



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

Minutes
Organising Committee Meeting
Baptist Church Rooms
The Green, Nether Heyford
9th February 2009

1. Attendance:

Georgina Boreham (Towcester District History Society), Jeremy Cooper (Co-opted), Brian Culling (Flore Heritage Society and Whitehall Villa Project), Alan Dent (Individual Members Representative), Angela Evans (Treasurer - Trustee), David Hayward (Co-opted)-Secretary Organising Committee, Julia Johns (Weedon Bec History Society), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director - Trustee)

2. Apologies: Brian Ives (Norton Northampton Portable Antiquities Search Team)

3. Welcome to Guests:

The Chair welcomed Mike Pearson and Alan Clarke as guests to the meeting.

4. Minutes of Meeting: 10th November 2008, these were accepted as a true record of the meeting except for paragraph 6.3 that should state that the exhibition at Harpole School was still under preparation, not established.

5. Matters Arising:

5.1 Digitised Maps (4.1)

The Secretary and Archaeological Director reported that they still had technical problems with copying these maps. The

Chair Organising Committee: **Jeremy Cooper**; Secretary: **Dave Hayward**; Treasurer: **Angela Evans**
Project Archaeology Director: **Stephen Young**; www.claspweb.org.uk



Archaeological Director reported that he now had access to a multi-layer OS Mapping project through the Edina network.

**Secretary
Archaeological Director**

6. AGM and Public Open Meeting 2009

6.1 Location

The Treasurer and Mrs Johns jointly reported that Weedon Village Hall had been booked for the event for the 15th September.

6.2 Speakers

Mrs Johns reported that Mike Rumbold had agreed to speak on Weedon Depot and its communication links. The second speaker on the subject of the modern usage of Heritage has still to be identified.

Archaeological Director

6.3 Administration

It was **agreed** that a written letter should be sent to each member advising them of the meeting and a reminder for membership renewal.

7. Work in Progress

7.1 Old Rectory Weedon

It was reported that a programme of test pits is being arranged for two days in late February/ early March.

**Archaeological Director
Mrs Johns**

7.2 Tiffield

The Archaeological Director stated that he hoped to undertake a field walking exercise here as soon as the weather improves. It was acknowledged that adequate publicity amongst our membership would be required.

Archaeological Director

7.4 Bannaventa

There will be no further work here until the autumn.

7.5 Whitehall

Find processing and analysis is still underway. The results of the carbon dating will not be received for several months as the overall process takes six months.

7.5 Harpole

Mrs Smith reported that the school display was still being prepared. Further excavation at Barn Close will take place later in the year on a date to be fixed. No application will be made to Harpole Parish Council for a grant during the next financial year.

7.6 Towcester

Ms Boreham reported that approval had been obtained for fieldwalking on land at Showsley. Details of the location and access routes were circulated. She would make final arrangements regarding date in conjunction with the Archaeological Director.

Ms Boreham
Archaeological Director

8. Whitehall Roman Villa and Landscape Project

8.1 Excavation Volunteers

All group representatives are requested to publicise the Whitehall Excavation to identify any potential volunteers for both the excavation and Open Day, see para. 8.2 below, any persons who are interested to contact Ms. Sandra Deacon on sandydeacon@hotmail.com.

The excavation will take place from the 15th June to the 10th July 2009, weekends excluded.

8.2 Open Day

The Whitehall Villa will be holding an Open Day on the 12th July. This is important as apart from being an interesting day out in its own right this is a vital fund raising activity for the Whitehall Project. This year will be the last opportunity to see 'Bathhouse 1' before it is buried again to protect it from the ravages of Nature and volunteers boots. There will be various activities including a Roman Village and soldiers.

9. Trustees Minutes 20th November 2008

9.1 Funding

The Secretary expressed concern re Item 1 in these Minutes as he felt that there was a realistic chance for CLASP to pursue funding from the WNDC grants. The Archaeological Director agreed to

speak to the person overseeing these grants and progress it with the Secretary. Mr Clark mentioned that he had experience with the Hallaton Field Work Group in Leicestershire <http://www.harborough.gov.uk/pp/club/detail.asp?id=2431&page=0>. He offered to share this experience with CLASP, this offer was appreciated and noted.

**Archaeological Director
Trustees**

9.2 Strategy Ideas

The Trustees were preparing a Strategy Document that would be circulated to the Organising Committee for comment before finalisation.

9.3 Ownership of Finds

Finds remain in the ownership of the landowner unless otherwise agreed

10. WNDC - Daventry Appeals

The Secretary reported that Statements of Common Ground had been agreed with the developers of the three Daventry developments. Copies have been placed on the CLASP website and hard copies were passed around the Committee for information. Having achieved these Statements would obviate the need for CLASP representatives to give oral evidence to the Appeal Hearing. The Committee also asked that its thanks to the Secretary for the work he had undertaken with these Appeals were minuted.

11. Health & Safety

Mr Dent circulated a paper that he had prepared in relation to CLASP activities; the Committee expressed its thanks for this work. As a result of comments from the Committee as to possible additions he undertook to incorporate these and report back to the next meeting. He was also advised by Mr Pearson to contact South Northants Volunteer Bureau who may be able to assist with this work. *(Secretarys' Note: Their website is: <http://www.snvb.org.uk/> Details of IFA risk assessment notes and templates have been passed to MR Dent)*

Committee also discussed the need for risk assessments to be carried out for all functions; additionally a protocol needs to be prepared for

Chair Organising Committee: **Jeremy Cooper**; Secretary: **Dave Hayward**; Treasurer: **Angela Evans**
Project Archaeology Director: **Stephen Young**; www.claspweb.org.uk

working on contractors sites. This will be pertinent as the Daventry work evolves.

**Mr Dent
Secretary**

12. Membership Renewals

The Membership Secretary, Mrs Johns, reported that since the last meeting there had been thirteen renewals and one new member giving a total of forty-eight. As previously mentioned at para 6.3 above a hard letter is seen as the best form of reminder for membership renewal.

13. Northampton Jewish Archaeology

The Secretary reported that he had a request from Philip Kiberd the JTRAILS Outreach Officer for CLASP to work with them on the site of the Jewish Cemetery in Northampton. Mr Clark mentioned that he knew of this project and that there was some archaeological significance in the site. The Committee considered however that as the site was outside CLASPs' sphere of geographical interest they would not wish to become formally involved. It was **agreed** however that we would circulate details to our members for them to become involved if they so wished.

Secretary

14. Upton Lodge

The Archaeological Director and Secretary reported that they had met Mr Clark to discuss the archaeological significance of the Upton Lodge development site between Northampton and Harpole. The Secretary had then attended as observer a meeting arranged by Mr Clark at WNDC with representatives from the developer and WNDC. Mr Clark then informed the Committee of the architectural and historical significance of Upton Lodge Farm itself. It was **agreed** that we would support Mr Clark on his work at this site, as he required. It appears that Northamptonshire Archaeology Unit has been awarded the contract to investigate this site.

15. CBA Newsletter

The Secretary informed the Committee that he had received a request from the editor of the CBA South Midlands report for an

article for the next edition. It was **agreed** that he should liaise with the Archaeological Director on its preparation.

**Secretary
Archaeological Director**

16. Gravel Extraction

The Secretary reported the County Council Minerals and Waste Development Plan is currently under consultation by the county council and will then be passed to an independent planning inspector for consideration. Whilst this does not give authority for extraction and specific sites it will provide the overall framework for future work. The Secretary reported that he knew of at least one site in the CLASP area of interest. He requested that all members, both individual and society, who had any information regarding proposals in their respective areas make the Organising Committee aware of the situation. Support and advice can then be offered to ensure that archaeological considerations are given full note.

(Secretaries' note: A message regarding this has been circulated on the CLASP Mailing Group.)

All Committee Members

17. Financial Matters

17.1 Treasurers Report

The Treasurer reported that there was currently a total of £7262.15 in the bank of which £2500 is from the Roman Research Trust, £ 2374.44 from the Countryside Agency and £875.65 as 'ordinary money'.

17.2 Applications for Expenditure

Rat Poison - £33.64

Newsletter - £22.71

The Committee **agreed** that both of these items should be recommended to the Trustees for retrospective approval.

Trustees

18. Any Other Business

The Chair proposed that Mr Alan Clark should be co-opted to the Committee as an additional member. This was **agreed** unanimously.

Chair Organising Committee: **Jeremy Cooper**; Secretary: **Dave Hayward**; Treasurer: **Angela Evans**
Project Archaeology Director: **Stephen Young**; www.claspweb.org.uk

Messrs Alan Clarke and Mike Pearson then gave presentations on issues reflecting their possible future association with CLASP.

Next Meeting: 15.30 20th April 2009

J. Cooper Chair

D.F. Hayward Secretary

February 2009

Chair Organising Committee: **Jeremy Cooper**; Secretary: **Dave Hayward**; Treasurer: **Angela Evans**
Project Archaeology Director: **Stephen Young**; www.claspweb.org.uk



Local Heritage *initiative*



ROMAN RESEARCH TRUST