Development of web portal for society management using recent technologies- PHP&WordPress

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Abstract -   Majority of co-operative housing societies till today follow up the traditional way of manually maintaining the society details. As of the technological advancements societies have moved ahead in society maintenance by maintaining blogs or social networking site's linkage (group/page of society).But this does not help one to have more accessibility regarding society details or ones own details in accordance with the society.

As of now there is no user-equipped web-portal for any society to manage their details.

In this paper we try to reduce the paper work and owners can easily get the details of other flat owners. This online web application can reduce the paper work, telephone cost & manual working. This site provides us updates upcoming news about the society.

The flat owner can easily communicate to the other flat owners through the email.

The main purpose of making this online web application is to provide the information, news about the society.

Keywords: PHP, WordPress etc.

I. INTRODUCTION

The implemented web portal for society management digitizes almost all the tasks done manually in maintaining the society details by keeping all things online. Basically this way of making the things go online makes the existing management system more portable, accurate, and easily accessible.

Though there are various existing technologies for developing the web portal, each of it has its own drawbacks. So we prefer PHP & WordPress for developing the portal for society management.

Existing technologies for web development

Web Development can be split into many areas and a typical and basic web development hierarchy might consist of:

Client side coding

- Ajax Asynchronous JavaScript provides new methods of using JavaScript, and other languages to improve the user experience.

- Flash Adobe Flash Player is a ubiquitous browser plugin ready for RIAs. Flex 2 is also deployed to the Flash Player (version 9+).

- JavaScript JavaScript is a ubiquitous client side platform for creating and delivering rich web applications that can also run across a wide variety of devices. It is a dialect of the scripting language ECMAScript.

- JQuery Cross-browser JavaScript library designed to simplify and speed up the client-side scripting of HTML.

- Microsoft Silverlight Microsoft's browser plugin that enables animation, vector graphics and high-definition video playback, programmed using XAML and .NET programming languages.

- HTML5 and CSS3 Latest HTML proposed standard combined with the latest proposed standard for CSS natively supports much of the client-side functionality provided by other frameworks such as Flash and Silverlight.

Looking at these items from an "umbrella approach", client side coding XHTML is executed and stored on a local client whereas server side code is not available to a client and is executed on a server which generates the appropriate XHTML which is then sent to the client. The nature of client side coding allow alter the HTML on a local client and refresh the pages with updated content, web designers must bear in mind the importance and relevance to security with their server side scripts. If a server side script accepts content from a locally modified client side script, the web development of that page is poorly sanitized with relation to security.

Server side coding ASP (Microsoft proprietary)

- ActiveVFP (open source)
- CSP, Server-Side ANSI C
- ColdFusion (Adobe proprietary, formerly Macromedia, formerly Allaire)
- CGI

- Erlang,
  with Linux, Yaws, Mnesia, Erlang (LYME) solution stack
- Groovy (programming language) Grails (framework)
- Java, e.g. Java EE or WebObjects
- Lotus Domino
- Node.js
- Perl,   e.g. Catalyst, Dancer or Mojolicious (all   open source)
- PHP (open source)
- Python, e.g. Django (web framework) (open source)
- Real Studio Web Edition
- Ruby, e.g. Ruby on Rails (open source)
- Smalltalk e.g. Seaside, AIDA/Web
- SSJS Server-Side JavaScript, e.g. Aptana Jaxer, Mozilla Rhino
- WebDNA (WSC proprietary)
- Websphere (IBM proprietary)
- .NET and .NET MVC Frameworks (Microsoft proprietary)

Presently there is only blog of society is available with no login facility, payment status etc. An example of a blog is given below.
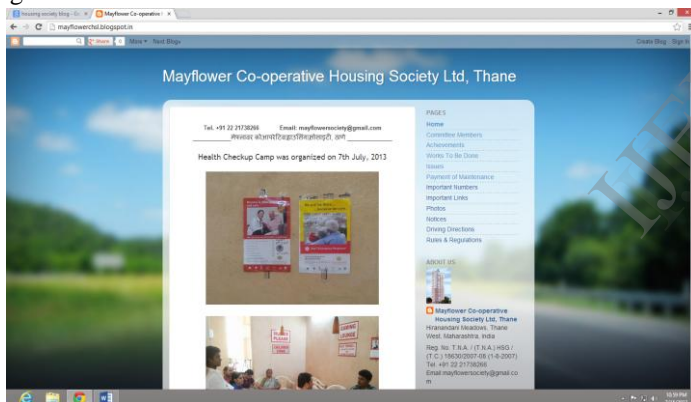
Figure 1: Blog of Housing Society

In this paper we focus on developing a web site for a Society to give a better performance in their regular operations.

This paper is ordered as follows. Section 2 and 3 will be discussed about detail concept of PHP and Wordpress. Section 4 focuses on Functionalities of Web Portal for society management using PHP & wordpress with the discussion of the Snap shot is also explained. Finally we end the paper with concluding remarks in sections 5.

II.PHP

1. Open Source
PHP is Open Source. This means it is readily available and absolutely free! If you are planning to hire PHP developers and they have a good background in C and Java, they will do excellently in PHP.

2. Cross-Platform
PHP is cross-platform and therefore enables operation across various operating systems. It works excellently on LINUX, UNIX and Windows platforms & Apache/MySQL.

3. Support
PHP, as mentioned before, is very popular. Therefore, there are a number of references and guidelines available on the net.

4. High Returns
PHP often enables people to create dynamic websites. This ensures more visitor participation and thereby better returns.

5. Huge Community
The PHP community is a large one. Owing to its popularity, there are many PHP developers, PHP contributors, PHP users, and employers.

6. Embedding
PHP can be easily embedded into HTML. This makes it very easy for one to convert an already existing static website, into a bold and new dynamic one.

7. SFS
Stability, Flexibility and Speed are the chief qualities that attract business owners to choose PHP.

8. Bright Future
Although PHP is already well established, its future prospects are infinite. The keynote is that PHP is loosely typed. This makes simple scripts much faster to develop. One has to devote much less energy towards design.

9. Quick
PHP, being very fast to develop ensures that there is a quick turnaround time. When you hire PHP developers, their efficiency brings you an online solution that you were probably looking for since a long time.

10. Extensions
PHP has multiple extensions and is extremely scalable. When you hire PHP developers, they ensure that the results are measurable. This helps you calculate your ROI and gives you a better position over the competition.

11. Other Tools
If you need to access other web based tools like Google maps (which is always advisable for a business website), or any other, PHP makes it easy to access.

12. Pre-Configured
More often than not, many a hosting services have a "ready to use" PHP setup. This does not require any special configuration. Of course if you need a high security kind of website, you can easily go ahead modify it.

III.WORDPRESS

1. Ease of Use
WordPress is very easy to use and has an intuitive interface. Adding new pages, blog posts, images, etc. on a regular basis is a breeze and can be done quickly. Because the technology is so simple, time spent on formatting is greatly reduced.

2. Manage Your Website from Any Computer
WordPress is browser-based. You can login from any Internet connected computer and manage your site.

3. No HTML Editing or FTP Software Required

WordPress is a self-contained system and does not require HTML editing software (such as Adobe Contribute or Dreamweaver). You can create a new page or blog post, format text, upload images (and edit them), upload documents, video files, image galleries, etc. all without the need for additional HTML or FTP software.

4. Search Engines Love WordPress Sites

The code behind WordPress is very clean and simple, making it easy for search engines to read and index a site's content. In addition, each page, post, and image can have its own meta tag keywords, description, and title, and be optimized for specific keywords, allowing for very precise search engine optimization. You can also use tags to further enhance your search engine optimization efforts.

5. You Have Control of Your Site

No more waiting for your web designer to make simple updates to your site. With WordPress, you have control of nearly every aspect of your site and can easily make those simple updates yourself.

6. The Design of Your Website is 100% Customizable

WordPress acts as the engine for your website. The look and feel of the site can be 100% customized so your brand can shine through on your site and provide a unique experience to your visitors.

7. A Blog is Built-in and Ready to Go

Since WordPress was originally created as a blogging platform, blogging capabilities are built-in and are easy to integrate, if desired. Setting up RSS / email subscriptions to your blog, commenting capabilities, and automatically adding the most recent blog posts to other pages of the site (your home page, for example) are also very simple to set-up, and help to extend your company's reach and make your site more dynamic and interactive.

8. Extend the Functionality of Your Site with Plugins

Want to add an event calendar, video gallery, Twitter Feed, Facebook Fan Box, and more to your site? WordPress makes this possible with plugins, most of which are free or very reasonably priced.

9. Your Site Can Grow as Your Business Grows

WordPress sites are very scalable. You can have hundreds of thousands of pages or blog posts on your site and the performance of the site will not be compromised in the least.

10. Have Multiple Users

As an administrator of a WordPress site, you can set-up multiple users for the website and assign access levels and capabilities to each user.

IV. WEB PORTAL FOR SOCIETY MANAGEMENT USING PHP&WORDPRESS

In this website, members can view their monthly maintenance status (paid/not paid).

Voting system is also embedded in this website, so that members can vote for different candidates standing for various roles.

There is also allotment of Hall, Ground for Celebration by admin.

Figure 2: First page of Society Management

Plugins Used:

1. <u>Theme My Login :</u> This plugin is used for login and registration i.e. instead of WordPress login which is on separate page, this plugin allows us to provide a login on our static page.
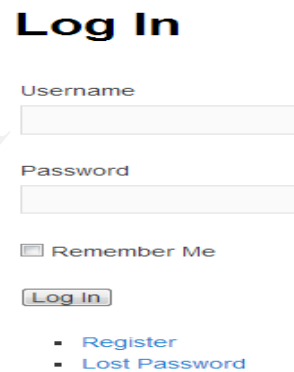

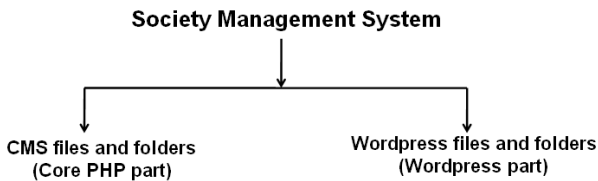Figure 3: Login Form

2. <u>User Photo Plugin:</u>

This plugin is used for user Profile photo. User can upload his photo so that it can be viewed by other members while surfing the site.
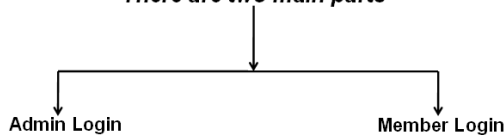

Figure 4: Profile Form

3 .Advertisement Inserter : This plugin is used for inserting advertisements on your WordPress site.

Folder Structure :

Figure 5: Tree Structure

Functionality of Admin

- **Dashboard**: Dashboard for viewing the result of voting.

Figure 6: Voting Method(Admin)

- **My Profile** : Where admin can edit his profile info and also see the dashboard provided by WordPress.
- **Manage Nomination** : Set member nominations for particular role.
- **Authenticate Bills** : approve the monthly bills.

- **Allot Hall :** Allot play ground or hall for celebration events.

Functionality of User

- **Dashboard**: dashboard for viewing the result of voting.
- **My Profile:** Where user can edit his profile info and also see the dashboard provided by WordPress.
- **View Monthly Bill** : User can view his last month bill status i.e. paid or not paid.

Figure 7: Monthly Bill of User

- **Search Friend:** search society members contact info by their name or flat no.

Figure 8: Search Friend

- **Vote:** Allows the user to vote the current candidates.

Figure 9: Voting Method(User)

- **IMP Numbers:** contact numbers of various person like Doctor, Plumber, Mason etc.

Figure 10: Important Numbers

V. CONCLUSION

As of the technological advancements societies have moved ahead in society maintenance by maintaining blogs or social networking site's linkage networking site's linkage (group/page of society).

But this does not help one to have more accessibility regarding society details or ones own details in accordance with the society.

As of now there is no user-equipped web-portal for any society to manage their details. Proposed system will reduce the paper work and owners can easily get the details of other flat owners. This online web application can reduce the paper work, telephone cost & manual working. This site provides us updates upcoming news about the society.

Future scope would be making a mobile application of the proposed system making it more flexible and available to the users from anywhere.

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