

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMPUTER LABORATORY**

Chairman: Ms J M Samols

Secretary: Ms J M Samols

Minutes of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Outreach Committee held at 9:00 on Tuesday 18th August 2015 in the Computer Laboratory, William Gates Building, JJ Thomson Avenue.

Present Dr RK Harle
 Mrs D Pounds
 Mrs M Sammons
 Ms JM Samols

Apologies Dr B Roman

1. Coding Summer School

Rob Harle stated that the Coding Summer School for Girls had been a success and had met its remit of sparking an interest in computer science in a cohort (albeit small) of 76 girls. He noted that eight attendees had expressed their intention of applying to Cambridge.

He stated that the 13 tutors had provided sufficient cover and that all had done a good job. He commended both Queens' and St John's on the accommodation and dining facilities provided and thanked Andrew Rice for organising an outing (punting) for those staying at Queens'.

If a similar event were to be held in 2016, Rob Harle suggested that a number of improvements should be implemented:

1. While the course material had worked well, there were insufficient drones for the number of attendees; 30-40 would have been more appropriate in contrast with the actual 5.
2. The school should finish at lunchtime on the final day; by this stage the students were tired and their ability to concentrate impaired.
3. The school should not take place during the week that A'Level results are released

4. The start of each day should begin with a review of the previous day's class followed by a look ahead to the present day's class sessions.
5. The girls should be provided with fast food for at least two days to cater for the fussier eaters.
6. Evening social activities should be organised
7. It might be more practical to house students in colleges closer to the Computer Laboratory

Jan Samols also suggested that tutors be appointed in sufficient time to allow for submission of DBS applications.

The Committee agreed that it should meet in October (date to be confirmed) to discuss the results of the feedback questionnaires. It was agreed that a number of issues should be addressed before a decision could be made on whether to hold a summer school in 2016. These included sponsorship, impact and cohort demographic.