



CLASP

Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project

Please reply to D.F. Hayward MBE, The Secretary, Organising Committee, CLASP.
29, Winston Close, Nether Heyford, Northampton NN7 3JX

Organising Committee

Minutes of Meeting

17th July 2007

- 1. Attendance** Angela Evans (Treasurer - Trustee), Georgina Boreham (Towcester District Local History Society), David Hayward (Independent Members Representative - Secretary Organising Committee), Julia Johns (Weedon Bec History Society), Alan Priestly (Flore Heritage Society - Trustee), Andrew Shaw (Brington History Society), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director - Trustee)
- 2. Apologies** Gillian Biddle (Independent Members Representative), Jeremy Cooper (Co-opted), Brian Ives (Norton Northampton Portable Antiquities Search Team), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society).
- 3. Acting Chair**
In the absence of Mr. Cooper, with the agreement of the Committee, Mrs Smith assumed the Chair of the Meeting. She welcomed Mr. Roy Sharp to the meeting
- 4. Minutes of Last Meeting** - 4th June 2007
These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
- 5. Matters Arising**
 - 5.1 CBA Newsletter Contribution (4.1)**
The Secretary reported that he had drafted this article and had recently passed it to the Archaeological Director for comment. It would then be forwarded to the newsletter editor.

Secretary
Archaeological Director

5.2 Chair

The Archaeological Director reported that he had approached Michel Kerrou, who is known to some members of the Committee. He had shown an interest in the position. The Committee **agreed** that he should be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to

discuss the position and meet fellow committee members. The Secretary was requested to write to him.

Secretary

6. Daventry Town Museum

The Secretary reported that whilst Ms G. Biddle intends to stand down from her position with the Committee she would like to maintain the liaison with Daventry Museum regarding the display of CLASP material. The Committee welcomed this offer of assistance. He further reported that a report on sourcing of display cases by Ms. Barbara Evans-Rees had been received and because of the financial implications would need to be considered by the Trustees. Mr Roy Sharp reported that the Daventry was had obtained £3000 from the East Midlands Museum Service and he hoped that some of this would be utilised for display cases that could hold a display of CLASP material. The Committee welcomed this offer. Mr Sharp further reported that the Opening Hours of the Museum would hopefully increase next month. The Archaeological Director enquired as to supervision and security of materials held by the museum. Mr Sharp stated that there was an alarm, double locked windows and 3 - 4 volunteers including himself whenever the museum was open. Everything would be held in locked display cabinets. It was **agreed** that this would be pursued when the cases became available.

Ms G. Biddle

Mr R. Sharp

7. Daventry History Society

Mr Sharp stated that whilst his Society had decided against joining CLASP when they were formed this would not preclude them joining in the future when membership could be more relevant as Daventry expanded onto areas of archaeological importance. The Committee noted this situation.

8. WNDC

The Secretary and Archaeological Director reported on a meeting they had with Mr Paul Quinn, Regeneration Manager from WNDC. This appeared to be a very positive and helpful with an apparent wish for WNDC to liaise with CLASP on archaeological issues as developments progressed. We had stressed that our interests related to the Daventry and Towcester areas and not Northampton. Mr Quinn stated that they would possibly looking towards some form of archive/resource centre. We are now awaiting a second meeting that Mr Quinn has promised to organise. Mr Sharp added that he was not so optimistic regarding co-operation with WNDC.

9. Daventry District Council (DDC)

Mr Sharp also mentioned that DDC Leisure and Culture Sub Committee had no money for whatever museum might eventually come about. The Archaeological Director stated that District Councils were now responsible for archaeological input for planning applications. Mr Sharp also mentioned that the Daventry archive was currently being held at premises on the Royal Oak Industrial Estate in Daventry in good condition. A Ms Sally Halson from DDC was the contact for the archive and the Town Centre Partnership. It also appears that DDC are calling any items out on loan from the museum collection in before March 2008.

10. Intellectual Rights and Metal Detecting Standards

The Archaeological Director hoped to be able to resolve these in the autumn.

11. AGM & Public Open Meeting

11.1 Venue

The Secretary reported that he had contacted the Riverside Centre and that we would not be able to have the direct entrance to Watling Street open for the meeting. The kitchen would be available for heating water etc, TDLH were kindly loaning us their cups and saucers. The Secretary intended to visit the Centre before the next meeting. The Archaeological Director stated that he would speak to Mr & Mrs Vokes to enquire if we could borrow the screen again this year.

11.2 Meeting Theme and Speakers

The Archaeological Director reported that he had arranged Ian Snoden from Northants Archaeology as the principal speaker. He is currently leading the excavation on the Bury Mount area in Towcester Town. The Archaeological Director himself would then speak on CLASP work at Bannaventa. This would then give a theme of the Romano-British Towns along the Watling Street in Northamptonshire.

11.3 Publicity

The Committee agreed to request Mr. Cooper to design and produce posters at cost. The Secretary undertook to pursue this and also produce press releases.

Secretary

11.4 Staffing and Admin

This would be finalised during the forthcoming weeks by Mrs Smith
Mrs Smith

12. Annual Report

The Secretary reported that this was in hand, he only now awaited a report from the Chair of Trustees. He thanked everybody for getting their own reports in promptly, this greatly assisted his work. He hoped to complete drafting of the Report during the next few weeks.

Secretary

13. Repository

13.1 Whitehall

The Archaeological Director reported that Gillian Biddle, Brian Culling and Fred Kay had completed the refurbishment of this site. The Committee expressed its thanks for this work.

13.2 New Premises

Apart from the possibility of something emanating in the future from the discussions with WNDC there was nothing further to report.

14. Technical Work in Progress

14.1 Fieldwork Programme

The Archaeological Director outlined the forthcoming programme. He undertook a liase with Mr. Russell to finalise details of the fieldwalking at Bannaventa, Manshead. It was hoped to start this about the 18th of August. The dates for the fieldwalking and test pitting at Gayton and Tiffield have still to be finalised, again he undertook to resolve this as soon as possible. The dates for the fieldwalking at Easton Neston have also to be finalised, although it was intimated that these might be later than originally envisaged. These would be resolved in conjunction with Ms. G. Boreham. Mrs. J. Smith intimated that the Barn Close Metal Detecting and resitivity work could be anytime between October and December.

Archaeological Director

Ms. G. Boreham

Mrs. J. Smith

14.2 Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

The Secretary reported that he had established that this company had carried out excavations in the area to the north of Daventry where Romano-British archaeology had been discovered. It was **agreed** that he should endeavour to obtain sight of the relevant reports from the company.

Secretary

15 Treasurers Matters

15.1 Transactions and Balance

The Treasurer reported the following receipts: -

Harpole Parish Council Donation - £500

Roman Research Trust - £3000

Harpole Heritage Group - £50

Weedon Bec History Society - £25

Balance £7470.80

15.2 Roman Research Trust

The Secretary enquired as to whether the grants received from this Trust could be considered as 'match funding' against those received from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Treasurer stated that she considered not. He further enquired whether we should be recognising the Trust on CLASP correspondence etc. It was **agreed** that the Secretary should enquire with the Trust as to their opinion on this matter.

Secretary

16. 'Night Hawking' - Illegal Metal Detecting

The Secretary referred to a survey being undertaken by English Heritage into the illegal activities of metal detectors on archaeological sites. He stated that he had liased directly with Mike Goodman from NNPAST and that Mr. Goodman had submitted an excellent response on behalf of that group. The Committee considered that this was appropriate and no further action should be taken by CLASP.

17. John Smith - Flore Heritage Society

The Secretary informed the Committee that the British Association for Local History had recently given this well-known local historian an Award. The Committee considered this was well deserved and requested that the Secretary write to him to add our congratulations.

Secretary

18. Any Other Business

18.1 Display TDLH Celebration Day

Ms G. Boreham reminded the Committee about this event and would CLASP be providing a desktop display at the event. No members of the Committee were available to assist but the Secretary undertook to circulate the wider membership by way of the CLASP mailing group to identify anybody who might be available.

Secretary

18.2 Bury Mount Towcester Excavation

The Committee noted that there would be a public viewing area at the excavation at Bury Mount Towcester.

18.3 Towcester Museum

It was reported that the Towcester Museum project had received funding to make an application for Lottery Funding. This project will hopefully now move forward to a successful conclusion.

18.4 Young Archaeologists

The Secretary stated that he had received an enquiry whether CLASP had a young archaeologists group. After a short discussion it was **agreed** that we would still not enter this area for logistical reasons. The Secretary stated that he would advise the enquirer accordingly.

18.5 Eydon

The Secretary informed the Committee that he had received an enquiry from the Secretary of Eydon Historical Research Group regarding an individual membership of CLASP. She had been advised accordingly and also asked to consider future membership of her group to CLASP. The Committee noted this.

18.6 Recording of Hours

The Treasurer again urged all members to regularly record hours inputted into CLASP activities. She reminded members that this included hours spent attending CLASP Committee meetings.

19. Date & Place of Next Meeting

14.30hrs Monday 3rd September 2007
Nether Heyford Baptist Church Rooms

J. Smith
Acting Chair
August 2007

D. F. Hayward
Secretary