



## **CLASP**

### **Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project**

Please reply to D.F. Hayward MBE, The Secretary, Organising Committee, CLASP,  
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### **Minutes**

### **Organising Committee Meeting**

### **Baptist Church Rooms**

### **The Green, Nether Heyford**

**7<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

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

Georgina Boreham (Towcester District History Society), Sue Brown Daventry Local History Group), Jeremy Cooper (Chair- 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), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group), Dr. Sarah Sykes (Blisworth Heritage Society), ,

**2. Apologies**, Alan Clark ( Co-opted), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society), Angela Evans (Treasurer - Trustee), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director - Trustee)

#### **3. Minutes of Meeting: 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

Paragraph 7 to be amended to show that the Formal Notice of the AGM, the Agenda and details of the Public Meeting would be circulated by way of normal post and not email.

With this amendment the Minutes were agreed.

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

##### **4.1 Blisworth Open Day**

Dr Sykes reported that this event went very well. The CLASP display boards were on show.

##### **4.2 Newsletter**

The summer edition has now been published and circulated. The Committee gave a vote of thanks to the Editor for his work it publishing what is a very good document.

#### **5. Friends Of Alderton Monument**

Mr D. Batten attended the meeting to learn more about CLASP, he stated that he would consult his colleagues before making a final decision to join.

## **6 Annual General Meeting**

Final administrative arrangements were made regarding staffing, publicity and donations. It appeared that the stock of CLASP tee-shirts had become musty, it was **agreed** that they could be sold at a reduced price but not below cost.

The arrangements regarding speakers had been confirmed.

## **7. Work in Progress**

### **7.1 Weedon**

Nothing to report

### **7.2 Daventry**

The Secretary reported that he had contacted the archaeologist for the Primrose Hill proposals and together with press reports it appeared that this development would not be proceeding at this stage.

### **7.3 Bannaventa**

Nothing to report

### **7.4 Brington**

Nothing to report

### **7.5 Harpole**

The exploratory excavation at Barn Close went very well and revealed what appears to be a wing of the villa with a possible cellar. Small finds included a fibula, sixty two coins, in excess of one hundred other small finds and nearly five hundred pieces of various building materials. The cellar has been left open to allow the work to be carried more efficiently next year.

### **7.6 Flore**

Nothing to report

### **7.7 Tiffield**

It was hoped to be able to arrange work here in October.

### **7.8 Towcester**

Following some basic training by the Archaeological Director there had been a successful session of finds washing with about twenty volunteers. It was hoped to arrange a second session in October but in the meantime some of the finds had been taken home by volunteers to wash. TDLH had committee had considered the Towcester Master Plan but could not agree the opportunity areas apart from the Moat Lane proposal. The archaeological work at the TESCO extension was to be carried out by Birmingham Archaeology.

### **7.9 Whitehall**

The site has now been covered up, the area of bathhouse one and the courtyard permanently. A date for the commencement of Tuesday afternoon sessions has yet to be confirmed.

## **8. Financial Matters**

The Accounts currently showed £1400 in the Harpole account, £2000 Countryside Agency, £2500 Roman Research Trust and £675 in uncommitted monies, a total of £6606.72. It was noted that the cost of conserving the coins from Harpole would

be in the region of £200, this would be funded entirely from the Harpole account.

### **9. Archive**

Secretary updated the Committee on investigations and approaches that had been made regarding the leasing of an industrial unit at Litchborough to use as an archive and base for CLASP. Letters had been written to several local authorities inviting them to enter into a partnership with CLASP to maintain this archive, responses were still awaited. It appears that an earlier suggestion to utilise a cellar at Harpole was not agreed by the owner of the property. Mention was also made of the proposed refurbishment of the Sun Moon and Stars at Blisworth for community use. It would appear that the ground floor of this building would be of suitable size for CLASP needs but at this stage no timescale or other details of the proposal were known. This proposal would be kept in mind for further consideration if details became available.

### **10. Community Archaeology Projects - Schools**

Details of advice and guidance involving schools in community archaeology projects is now available to view on the Community Archaeology Forum. The relevant website is: -

<http://www.britarch.ac.uk/caf/wikka.php?wakka=CommunityArchaeologyandSchools>

although it can also be accessed through the CAF homepage [www.britarch.ac.uk/caf](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/caf)  
It was agreed that this was a useful website for anybody envisaging working with schools.

### **11. Eydon Historical Research Group**

The Secretary reported that he had been approached by this group for some information on archaeological contacts. Their representatives indicated that they would attend the CLASP Open Meeting. Mrs Smith stated that she had in fact visited this group previously and undertook to meet them at the Meeting.

**Mrs J. Smith**

### **12. CSCS Safety Certificates - Building Sites**

The Secretary reported that some initial work had been done on this by Ms B. Evans-Rees. It was considered that as this would not just be a problem faced by CLASP but by other community organisations across the country. It was therefore **agreed** that we would request the CBA to work with the appropriate body to achieve an appropriate certificate at an economical cost to members.

**Secretary**

### **13. Health & Safety**

No update received

**Mr Clark**

### **14. CBA Elections**

It was agreed that these would be dealt with at the AGM

## **15. Any Other Business**

### **15.1 Daventry Museum**

Mrs Smith mentioned that she had been informed that Daventry Museum might be interested in displaying some CLASP items for one of their six monthly exhibition periods. Secretary to make further enquiries.

**Secretary**

### **15.2 FOAM - Open Meeting**

Mr D Batten mentioned that FOAM was holding an Open Meeting at Paulerspury on the 14<sup>th</sup> November to which all were invited. The Secretary undertook to circulate details of this to the CLASP mailing list and other contacts.

**Secretary**

*(Secretary's Note: This event commences in Paulerspury Village Hall at 20.00hrs and will consist of a presentation on this years excavation at Alderton when the initial vestiges of a stone built Norman castle were located.*

Admission is £5 per head. If you do are attending please contact Derek Batten on 01327 811304 or e-mail [derek.batten@virgin.net](mailto:derek.batten@virgin.net) for catering purposes.)

J Cooper - Chair  
September 2009

D. Hayward - Secretary