Venimus Dev Diary

# Tuesday 17th Dec 2019

Combined three different group controllers into a single controller which takes query parameters instead.

# Monday 16th Dec 2019

Amended the CreateInitialData app to load in all the groups. It does this by parsing the markdown files used by the main website.

Added a new property to groups called StrapLine, this is initially the first line of the description.

Changed the home page so that it now shows the StrapLine rather than the full description. Changed the Join Now button to read “Find Out More”. Clicking this takes you to a group’s details page.

Amended the get group API so that you no longer need to be authorised in order to call it.

# Sunday 15th Dec 2019

Tidied up the code which post to and receives replies from slack. Also add an additional feedback into slack after the user has clicked approve/reject.

Couple of jobs remaining

Add a unit test which simulates the webhook call from slack. Maybe use PACT?

Add ApprovedBy / RejectedBy flags to the user model.

Add screen to allow the user to enter their bio and check their details.

# Saturday 14th Dec 2019

Spent some time playing with integrations to slack today. When a user signs up I can now post a message into slack asking an administrator to approve/reject the request. When they click a button it calls a webhook back into the API site.

For testing purposes I’ve made my local site visible using ngrok.

Had issues getting the callback to work, had to remove HttpsRedirection from startup.cs. Also marked the post method with [Consumes("application/x-www-form-urlencoded")] but I’m not sure that’s working correctly.

(There also seems to be a bug in the site related to the token expiring.)

# Friday 13th Dec 2019

Continued with the generic questions, quite a few changes – I was glad to have good test coverage 😊

Started integrating with slack. When a user wishes to join a group, we now post a message to the channel in slack. The message will contain a button for administrators to click to approve the registration. (Maybe just a link to the web site)

# Thursday 12th Dec 2019

# Started making the event registration questions more generic. Created a new Question model with the following properties:

* Code
* Caption
* QuestionType

The question type will be values such as Text, YesNo, Date etc.

Number of guests is a special type of question, with a question type of NumberOfGuests.

Some types might require additional properties, such as a poll, or the maximum number of guests.

# Wednesday 11th Dec 2019

Hooked up the amend registration details button. Decided to simplify things by combining the POST and PUT methods for CREATE/AMENDED event registration into a single PUT method.

Next step it to make the registration questions a bit more generic. Currently we ask the following three questions:

* Number of Guests
* Dietary Requirements
* Message To Organiser

It would be nice to make this more generic so that in the future the group owner can define their own questions.

# Tuesday 10th Dec 2019

Hooked up the button to allow a user to unregister from an event. Although from the websites point of view we are issuing a delete command to the endpoint (api/user/groups/{groupSlug}/Events/{eventSlug})

Internally we just update their registration record to say that they are no longer attending. This means we can tell if a user has never signed up for the event, or if they were signed up but can no longer attend.

The view members button on the MyGroups page is now hidden if the user doesn’t have access to call the API. (They must be either a system administrator or be an approved member of the group)

I’m now wondering if I need to change the design of the APIs slightly. Instead of having multiple APIs to return a list of groups, I think we need just one, but it also contains a list of available actions you can carry out on the group.

For example:

* Join Group
* View Members
* Leave Group

The API might need a new parameter to be able to specify if you only want to see groups you are/aren’t a member of.

# Monday 9th Dec 2019

Aim for today was to add support for the rendering of the markdown used in the descriptions of the groups and events.

First decision is where the conversion into HTML should take place. We can do it either in the APIs or the Frontend. I think it makes sense to do it in the frontend as it’s possible that a client might need a format other than HTML. For example, in a windows app.

I’ve included a nuget library called Markdig. This seems to be straight forward to use

var html = Markdown.ToHtml(markdown);

As we need to do this in a few places in the frontend site I’ve create a custom TagHelper called **MarkdownTagHelper**. This means that razor view we just need to write

<**markdown**>@item.Description</**markdown**>

The is library is then rendering links and text formatting (bold etc) fine. Had trouble with carriage returns at first. It turned out that the **TagHelper** was encoding them **as &#xD;&#xA;** which **MarkDig** didn’t understand. Easily fixed by **Replace("&#xD;", "\r").**

Next, I think I’ll add the ability to unregister from an event, and also change your registration details.