



# CCC-ParaSols Network Event #2

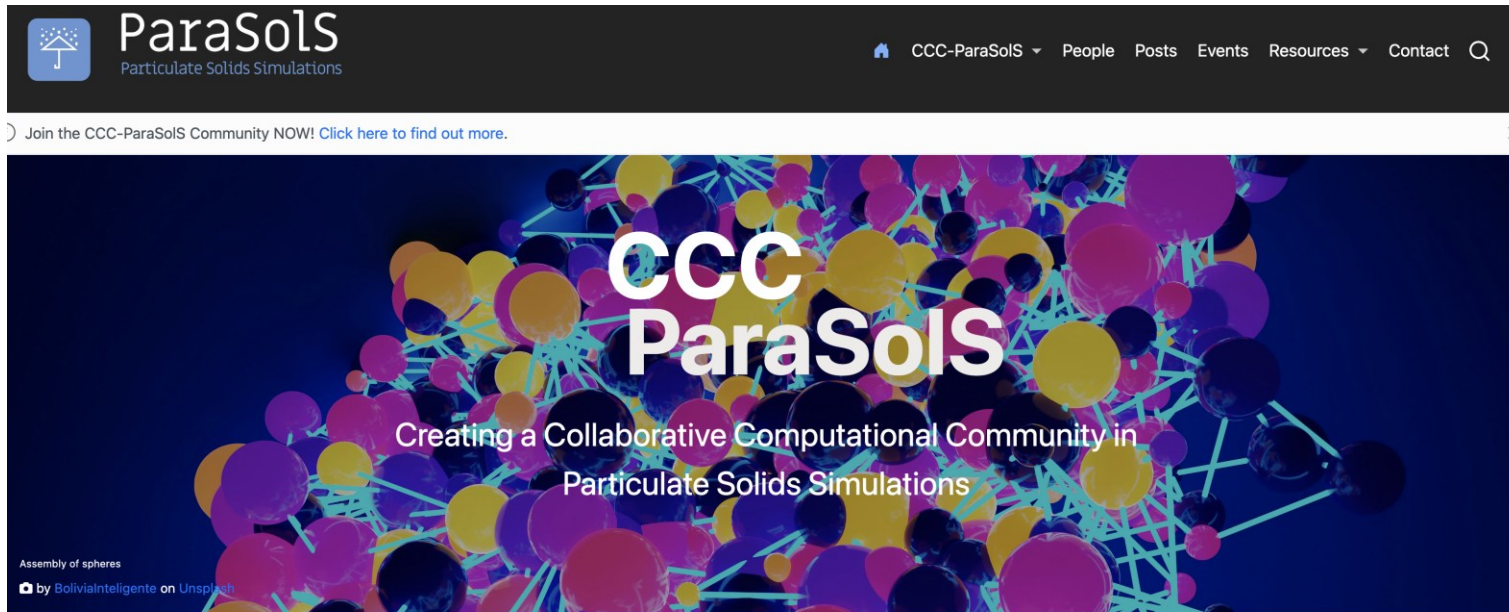
## ParaSols Forum Introduction

*Abingdon: 13–15 October 2025*

# New to CCC-ParaSols?



- See the website: <https://www.ccc-parasols.ed.ac.uk/>



## Welcome to CCC-ParaSols

CCC-ParaSols is a two-year project — January 2025 to December 2026 — funded by the [Science and Technology Facilities Council \(STFC\)](#) to create a **Collaborative Computational Community** in particulate solids simulations.



Science and Technology Facilities Council



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# Schedule for this Network Event



## • Monday 13 October — Garden Room, the Cosener's House

- 09:30–10:30 Arrival & tea/coffee
- 10:30–10:45 Introduction
- 10:45–11:30 'Flash' research presentations
- **11:30–12:00** **Introducing the new CCC-ParaSols online forum**
- 12:00–12:30 Progress on development of code benchmarking cases
- 12:30–14:00 Lunch
- ... ..

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<https://www.ccc-parasols.ed.ac.uk/events/upcoming/networking-event-2/>



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# A Community Space

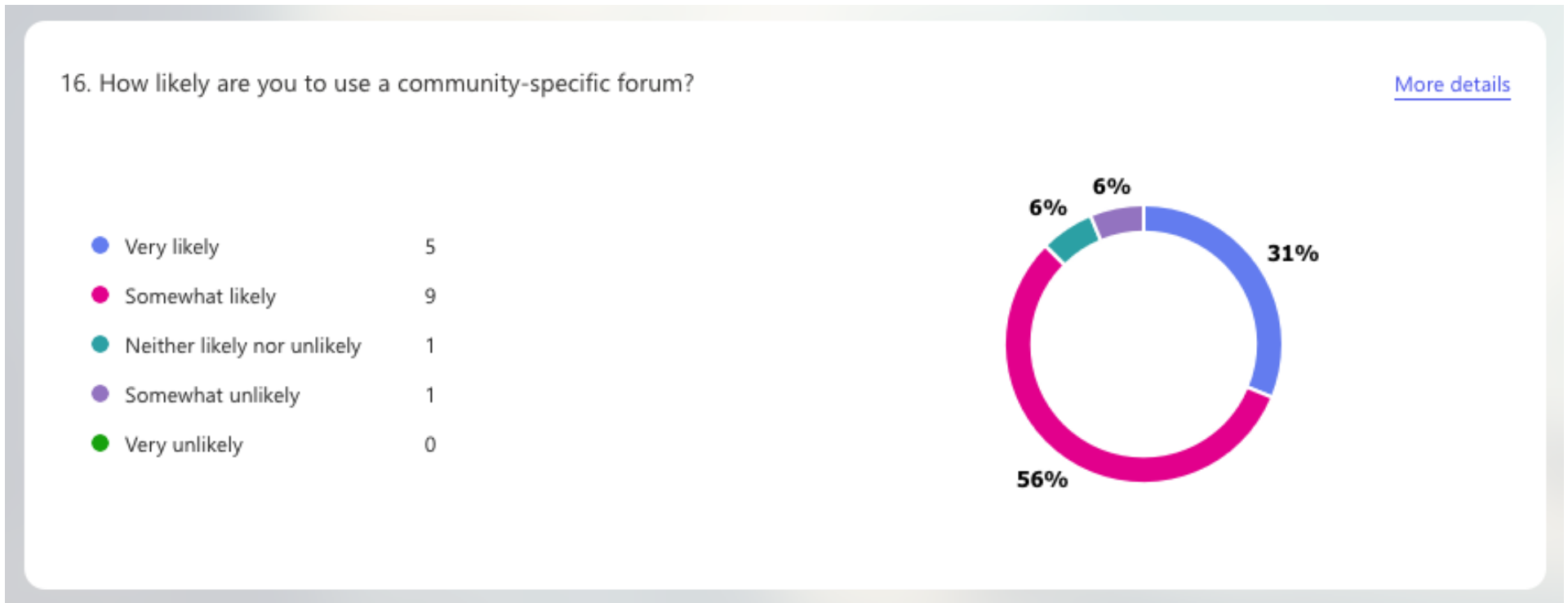


- At Network Event 1, the idea of a **community space** where people could interact **outside of physical events** was suggested several times
- Based on this, a follow-up question was asked to each event attendee in the post-event feedback to gauge interest in such a space and to get some initial thoughts on what form it should be in

# Post-NE1 Feedback



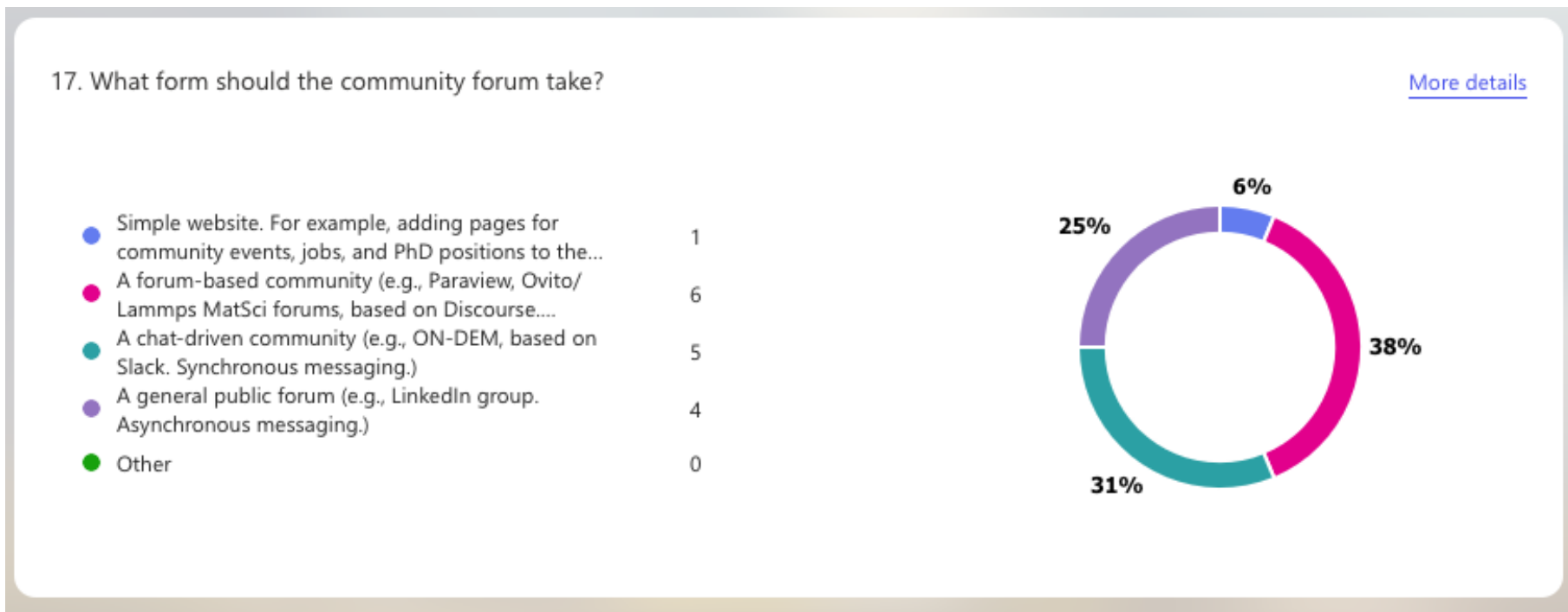
- Review of questionnaire responses



# Post-NE1 Feedback



- Review of questionnaire responses



# Choosing a Method



## Synchronous

- **Definition:** Interaction occurs at the same time, demanding immediate attention from all parties
- **Examples:** Video conferencing, calls, chat apps (Slack, Zulip, discord, whatsApp, MS Teams)
- **Main Characteristics:**
  - Provides a means to get an immediate response or feedback
  - Requires participants to be present at the same time
  - Interactions tend to be short, high volume
  - Unordered and/or unsorted

## Asynchronous

- **Definition:** Communication happens over a period of time, with no expectation of an immediate response.
- **Examples:** email, message boards, websites (Discourse, LinkedIn Groups, MS Teams Channels)
- **Main characteristics:**
  - Allowing people to respond when it suits
  - Allows more detailed, reasoned responses
  - Responses tend to be organised into threads/topics/categories
  - Long lasting archive
  - Inclusivity

# Other Considerations



- Options such as mailing lists were excluded as they are a one-way form of communication and tend to lead to people's inboxes being filled with unwanted emails
- A place to list PhD & job opportunities, events, outreach, etc
- Share and discuss research as well as a place for sharing technical expertise

# Selected option: Online Forum



- An online forum has been selected as the preferred approach as it allows discussion to be ordered by topics
  - Provides a logical hierarchy on where to post a question/comment/post
  - Makes finding information easier
  - Long lasting unlike chats
  - Can have posts with rich content and detailed information
  - Provide a better community experience
- Using the open source Discourse platform
  - Currently paid hosting
  - Includes a real-time chat app for synchronous messaging

# ParaSols Community Forum



- Organised into various categories: DEM, Data, Jobs, Community (Announcements, Events), etc
- For security, there is a simple approvals process
- Selection of some community moderators
  - Self-nominate

# ParaSolS Community Forum



- Within each category we can have greater “granularity”

categories ▾ tags ▾ Latest Hot Categories

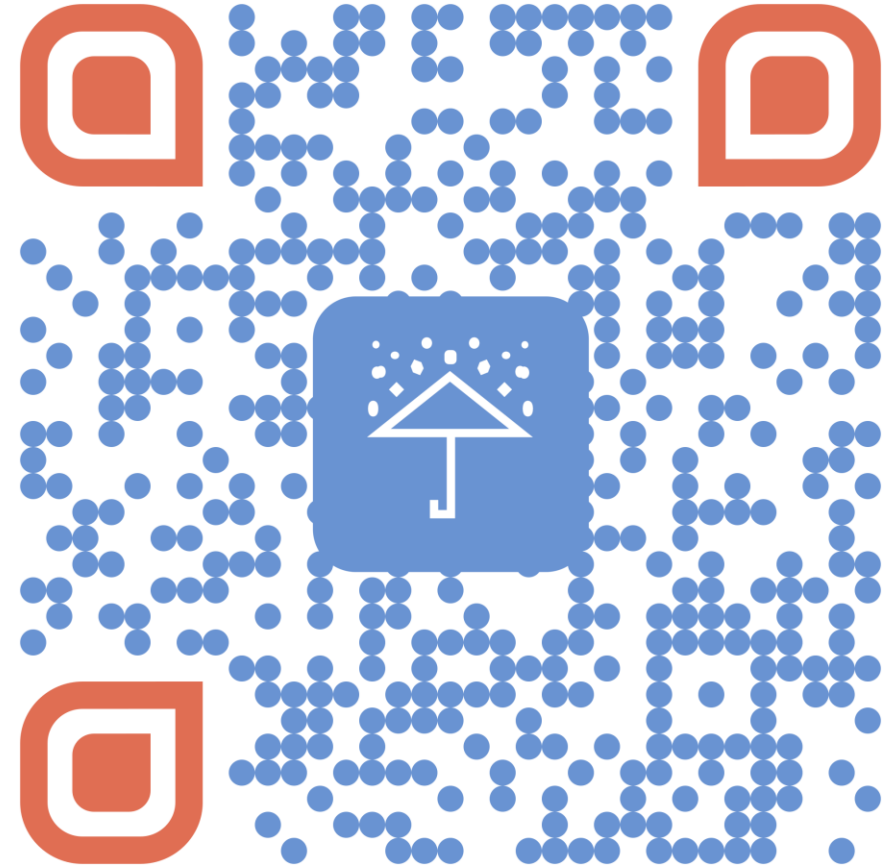
Category	Topics	Latest
<b>General</b> Create topics here that don't fit into any other existing category.	1	Welcome to CCC-ParaSolS! 🌟 General 19 Jun 0
<b>DEM Discussions</b> A place for questions and discussions on DEM. Subcategories for specific DEM codes. LAMMPS MercuryDPM YADE LIGGGHTS MFIX Other	1	LAMMPS Training Material from Network Event 1 is online LAMMPS 19 Jun 0
<b>Domain Specific Discussion</b> GPU Computing Geotechnical Foods HPC Pharmaceutical Physics Geology	0	
<b>Data</b> Data Management Data Processing Analysis	0	
<b>Community</b> Non-technical topics of the ParaSolS community, including announcements, upcoming events, new publications or other resources, advertisements, etc. Announcements Events Teaching & Outreach Diversity & Inclusion	0	
<b>Visualisation Corner</b> A place to show off your latest simulation or analysis. Or to ask questions on how to visualise complex data. Paraview Ovito Python	0	
<b>Jobs Board</b> Welcome to the ParaSolS Job board!	0	
<b>Off-topic</b>	0	

More

# When Can I start Using It?



- Join NOW!!
- <https://parasols.discourse.group/>
- We would like you all to sign up now and create an initial post
  - Suggestion: Community → Introductions and write a short piece about you / your interests / your research
- We can also use it as a place to continue some of today's discussions on future code developments and the Five Year Plan



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# Questions?



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<https://www.ccc-parasols.ed.ac.uk/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ccc-parasols/>