



QGIS PSC Meeting 24th Aug 2022

Present

- Anita
- Jürgen
- Marco
- Tim
- Andreas
- Alessandro

Excused:

-

Chair: Marco

Secretary:

Video / Audio Channel

<https://meet.jit.si/QGIS-PSC>

Previous meeting minutes

[20220802-QGIS-PSC-Meeting-02-Aug-2022](https://github.com/qgis/PSC/issues/20220802-QGIS-PSC-Meeting-02-Aug-2022)

Next meetings

See calendar

17:00 -18:30

Tickets

<https://github.com/qgis/PSC/issues/>

Agenda

Marco: AGM / PSC Election

- No matters arising have come in
- Nominations have come in - 4 of which for existing PSC members
- Tim: Proposing that we should extend the nomination period to Sept 4th and re-explain the importance of nominating new candidates
- Tim: Also propose that we ask each voting member to explicitly state if they do not wish to nominate a new PSC member (so we can understand if user groups are happy with the current PSC or not being aware of the voting process)
- Marco: Propose that we extend the deadline to Sept 4 and make personal contact with voting members where possible to encourage them to participate in the voting process:
 - Tim: +1
 - Anita: +1
 - Alessandro: +1
 - Marco:
 - Jürgen:
 - Andreas: +1

Tim: Barriers to participation in the QGIS project. Tim Raised the issue that we are not recruiting young core contributors to the project at a good rate. We think there are many factors that contribute to that: A feeling of inadequacy when looking at all the experts in the project, a lot of rules and procedures that new contributors need to deal with and a generally overwhelming feeling that we thing makes it hard for young / new people to join the project in a participative way.

- Ale proposed running 'getting started' sessions on the QGIS open days as a series of videos that can also be in YouTube playlists that can be followed sequentially by people learning
- Anita suggested that we ask Amy to coordinate and host these sessions

Nyall: KDAB and QT:

- 1) Nyall raised the possibility of us contracting KDAB to make upstream Qt6 fixes to resolve serious issues with exporting layouts as SVG (images dont have cropping lines so the polygons bleed over the edge of the layout. KDAB estimates 5-6 days of effort.
- 2) Nyall secondly raised the need for CMYK support in Qt6. This is needed for professional map production. KDAB estimates funding in the six figure range. We would need to arrange a cross project crowd funding exercise to fund this, but we feel.
- 3) WebKit / WebEngine. QGIS is using Qt WebKit wich is dropped in Qt6. The QtWebEngine (only option in Qt6) cannot be run in the same application as Qt3D. We also rely on webkit for rendering html elements in high quality in layouts. WebEngine

does not support making high quality exports. We need to find out the cost of making webengine perform to the same level as webkit since webkit will not be available.

- 4) XML ordering: Qt randomises the order of XML so it is hard to use QGIS projects in source control. Can we ask KDAB to fix this upstream. E.g. write attributes in alphabetical order. Currently this randomness is considered a performance and security feature so Nyall is proposing they add a flag in the API.

Andreas: We propose to go ahead with item 1 above as we have already the budget for it and use some of our budget to investigate costings for items for items 2-4

- Tim: +1
- Jürgen:
- Anita: +1
- Marco:
- Andreas: +1
- Alessandro: +1

Nyall: Qt6 Migration status: The work is going well and QGIS is functional but we do not have any PyQt6 support. Nyall is asking that we get Sandro from Sourcepole to create fedora packages for the dependencies so that Nyall can run python tests and work on checking python support. Fedora is proposed for purposes of being able to run CI workflows on. We need to similarly ask the KDE team to build needed dependencies for Debian (and thus Ubuntu). With the fedora builds we could also do mingw builds.

- Qca
- QTKeychain
- PyQt6
- One other???

It is estimated that Sandro will need 2.5 days to do the Fedora packages

New Website: Tim and Anita have been working on the new website.

Translations: We are looking into switching to weblate since we do not meet their free project criteria anymore. Jürgen is busy testing out OSGEO weblate. Tim propose to use Transifex on a paid plan for dynamic translation of the 'hub' (top level pages) and then we use weblate for the rest.

\\Anita/Andreas: Numfocus application

- NumFocus already funds GDAL: <https://numfocus.org/sponsored-projects>
(This seems to be GDAL's application form:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bc5jdpCe1axdyBHxbJnun7e0DTyDoZI_eFYgJYnOhB8/edit based on https://gdal.org/development/rfc/rfc80_numfocus_relationship.html)

- Application date for round 3 is October 15.
- It could be a way to approach more US donors since NumFocus is a registered non-profit there. According to the GDAL docs, they take 15% off the earmarked donations for running NumFocus

Andreas/Nyall: Fedora packages

- Nyall suggested to ask Sandro Mani to work on PyQt packaging in Fedora

Notable contributions page on the website

- For public administrations that do notable indirect contributions (both features and bugfixing): collect the “funded by” strings from the PRs for each release and if they are > x we offer the choice to publish their link and logo on a dedicated section of the website
- This system would be reserved for public administrations/institutions only to avoid turning it into cheap advertising for private companies.

Junior web developer: PSC agreed that we will go ahead with hiring a junior full time web developer. This will be done by proxy through Kartoza with QGIS covering the salary cost for that person. That will avoid the QGIS.org needing to deal with staffing issues. Will be for a 1 year trial basis, with the idea to continue in the future if the approach works well. Tim will supervise the person / hiring / firing etc. and ensure they are tasked and productive. The PSC budget already contains estimated 15k to cover this.

Cats: PSC semi-unanimously voted for digital cats to be the new mascot of QGIS :-)

OLD Agenda

Marco: Ubuntu CI update grant

- All agree
- TODO: Andreas to inform Nyall about acceptance

Marco: OSGeo AGM slides

- All on track: AGM slide is updated & Amy is producing the video (deadline for video: 2022-08-08)


Marco: US server

DONE: Marco Bernasocchi ask Richard for status ->

- I have root access to the server
- We should indeed decide if it is OK to put stuff on there, but on the other hand, downloading QGIS can be really cumbersome/slow!

- Earlier we talked to the Dutch Linux User Group (well known for their ftp-mirrors for all Linux distro's). They also offered us a mirror.
- But I think Juergen is just not so interested/prefers to handle it on the current 3 servers.
- Jürgen: more servers don't help, we need geo-based allocation of downloads for stand-alone installer (currently round-robin i.e. random assignment). (Everything should be fine for OSGeo4W because users can pick which server they want, if we had a server near the user)
- Feedback from Richard: problem with Cloudflare is that they regularly cache all old installers, flooding our servers in the process; Richard is planning to fix this by separating current installers from old ones and tell Cloudflare to only serve current ones. Richard does not have an ETA for this yet - he would like someone to work on it with him.

Marco: AGM

- Still missing the financial auditing report
- Annual Report:
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v9bHE1QMhY4KTrKWNJRcggagy5ryPKF3LH3b7qocL5M/edit>
 - All that is yellow needs to be changed/updated
 - Jürgen E. Fischer can you generate the list of releases in 2021?
 - <http://web.archive.org/web/20210823124334/https://qgis.org/en/site/getinvolved/development/roadmap.html>
 - Anita Graser did you manually generate the list of PSC meetings in 2020? Do we really want to share the google drive links? → replaced by Wiki link
- Invitation ready:  QGIS AGM invitation 2022
 - Long period to accommodate summer holidays (28th Sept is the final date)
 - To be sent out when the financial report is ready
- Charter
 - English original:
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FcChHYgoI4FIURrZRYBjD8kB6IBW_BaG0leg8TDT0pM/edit
 - Translation to German:
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hCqHn33pU_iINC8T3PrY6E91oXmATilqI4k47qLHVM/edit?usp=sharing
 - Website is correctly updated (using English version)

Marco: Firenze contributor meeting

- Andreas: dinners are currently being organized
- Still rooms available - contact Rosella if interested

Andreas: reported Website issue

- Should consider updating Bootstrap → TODO: Tim to look into it and respond

Anita: South america QGIS Certification Application

TODO Marco: follow up with involved parties to get a better understanding

Marco: QGIS chile (company)

- Marco sent mail but no response yet

Alessandro: Manual tests

- Infrastructure exists <https://github.com/qgis/QGIS-Enhancement-Proposals/issues/180>
- Open issue: writing more tests and actually performing the manual tests requires more time
- Alessandro: I have asked Alex Neto and Giovanni about the test cycles, they mentioned that they didn't have time to run the tests this release. They also mentioned that the time available from the packages ready to the packages released was not sufficient. I think they need to talk to Juergen to organize the test cycles for the next release. Also, they are preparing a spreadsheet where the activities will be logged for the PSC feedback.
 - Jurgen had contact. Alex tested the packages before release
 - Alexander said they did run the tests on each patch release.
 - They are adding new tests
 - Some volunteers are helping with Mac tests

Marco: QGIS Portugal

- Organization (ESOP) is interested in supporting QGIS.ORG (somehow, unclear yet).
- Alessandro: follow-up -> Giovanni will look into it
 - No pressure there

Long-term issues

Andreas: Approaching larger sponsors who support FOSS4G

- **TODO Marco:** try to identify promising contacts and reach out to them as chair
- **TODO Marco:** follow-up on Google 10 most important C++ projects

Gatekeepers, Community roles draft

TODO Marco: still ongoing at [here](#)

TODO marco: follow-up vision meeting → [Goals of QGIS](#)

TODO: invite Tim to one of the next PSC meetings

To follow up on **Tim's idea "Young staff."** Tim suggests reserving 20-30k € (annual salary) for a person in a less-developed country that could work on bug fixing, maintenance, documentation, ...

Could be proxied/employed f.e. through Kartoza.

- Alessandro suggests picking only people who are already contributing on a voluntary basis to the project and are not motivated by money only - at least for development and bug-fixing work. For infrastructure work it is different - it is the boring work that people don't tend to do on a voluntary basis.
- Marco suggests focusing paid staff on working on project-related tasks that are not directly related to QGIS Desktop/Server.
- Anita suggests identifying tasks that could be done by such a paid staff and then discussing this suggestion with the community → **TODO Tim** to create a shortlist and post it to PSC list

Voting platform

- Old discussion never concluded
- We have an non centralized solution that is hard to track:
 - Google forms for community votes are hard to follow and take time to create
 - ML discussion on votes is nearly nonexistent
- Resolutions copying to website is neglected (last copy in June by Anita)
- Marco: re-suggest centralizing all voting to a single **loomio** instance (as OSGeo-board is doing - <https://www.loomio.org/g/kdSmlwxu/osgeo-board>)

Conclusion: create PDFs of the Google Docs to put on the wiki (if possible) or the website → Tim will ask someone from Kartoza

Update: 2021-10-05 unfortunately this approach does not work / <https://github.com/qgis/QGIS/wiki#psc-meetings> is not up to date

Update 2022-02-01 Anita: I ping Tim every once in a while to update the lis