Conference or Workshop Item:

Judge, Simon, Lee, Steve and Cudd, Peter (Completed: 2009) Maavis@School. In:
Recent Advances in Assistive Technology and Engineering (RAATE) 2009, 30 Nov - 01
Dec 2009, Coventry, UK.

Barnsley Assistive Technology Team

Maavis@School

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Developer - Full Measure, Consultant - OSS Watch

Contents

- People

- Background

- Development and Technology

- Maavis@school trials

- Future & Scope

Barnsley Hospital **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Assistive Technology Team
Barnsley

- **University of Sheffield**
  - co-ordination and project management

- **Barnsley AT Team**
  - user involvement and assistive technology

- **FullMeasure**
  - assistive technology development

- **OSS Watch**
  - open source software advisory service

The University Of Sheffield.

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OSS Watch

IT without knowing about IT

- **M**oderated **A**ccess to **A**udio **V**isual **S**ervices

- i.e: a simplified computer interface

- Developed to become a platform, be flexible and sustainable (more later)

- Potential population excluded from the benefits of information technology

- People with dementia; older people; children with special educational needs.

- Design challenge : create more intuitive access to IT services

- Research challenge: can we show a benefit to use of this technology?

- Maavis emerged from a previous small project

    - provision of IT within residential care homes

    - Sheffield's largest residential care home

    - small scoping project in school

- Study

    - research into benefits of provision of systems

    - usability study into design of system

- Communications + media = web

- Easily acquired skills, common = web

- Without internet + privileges = rich client

- Open source platform = plenty of choice

- All of above = **Mozilla** as used in Firefox

  - Very well tested

  - Great community, cross platform

  - Some experience with Jambu

- Designed for multiple engagement levels

  - User – simple UI

  - Non technical facilitator – copy files, UI

  - Technical facilitator – create/edit 'web pages'

  - Core developer – extend platform

  - Future - Plug-ins extend community

- Mozilla XUL platform + VLC media player

- Outfox server – provides more flexibility – Skype
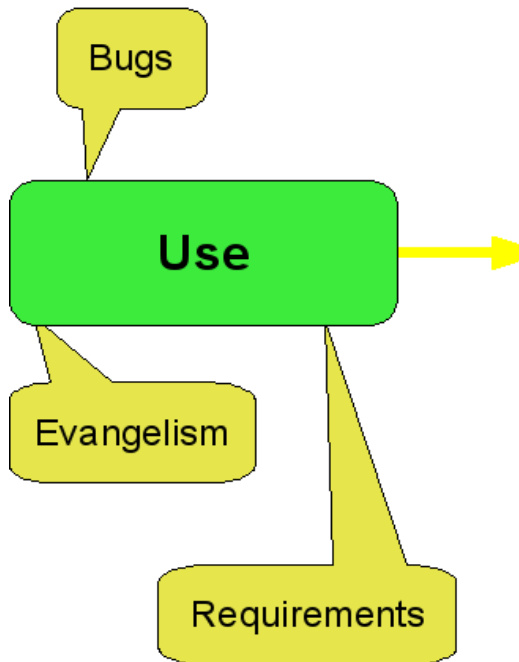
OSS Watch Maavis@School ::
Open Source Development Model

- **open source, open development**
  - Low cost to users
  - Community of users and developers
  - Innovation & sustainability
  - Exploitation - regional development
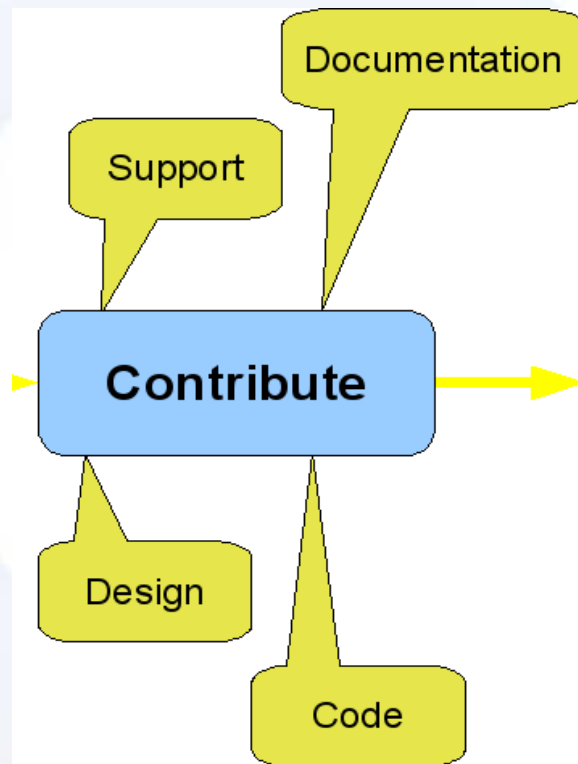 - "Freedom to discuss plans with anyone"
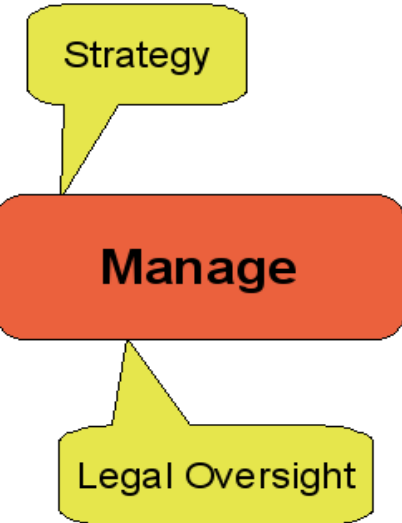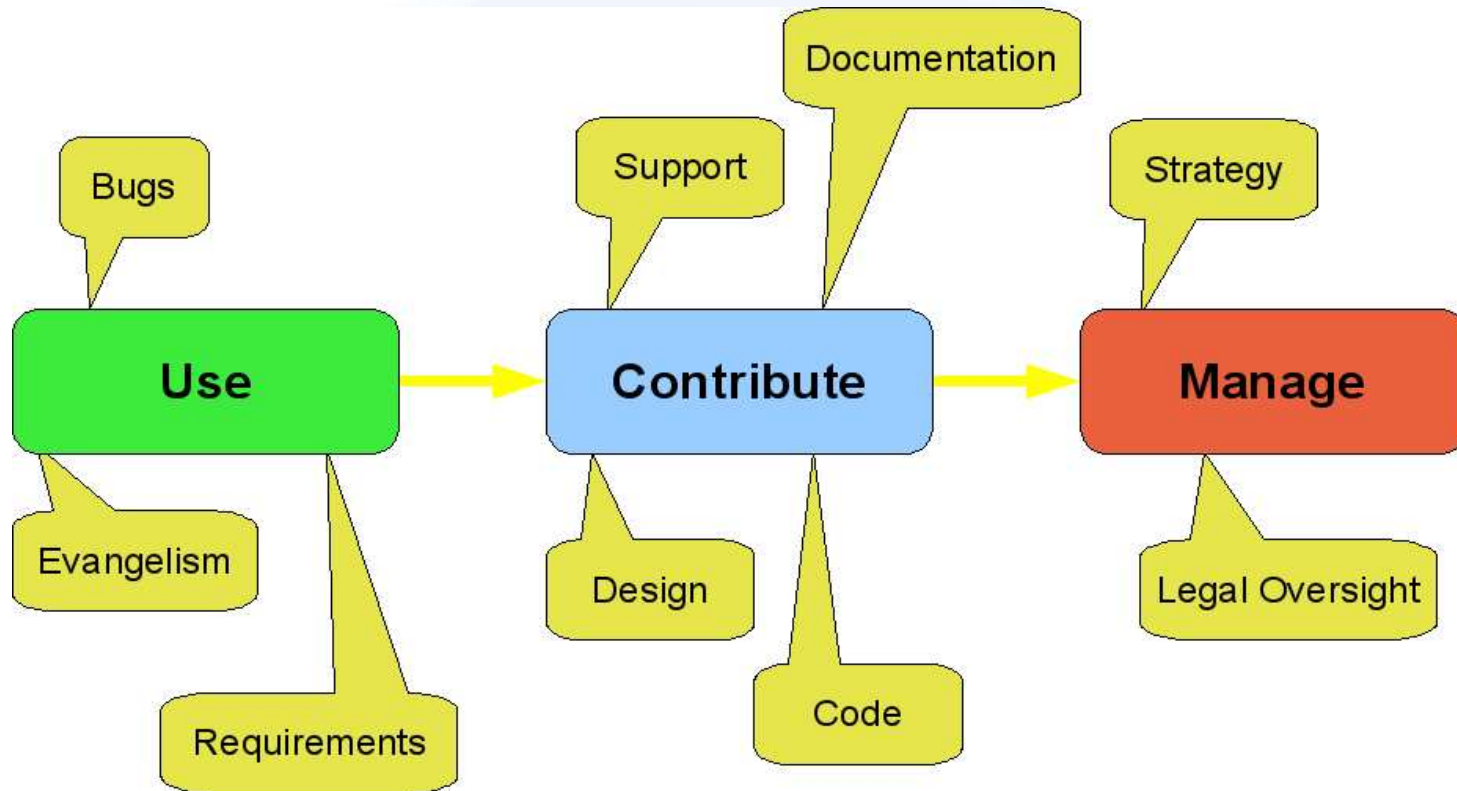- Development forge - open access

JISC

OSS Watch

Strategy

Manage

Legal Oversight

JISC

OSS Watch

http://oss-watch.ac.uk

- # Small study
  - ## 3 special schools in S Yorkshire, term long trial
- # user requirements scoping exercise
  - ## software development
- # Trial:
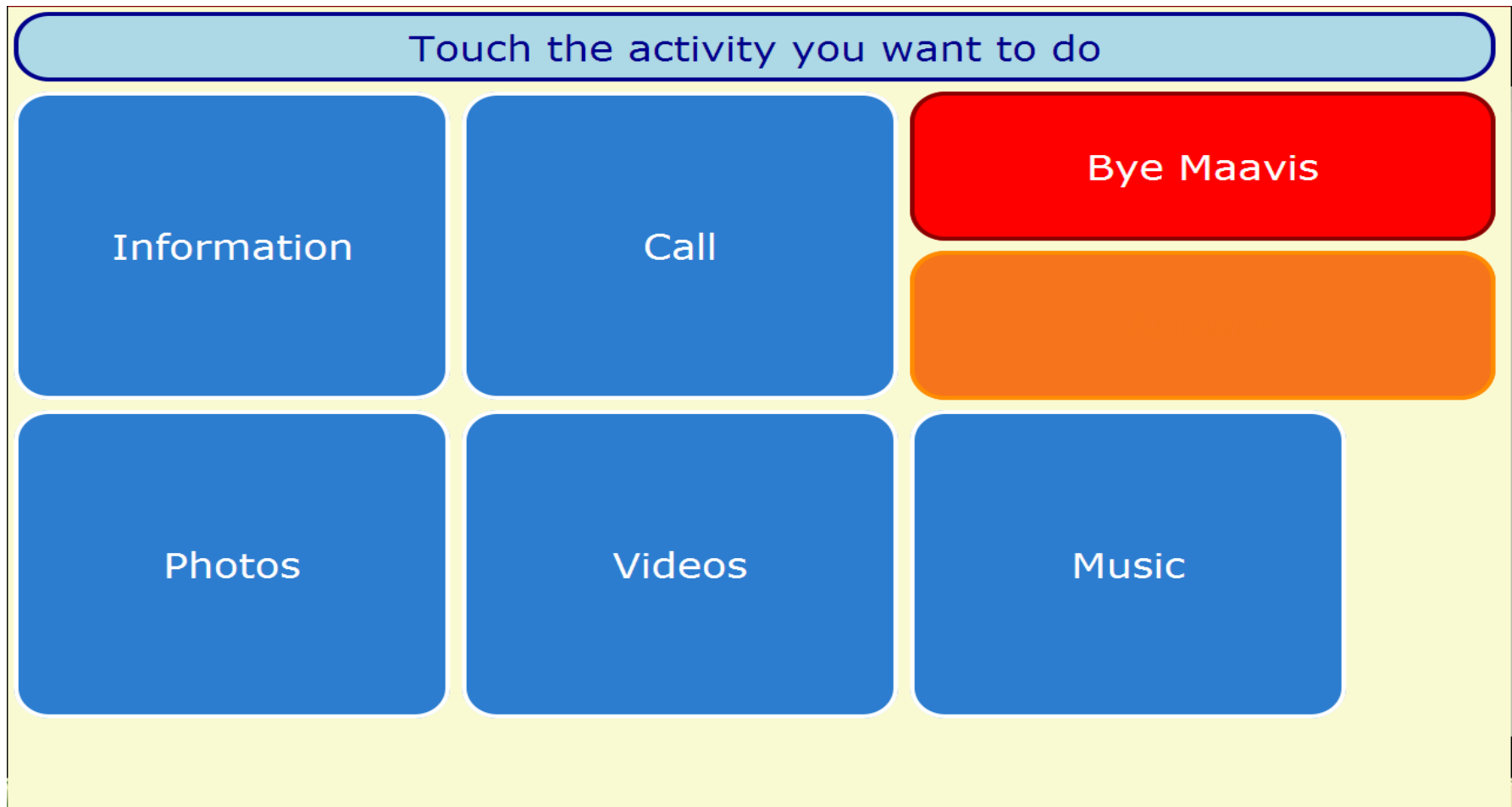 - ## Provision of system to children meeting recruitment criteria in 3 special schools

- Measuring impact of provision (and improved independent access to IT)
  - Qualitative data from teachers, students
  - Qualitative data from analysis of video evidence
  - Quantitative data from pre&post intervention assessments

- # Features of Maavis

- # New features specific to SEN

  - ## Switch access with scanning

  - ## Simple Log-in pages

- Project team believe Maavis has great potential
  - Use in many 'sectors' to provide accessibility for people otherwise excluded from IT
- Unique in several senses
  - Functionality
  - Platform choice and flexibility
  - Evidence based
  - Can be used as a platform for other things, e.g. tele-health

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- **Several other bids using Maavis**
  - Nominet – internet delivery of content
  - Knowledge Transfer – deployment and training resources within FE
  - Exploitation bids

- Maavis is designed to simplify access to IT

- Potential across a number of applications

- Small study looking at benefits within special schools

- Unique and flexible architecture and technology

- Ripe for further potential

- Open Source

http://maavis.fullmeasure.co.uk

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