



## **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  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2009

#### **1. Attendance:**

Georgina Boreham (Towcester District History Society), Sue Brown (Daventry Local History Group), Alan Clark (Co-opted) Brian Culling (Flore Heritage Society and Whitehall Villa Project), David Hayward (Co-opted)-Secretary Organising Committee), Brian Ives (Norton Northampton Portable Antiquities Search Team) Julia Johns (Weedon Bec History Society), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director - Trustee)

#### **2. Apologies:**

Jeremy Cooper (Co-opted), Angela Evans (Treasurer - Trustee), Mike Pearson

#### **3. Minutes of Meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> February 2009 - These were accepted as a true record.

#### **4. Matters Arising:**

##### **4.1. Northampton Jewish Archaeology Project.**

The Secretary reported that he had heard from the Organiser of this project that they had decided not to go ahead with it at this stage.

#### **5. Individual Members Representative**

##### **5.1 Resignation**

The Secretary reported that he had heard from Alan Dent that he was resigning from the Committee on grounds of ill health. The

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



Committee asked the Secretary to write to him to express its' thanks for his service to CLASP.

**Secretary**

## **5.2 Vacancy**

Discussed the vacancy for the post of Independent Member. It was **agreed** that an invitation for nominations would be sent out with the next newsletter.

## **6. AGM & Public Open Meeting 2009 - Speakers**

Following a discussion regarding an appropriate second speaker for the Open Meeting on the question of 'Modern Use of Heritage Buildings' it was **agreed** that Mr Clarke would approach Keith Faulkner, the Head of the Industrial Section at the National Monuments Record to see if he was interested in speaking.

**Mr Clark**

## **7. Work in Progress**

### **7.1 Old Rectory Weedon**

Mrs Johns and the Archaeological Director reported that a series of test pits had been put into the gardens of the house and the adjacent gardens of the old school. Unabraded RB pottery had been recovered from two pits in both locations. Whilst this was not in original context it was an indicator of probable RB activity in the area. Mrs Johns also reported that she had arranged for CLASP to carry out some test pitting on the adjacent site at Weedon Wharf. Mr. Clarke stated that he would progress some other information he was aware of.

**Mr. Clark**

### **7.2 Tiffield**

The Archaeological Director reported that he was endeavouring to arrange dates for some work at this site.

**Archaeological Director**

### **7.3 Bannaventa**

It was reported that 1000 coins had now been photographed. It was still intended to undertake further fieldwork here in the autumn.

### **7.4 Whitehall**

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

The annual excavation was still on course as planned. The Archaeological Director reported that he had received the results of the radio carbon dating from New Zealand but had not as yet had opportunity to consider them.

### **7.5 Harpole**

Mrs Smith reported that it was intended to carry out a further investigation at Barn Close in August. Permission had also been received for a metal detecting survey in both The Mere and Barn Close.

### **7.6 Towcester**

Ms G Boreham reported that work was ongoing at Bury Mount to remove the trees and reprofile the mound to accommodate access to the top. Nothing new had been heard about the planned development to the west of the town.

### **7.7 Easton Neston**

The Archaeological Director reported that .68 of a hectare had been fieldwalked. A total of 4340 shards of pottery, an arrowhead and 130 coins had been found. Mr. Ives reported that he was aware that Bob Kings had carried out some work at this location some years ago but it had never been fully documented. He undertook to contact Mr Kings to establish what information was available.

**Mr. Ives**

### **7.8 Upton**

Mr Clark reported that it appeared no archaeological investigations were currently being carried out on the Upton Lodge site. The area being worked on for the new Sandy Lane Relief Road was wider than what was previously indicated. He was endeavouring to progress this with those involved. He also mentioned his concerns that the development at Upton Park would encroach onto the Deserted Medieval Village in that area. Lastly he stated that there might be an opportunity for volunteers to assist with the recording of historical buildings in the area to the west of Northampton in the near future. It was **agreed** that this opportunity would be circulated by way of the CLASP mailing group. The Archaeological Director requested that Mr Clark enquire whether access could be

obtained for members of NNPAST to carry out metal detecting surveys in this area.

**Mr Clark**  
**Secretary**

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



### 7.9 Daventry

The Secretary reported that the Planning Appeal re the three major developments had been adjourned until the summer to allow the Highways Agency to submit additional evidence. He also mentioned that media reports indicated that further exploratory test pitting was being undertaken in the town centre area in connection with the Primrose Hill development. He was endeavouring to contact the archaeological contractor to establish details.

**Secretary**

### 7.10 Bugbrooke

Mr Kent mentioned that whilst the Bugbrooke Group would like to undertake additional work in their area they were currently prevented from so doing because of a lack of co-operation from local landowners. The Committee expressed its disappointment with this situation and feel that further efforts should be made to try to obtain a more favourable situation.

### 8. Whitehall Roman Villa and Landscape Project

Mrs Smith undertook to oversee the CLASP display at both the Whitehall Open Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> May and the Open Day on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. She appealed for volunteers, other than those already helping at the event, to assist her at the Open Day. (*Secretarys' Note: Appeal for volunteers made by way of CLASP mailing group.*)

### 9. Minutes Trustees Meeting - 110309

These had been previously circulated and were noted by the Committee.

### 10. Trustees Draft Strategy Document

Again this document had been previously circulated. After a discussion it was **agreed** that it would be better if each representative took this document back to his or her respective organisation for comment and replied directly to the Secretary of the Trustees.

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

### **11. Health & Safety**

Consequent to the resignation of Mr Dent the Committee **agreed** that Mr Clark should investigate the development of Health & Safety policy.

**Mr Clark**

### **12. Financial Matters - Treasurers Report**

In the absence of the Treasurer the Secretary read a written report from her. In addition to financial statistics the report also mentioned that she had still not received an invoice to cover the cost the excavator at last years Harpole excavation. Mrs Smith asked that the thanks of the Harpole Heritage Society be passed to the Treasurer for her handling of the monies received from Harpole Parish Council.

### **13. Domain Name**

The Secretary reported that he had received via the CLASP website a message from a Chinese Company who administered domain names stating that they had received a request from a South Korean company who were endeavouring to register a myriad of variations of the CLASP web address. He had informed the Chair who in turn notified the Chinese Company that we did not want this to take place.

### **14. East Midlands Regional Archaeology Conference - Stage Two**

The Archaeological Director and the Secretary had attended this Conference at Nottingham University on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. The purpose had been to develop a regional agenda for archaeology during the next few years. Following a series of workshops a strategy was formulated across all archaeological eras and disciplines. These priorities will inform the funding agenda for this future period.

### **15. Blisworth Heritage Society**

The Archaeological Director reported that he had recently spoken at a meeting of this group. As a result of our interest in sites at Tiffield and elsewhere in their area of interest it was hoped that this group might consider becoming a CLASP member. Discussions will continue.

**Archaeological Director**

### **16. Archive Store**

The Archaeological Director and the Secretary updated the Committee on the possibility of renting commercial premises as an

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

archive. The need for CLASP to have an archive was becoming more important all the time as the amount of material being recovered constantly increased. The situation was now aggravated by the fact that the owners of the current store at Whitehall had indicated their intention to sell the property during the next few months. It was **agreed** that we should make some tentative enquires as to possible funding sources for rental and capital costs. A draft proposal would then have to be formulated and referred to the Trustees for consideration.

**Archaeological Director  
Secretary**

### **17. Any Other Business**

Mr Clark updated the meeting on the recent excavations in Gold Street, Northampton as a result of the current remodelling scheme. He also expressed his concerns over the lack of funding for the Northamptonshire Sites & Monuments Record and the situation reflected in the latest NAS news regarding Northampton Borough.

**Next Meeting: Nether Heyford Baptist Chapel Rooms - 8<sup>th</sup> June @ 15.30hrs.**

**J. Smith - Chair**

**D. Hayward - Secretary**

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

