

5th plenum meeting of NewPipe e.V.

People present: Stypox, Poolitzer, Fynn, Schabi, Christian Himmler, TheAssassin

Agenda items:

1. Appointment of the protocol writer
2. Determining the quorum
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Adoption of the protocol of 04.01.2025
5. Monetary report for 2023 and 2024
6. Devise budget plan
7. Chat rules
8. Trademark policy
9. Miscellaneous

The meeting is started at 19:05 German time, 08.02.2025, by the chairman of the meeting, Fynn.

Item 1: Appointment of the protocol writer

Stypox agrees to take the protocol notes.

Item 2: Determining the quorum

The people present acknowledge that a timely invite happened and that the meeting has quorum according to §7.6 of the statute. The agenda was attached as part of the invitation. These documents were also attached: the monetary reports for 2023 and 2024, an empty budget plan draft, a draft of the chat rules, and a draft of the trademark policy.

Item 3: Adoption of the agenda

Fynn decides to hold a public vote to accept the agenda. The agenda is adopted unchanged unanimously.

Item 4: Adoption of the protocol of 04.01.2025

Fynn points out that contrary to what happened during the meeting, Schabi could not really vote to discharge the board (since he was in the board for part of the year), so that fact was corrected in the protocol.

The protocol of the previous plenum meeting of 04.01.2025 is adopted unchanged unanimously.

Item 4: Monetary report for 2023 and 2024

Fynn presents the monetary reports for 2023 and 2024. Every monetary report consists of 2 documents, namely the “Balance Sheet” and the “Income Statement”. All four documents are attached below.

Contrary to the documents sent in the invite, currency conversion rates from foreign currencies to Euros for 2023 were fixed (though it did not lead to any change in net income), and the total PayPal income for 2024 was slightly corrected due to an accounting mishap.

Fynn proposes adding a section on the website to show some graphs about the spendings and income for transparency purposes.

Fynn explains that they used GnuCash to prepare the monetary reports. Schabi argues that it would be good to have documents in the form of a two-column layout, which is doable in GnuCash but with some limitations.

Item 5: Devise budget plan

Fynn presents a draft for the 2025 budget plan to use as a starting point, which contains the running costs and the expected amount of donations. Running costs will include corporate taxes both for 2023 and 2024, since it turned out even in 2023 the e.V. surpassed the 5000€ income limit, and so it needs to pay taxes on it.

Fynn argues that it would be ok to overbudget (i.e. allow the amount of money at the end of the year on the back account to get lower), as long as we can make sure we can pay taxes and finish contracts with contractors.

Core section

IT Infrastructure TheAssassin proposes allocating 50% more than last year to IT infrastructure to account for price increases and also to have money to start hosting NewPipe's APK distribution.

TheAssassin explains the costs in 2025:

- for domains: 94.11€ (newpipe.social is the most expensive)
- for three servers (schabi, pox, fynn): 427.08€
- schabi will be terminated as it has now been replaced, but it might be kept for testing

So the assembly agrees to allocate 800€ for IT infrastructure ($800 \approx (94.11 + 427.08) * 1.5$).

Hiring someone to work on IT infrastructure Poolitzer argues that since we have not found a volunteer for handling the infrastructure yet, we should hire one.

Poolitzer and Fynn argue that it might be really hard to estimate a cost for this, both due to the hourly rate and the amount of hours.

TheAssassin explains that regular maintenance plus some new setups (e.g. Lemmy) would require 4-8 hours/week. 2-3 months should be good for the beginning, since at the moment regular maintenance can be handled by TheAssassin, who could hand out instructions to contractors. The proposed budget is thus 2500€, and the assembly agrees.

Hiring contributors (extending existing contract, finding new contributors) According to the current contracts with contractors, 23040€ are expected to be spent in 2025 if the e.V. continues with the same contracts.

Fynn argues that if we get more money we should probably hire another person.

TheAssassin argues that there should be some guidelines for better transparency in case somebody from the board wants to work on NewPipe.

The assembly concludes to maintain 23040€ as the expected spending to continue existing contracts.

Hiring UX and Corporate Identity professionals Since the NewPipe team is doing a rewrite of NewPipe, it might make sense to hire a professional to design new UX. A Corporate Identity is also needed for both NewPipe and the e.V.

Schabi argues that it might be difficult to pay somebody with the usual 32€/h rate (i.e. the rate for idealistic free software supporters). We need someone from the e.V. to do research.

Stypox suggests one person that would meet the "idealistic free software supporter" requirement, and suggests just asking them without spending too much time on research, since no e.V. member has too much time and/or enough knowledge about the process. So it's better to just have a starting point and adjust later if needed. Stypox therefore proposes to allocate 500€ for consultancy to help the e.V. determine what it needs / who we can ask, and the assembly agrees.

Offering hardware to contributors Schabi argues that hardware should be offered in general, and with focus on future (development) possibilities, not past contributions.

Stypox proposes to keep 1000€ like last year, although they ended up being unspent. The assembly agrees.

Conferences and meetups

Conference participation Schabi argues that CCC costs a lot and might not be so beneficial for the e.V., but maybe inviting some developers from the NewPipe team would be good.

Fynn argues that it should be up to the people to ask for help, since different people need different kind of help. A budget should be allocated on a per-event basis, and this would automatically account for CCC costing more and thus money being spent differently.

Proposals for next conferences include: [FrosCon](#) (16-17 August), Chaos Communication Congress (27-30 December).

Stypox argues that conferences are a good way to meet up and network with like-minded developers from other projects.

Going to FOSDEM costed 2000€ (including a 600€ donation), so the assembly agrees on renewing this for FrosCon (or an alternative).

Meetup for the NewPipe team On the topic of meeting outside of conferences, Stypox argues that it makes sense to organize a meetup for the NewPipe team, which could do work on NewPipe and some team building. Schabi also explains that Nürnberg might be a nice place for a meetup since many people live nearby.

To organize the meetup the organizers need to ask for people's availability and then allocate rooms, and Schabi is instructed to do so.

The assembly agrees on setting a cap of 1500€ for a meetup (although it should end up being considerably less).

A note on conference/meetup participation Speaking of how to choose people to send to conferences and meetups, Stypox proposes setting up a simple application form where people list:

- if they would be able to come
- how much they would be able to pay themselves
- how they contributed to NewPipe or to the e.V.

Then the board (or some other committee) should decide who is sponsored to attend based on how much money is allocated, how many people wish to attend, and how much the applicants have contributed to NewPipe or the e.V..

Other projects section

Donating to FOSDEM TheAssassin proposes between 500€ and 800€, i.e. ~100€/person, and the assembly agrees to donate 600€.

Continue yearly donations to Weblate and Liberapay Everybody agrees to continue yearly donations, accounting for 900€ in total.

Donating to LuanRt Stypox proposes donating 100€ to [LuanRt for their research and work on poTokens](#), which was used in the NewPipe v0.27.6 release to fix 403 errors.

This donation should not be considered as “buying something from them”, but just as thanking them.

Fynn and Schabi propose sending them some merch, too.

Fynn says that we need to find a framing that allows for this donation to happen, so that nobody feels like it is unfair. Schabi argues that this is not really a problem, since in this case it is a well-motivated donation.

We should also propose to them that if they need some kind of support we could offer it. And ask them if it's ok to make a blogpost about the donation.

The assembly discusses about the specific figure to donate, and they agree on 150€ in the end. This sum should also apply to future donations of the same kind.

Publicity section

Merchandise Schabi argues that providing merchandise should be considered a way to thank people for their past contributions, not for anticipated future involvement.

Stypox explains that if we want to go to a conference we will want to bring rollups, banners or beach flags. Rollups and banners cost ~100€, while beach flags 50€.

So Stypox proposes allocating money just for buying durable merch to bring to all conferences, and to not send more merch to members and contributors in 2025. The assembly agrees on allocating 300€ for this (plus 400€ already spent).

Sponsoring events like competitive programming competitions Stypox argues that no money should be allocated to this point for now. When a concrete figure and concrete event will come up, we can discuss it again.

Legal section

Tax consultancy Fynn proposes allocating 1000€ to file the taxes, although it shouldn't be too necessary, but it's difficult to know in advance. The assembly agrees.

Trademark monitoring service Fynn explains that a monitoring service costs 300€/year to 700€/year, but it's not so useful for our case. Since we only registered a textual name, we would be able to find infringements in the EUIPA database ourselves by search. It's not like we registered a logo trademark, and then need to match similar logos, which would be much harder.

So the assembly decides not to allocate money for a trademark monitoring service.

Conclusion

TheAssassin leaves the meeting halfway through the discussion on the budget plan.

The budget plan devised by the assembly is attached below.

Item 7: Chat rules

Schabi reads the draft chat rules. Schabi proposes Christian Himmler as the person to talk to in case moderators misbehave, since Schabi regards his previous involvement in the student council as excellent. Christian also explains he is good at listening to people and handling conflict.

Poolitzer says that breakout rooms seem too complicated, and that the argument about "law enforcement" is redundant, so the assembly agrees to remove those points.

The assembly also rewords the point about bigotry and discrimination after taking inspiration from the [HealthyGamer.gg rules](#).

Schabi proposes holding two votes: one about the rules, and one about the person to talk to in case moderators misbehave.

The chairman asks the assembly to vote on this formulation: “Do you want to apply the proposed rules as our chat rules?”. The assembly unanimously votes “yes” (except TheAssassin who left before).

The chairman asks the assembly to vote on this formulation: “Do you want to appoint Christian Himmler as the person to talk to in case moderators misbehave?”. The assembly unanimously votes “yes” (except TheAssassin who left before).

Note: even though this was not brought up during the assembly, the designated moderators in the decision are understood to be placeholders. The assembly did not mean to designate new or un-designate existing moderators; rather, the current moderators (@Poolitzer, @TheAssassin, @Tobigr, @AudricV, @Profpatsch, @wb9688) remain in their role.

The board is assigned the following tasks:

- ask TheAssassin to create a (Matrix) account for Christian Himmler
- post and advertise the rules on the e.V.'s online channels
- create a room for moderators (but not with Christian Himmler in it)

The agreed upon chat rules are attached below.

Item 8: Trademark policy

The trademark goes live on February the 17th, and the assembly agrees on also publishing a trademark policy then.

The chairman asks the assembly to vote on this formulation: “Do you want the trademark policy to come into effect as is?”. The assembly unanimously votes “yes” (except TheAssassin who left before).

The agreed upon trademark policy is attached below.

Item 9: Miscellaneous

After acknowledging that nobody has any miscellaneous topic, Fynn closes the meeting at 22:40 German time, 08.02.2025.

NewPipe e.V. Balance Sheet 31.12.2023

Assets			0,00 €
Bank accounts		0,00 €	
PayPal	0,00 \$	0,00 €	
	0,00 Mex\$	0,00 €	
	0,00 £	0,00 €	
	666,03 €	666,03 €	
	0,00 SFr.	0,00 €	
	0,00 \$	0,00 €	
GLS		4.154,54 €	
Money transfer			0,00 €
Stripe		3.143,82 €	
Total Assets			7.964,39 €
<hr/>			
Total Liabilities			0,00 €
<hr/>			
Equity			0,00 €
Opening Balances		0,00 €	
Retained Earnings			7.964,39 €
Unrealized Gains			0,00 €
Total Equity			7.964,39 €
<hr/>			
Total Liabilities & Equity			7.964,39 €

NewPipe e.V. Income Statement For Period Covering 01.01.2023 to 31.12.2023

Income

Donations			-8.008,34 €
AUD	-33,41 \$	-19,34 €	
CHF	-20,00 SFr.	-20,15 €	
GBP	-15,00 £	-16,62 €	
MXN	-38,40 Mex\$	-1,93 €	
USD	-207,50 \$	-188,56 €	
Total Donations			-8.254,94 €
Miscellaneous			-0,01 €
Total Income			-8.254,95 €

Expenses

Banking & Transaction fees			
GLS fees			80,40 €
PayPal fees			
AUD	1,34 \$	0,78 €	
CHF	1,39 SFr.	1,40 €	
EUR		55,45 €	
GBP	0,93 £	1,03 €	
MXN	10,91 Mex\$	0,55 €	
USD	13,72 \$	12,47 €	
Total PayPal fees			71,68 €
Total Banking & Transaction fees			152,08 €
Digital infrastructure			
Hetzner			22,86 €
mailbox.org			42,00 €
netcup			73,62 €
Total Digital infrastructure			138,48 €
Total Expenses			290,56 €

Net income for Period 7.964,39 €

NewPipe e.V. Balance Sheet 31.12.2024

Assets		22.212,17 €
Bank accounts	19.519,81 €	
PayPal	411,78 €	
GLS	19.108,03 €	
Money transfer	2.692,36 €	
Stripe	2.692,36 €	
Total Assets		22.212,17 €
<hr/>		
Total Liabilities		0,00 €
<hr/>		
Equity		-7.964,39 €
Opening Balances	-7.964,39 €	
Retained Earnings		14.247,78 €
Total Equity		22.212,17 €
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Total Liabilities & Equity		22.212,17 €

NewPipe e.V. Income Statement For Period Covering 01.01.2024 to 31.12.2024

Revenues

Income		-33.047,26 €
Donations	-32.711,26 €	
Membership fees	-336,00 €	
Total Revenue		33.047,26 €

Expenses

Expenses		18.799,48 €
Banking & Transaction fees	548,50 €	
GLS fees	260,54 €	
PayPal fees	287,96 €	
Conferences	1.284,89 €	
FOSDEM 2025	1.284,89 €	
Development contracts NewPipe	13.770,40 €	
Contractor #1	10.250,40 €	
Contractor #2	3.520,00 €	
Digital infrastructure	360,66 €	
Hetzner	40,80 €	
mailbox.org	30,00 €	
netcup	289,86 €	
Donations	1.689,27 €	
CiviCRM	289,27 €	
FSFE	500,00 €	
Liberapay	300,00 €	
Weblate	600,00 €	
Legal	1.145,76 €	
Court	133,34 €	
Notary	162,42 €	
Trademark	850,00 €	
Total Expenses		18.799,48 €

Net income for Period 14.247,78 €

Income Statement for Budget NewPipe e.V. yearly budget 2025

Income

Donations	27.000,00 €	
Membership fees	216,00 €	
Total Income	<hr/>	27.216,00 €

Expenses

Banking & Transaction fees

GLS fees	300,00 €	
PayPal fees	300,00 €	
Total Banking & Transaction fees	<hr/>	600,00 €

Conferences

FOSDEM 2025	176,98 €	
froscon (or other conference)	2.000,00 €	
TeamNewPipe Meetup	1.500,00 €	
Total Conferences	<hr/>	3.676,98 €

Corporate taxes

2023	469,00 €	
2024	1.466,00 €	
2025 (advance payment)	1.466,00 €	
Total Corporate taxes	<hr/>	3.401,00 €

Digital infrastructure

Development contracts	2.500,00 €	
Hosting providers	800,00 €	
Total Digital infrastructure	<hr/>	3.300,00 €

Donations

FOSDEM	600,00 €	
Liberapay	300,00 €	
Weblate	600,00 €	
Total Donations	<hr/>	1.500,00 €

Legal

Court	150,00 €	
Notary	150,00 €	
Tax consultancy	1.000,00 €	
Total Legal	<hr/>	1.300,00 €

Merchandise

Products	700,00 €	
Shipping	150,84 €	
Total Merchandise	<hr/>	850,84 €

NewPipe

Contributor hardware 1.000,00 €

Development contracts 23.040,00 €

Financial gifts 150,00 €

UX / CI consulting 500,00 €

Total NewPipe 24.690,00 €

Total Expenses 39.318,82 €

Net loss for Budget NewPipe e.V. yearly budget 2025 12.102,82 €

Chat rules

First and foremost:

- All creatures welcome!
- Be excellent to each other!
- We are all here to have fun.

Generally:

- Be friendly and helpful to each other!
- You are allowed to ask your questions, even if they are seen as trivial by others.
- Don't harass, spam, troll, make fun of others, or bully others.
- No bigotry or discrimination. (This obviously includes sexism, misogyny, queer- and transphobia, and racism.)
- Don't post offensive or harmful content in general.

Specifically:

- Don't push or harass team members! We are all humans and try our best. When voicing criticism, stay objective and friendly.
- Try to stick to NewPipe-related topics.
- Long code blocks make the chat hard to read for everyone. Therefore, please only paste error logs when asked to do so.
- As a team member, you are a role model for others. Please act like it!

Consequences:

- Please follow the advices and guidance of our moderators.
- The moderators are currently [todo].
- If you break the rules or repeatedly disregard instructions from our moderators, consequences will be either a temporary or permanent ban.
- If you think you were mistreated by our moderators, or are missing moderator action, create screenshots of the conversation and reach out to [todo]. [sentence describing the person who has the role] They will neutrally assess the situation and reach out to our moderators on your behalf if necessary.

Trademark policy

Why trademark?

Unfortunately, NewPipe is faced with an increasing amount of copycat clones and unofficial download sites that pretend to be official sources. Of course, in the light of redundancy and NewPipe's permissive GPL v3 license, we do not in itself have a problem with independent projects who leverage TeamNewPipe's work. That said, we continue to expect derivatives to meet their end of the GPL v3's license terms, requiring application source code to be made available under the same license terms.

Additionally, from now on, we expect third-party projects to clearly distinguish themselves from official NewPipe releases, for the following goals:

- **Users should know what they are downloading.**
Unofficial releases of NewPipe often contain advertisements or other unwanted contents. We want our users who search the net for "NewPipe" to find what they are looking for, and not fall for any scam websites.
- **Downstream projects deserve a unique, strong identity.**
While derivatives of NewPipe often use the term "NewPipe" in their own name to signalize a shared history of code, it also incorrectly implies endorsement from the NewPipe project. In the future, we expect downstream projects to distinguish themselves from our project and to develop their own brand.

Hence, NewPipe e. V. has registered the term "NewPipe" as a word mark in the European Union (<https://euipo.europa.eu/eSearch/#details/trademarks/019104121>) and devised the following policy for using the mark. It is applicable to all uses of the mark within the European common market, including global uses that target (parts of) the European common market.

Trademark policy

Downloadable apps

- This policy applies to **end-user facing applications** only. Development-oriented test releases (for instance, as a convenient way of gathering feedback to a feature you developed) or application source code (for instance, because a derivative of NewPipe is using the term 'newpipe' in its internal structure) are not affected.
- Per definition, the following distribution ways serve official versions of NewPipe. All other distributions are unofficial distributions, even if they serve the same binary package.
 - <https://newpipe.net/#download>
 - <https://archive.newpipe.net/fdroid/repo/>
 - <https://f-droid.org/packages/org.schabi.newpipe/>
- Non-official releases of NewPipe may be released to the public, provided they are compiled from one of the code revisions (commits) provided via <https://github.com/TeamNewPipe/NewPipe/>. Supplementary material like the download website must clearly indicate
 - the commit number to uniquely identify the code revision used for the build,
 - * or alternatively, the version name, if the revision is marked as a release on <https://github.com/TeamNewPipe/NewPipe/releases>,
 - that the installation file was not assembled by TeamNewPipe,
 - that the release is not official and
 - that it is not compatible with official releases.
- Supplementary software designed to enhance functionality of official NewPipe releases may make use of the mark as a secondary component of the name, for instance, "Downloader for NewPipe",

but not “NewPipe Downloader”. Derivatives of official NewPipe are not considered supplementary software.

- Other downloadable apps that are not built from one of the aforementioned code versions and are not supplementary software may not make use of the mark.
- **Transition period:** We grant existing NewPipe derivative projects which are *currently* already making use of the term “NewPipe” in their name additional time to rebrand until April 30th, 2025.

Website representation

- The following websites are official NewPipe websites entitled to use the mark.
 - <https://newpipe-ev.de/>
 - <https://newpipe.net/>
 - <https://f-droid.org/packages/org.schabi.newpipe/>
- All other websites that make use of the mark are required to:
 - Explicitly, recognizably and clearly state that it is neither affiliated with nor endorsed by TeamNewPipe.
 - Not present themselves in a way which implies affiliation with, endorsement of or authorship by TeamNewPipe or NewPipe e. V..
 - Not endorse downloadable apps in violation of this trademark policy or of NewPipe’s GPL v3 license.
 - If they contain links to downloadable apps that resemble an official NewPipe release, they must indicate the version name of the version provided. In the case of unofficial releases, they must instead include the additional information as required for the distribution of unofficial releases per above.

Changes to the policy

We reserve the right to change this trademark policy from time to time. Changes will become visible on this website.

Questions and Answers

1. *NewPipe is no longer free software!*

This is not the case; many other free software applications have chosen to register a mark for similar reasons.

You are still free to run, study, modify, and distribute NewPipe. However, for end-user facing distributions, we ask that you communicate to your recipients whether you self-compiled an official release, or whether you created a derivative project, by following our guidelines. We believe that this will make it clearer to your users what they are getting!

2. *This is truly a capitalistic, corporate move!*

The decision to take this step was not made in a typical corporate, top-down fashion. Rather, there was very broad consent within TeamNewPipe that registering a mark is a good idea.

You may have noticed that the phrasing on this page differs from the more relaxed tone you might know from NewPipe’s blog posts – we want this document to be as free from misunderstands as possible, hence a more formal tone.

3. *When is an application considered end-user facing?*

A build can be considered as a developer-facing test build if it is short-lived and intended for gathering early feedback, for instance, because it is part of a Pull Request on GitHub. On the other hand, an APK file uploaded to GitHub releases is to be considered end-user facing.

4. *When am I using a mark?*

Generally, a mark is “used” when it is put in a place where it promotes a product. In our case,

the NewPipe application is a product which the mark is used to promote, because the app bears the mark as its name. We are also using the mark on our websites to promote our app, because we want our users to know which features it contains.

End-users who are, for instance, reviewing a product, are generally not “using” the mark in this sense.

5. *When am I using a mark in the European common market?*

A use of the mark happens in the European common market if it reaches out to customers within the European common market. We understand this to be the case for websites that are reachable – or apps that are downloadable – from within the European common market and are localized to at least one of the languages officially spoken there.

If you have any further questions, please contact board@newpipe-ev.de.