
Nathan Sircombe	Arm
Jane Sleightholme	Fortranplus

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

(i) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cliff Cheesman, Peter Crouch and Arthur Turrington.

(ii) Minutes of previous AGM:

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and were approved unanimously (Proposed by Clive Page, Seconded by John Reid).

(iii) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

(iv) Chair's Report

The Chair, John Reid, presented his report.

It was suggested that some information on the BCS Open Source Specialist Group meeting held on the 15th November 2019 in Manchester should be added to the report submitted to BCS. Kiran Chandramohan said that about 20 people attended, and presentations covering the features of the Arm and GFortran Fortran compilers were given.

Clive Page asked what had happened with the survey of Fortran Features. John Reid replied that the survey was pretty much as presented at the 2018 AGM.

The report was approved unanimously (Proposed by David Muxworthy, Seconded by Ian Chivers).

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

In the absence of Peter Crouch, the Treasurer's report was presented by John Reid.

It was noted that BCS offered less than half of what was requested in the Special Funding Request and to avoid setting a precedent for future years the limited funding was declined.

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

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

It was suggested that the subject of BCS support for international meetings should be removed from the report because of the outcome of the request for Special Funding. This was widely accepted.

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

(vi) Membership Secretary's Report

The Membership Secretary, Ian Chivers, presented the membership report. The report was less detailed than in previous years as BCS were releasing less information, but gave breakdowns of the membership by age profile, gender and a map showing the location of current and retired members.

The report was approved unanimously (Proposed by John Reid, Seconded by Anton Shterenlikht).

(vii) Web Editor's Report

The Web Editor, Harvey Richardson, presented his report.

There had been some minor updates to remove the addresses and phone numbers of Committee members as agreed at the 2018 AGM.

The report was approved unanimously (Proposed by Ian Chivers, Seconded by Clive Page).

(viii) Election of Officers

The nominations for the SG officers had been received by the Secretary according to the Constitution.

John Reid was not continuing as Chair. He had proposed John Pelan and this was Seconded by Clive Page. John Pelan was unanimously elected and took over the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

Nick Macey had been nominated as Vice Chair (Proposed by, seconded by Anton Shterenlikht) and was unanimously elected.

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

Peter Crouch was standing down as Treasurer. John Reid had been nominated as Treasurer (Proposed by David Muxworthy, seconded by Clive Page) and was unanimously elected.

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

Ian Chivers had been nominated as Membership Secretary (Proposed by Jane Sleightholme, seconded by Nick Macey) 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 Anton Shterenlikht) and was unanimously elected.

Kiran Chandramohan, Cliff Cheesman, Peter Crouch, Clive Page, Nathan Sircombe and Jane Sleightholme had been nominated as committee members (Proposed by John Reid, seconded by Sam Ellis) and were all unanimously elected.

The committee for the year 2019/2020 was therefore:

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

(ix) Future activities of the Group

John Pelan opened discussions about future activities and membership.

Would the use of a collaboration platform be useful? Harvey Richardson thought Slack or Discord would be worth considering.

The subject of safe programming and the Fortran Annex to ISO TR 24772, the guidance to avoiding vulnerabilities in programming languages was raised by Clive Page. John Reid said that Dan Nagle was keen on completing this with some support from David Muxworthy and himself. It was thought that the Committee members would need to see the current draft document and John Reid agreed to circulate this.

A discussion on whether the SG should cover other subjects, for example Machine Learning and linking Fortran to other programming languages. Nathan Sircombe wondered where the discussions at previous AGMs on broadening the remit of the Group had got to. John Pelan agreed to re-circulate previous proposals.

(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 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

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. The topics and speakers were:

New Flang – The modern Fortran frontend of LVVM, by Kiran Chandramohan, Arm.

Cray Compilation Environment (CCE) feature status by example, by Anton Shterenlikht and Harvey Richardson, Cray UK.

Tracking Fortran Implementations by Ian Chivers, Rhymney Consulting.

Report from WG5 by Nathan Sircombe, Arm.

An open discussion related to Fortran features followed with a panel of John Reid, Anton Shterenlikht and Nathan Sircombe.

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.