

# **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**

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**Baptist Church Rooms**

**The Green, Nether Heyford**

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

Jim Aveling (Blisworth Heritage Society), Derek Batten (Friends of Alderton Monument), Georgina Boreham (Towcester District History Society), Jeremy Cooper (Chair- Co-opted), Alan Clark ( Co-opted), Brian Culling (Flore Heritage Society and Whitehall Villa Project), Ian Dexter (Brington History Society) Angela Evans (Treasurer - Trustee), David Hayward (Co-opted-Secretary Organising Committee), The Rev'd Francis Rodriguez (Norton Northampton Portable Antiquities Search Team), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group),

#### **2. Apologies,**

Sue Brown (Daventry Local History Group), Alan Clarke (Co-opted), Julia Johns (Weedon Bec History Society), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director)

**3. Minutes of Meeting:** 09/11/09 These were accepted as a true record

#### **4. Welcome to Meeting**

The Chair welcomed Jim Aveling from Blisworth and Ian Dexter from Brington to the meeting.

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

##### **4.1 CSCS Certificates**

The Secretary reported that he had spoken to the CBA for an update and ascertained that this was a live issue currently being dealt with by them.

##### **4.2 Daventry Town Museum**

The Secretary reported that he had spoken to Roy SHARP from the museum and they were still very keen to have a CLASP display once they had completed their move into new premises. The Secretary stated that he would maintain liaison with Mr SHARP, he also undertook to mention the question of a display by NNPAST to Mr SHARP.

**Secretary**

### **4.3 Minute Secretary**

The Chair asked if members had managed to locate anybody from within their respective groups who might be interested in taking on the role of Minute Secretary to this Committee. No volunteers were forthcoming. The Secretary stated that he was still very keen for somebody else to take on this role and asked that the search for a volunteer be maintained.

**All members**

## **5. Technical Matters**

### **5.1 Alderton**

Mr Batten reported that they were currently looking for grant monies to fund this years proposed excavation. It is intended that the excavation would be during the last week in July and the first three in August. Full details will be confirmed as soon as possible

**Mr. Batten**

### **5.2 Blisworth**

Mr Aveling reported that the Sun Moon and Stars project was still being debated at South Northants Council.

### **5.3 Brington**

Mr Dexter reported that there was still a quantity of unwashed finds to be processed. The Secretary undertook to liaise with the Archaeological Director regarding this matter.

**Secretary  
Archaeological Director**

### **5.4 Bugbrooke**

No report

### **5.5 Daventry**

The results of the Planning Appeals at Daventry are still awaited. Details of the formal planning application for the Primrose Hill development are also still awaited.

### **5.6 Flore**

Mr Culling reported that their yearly meeting programme had started. He also mentioned that John Smith and himself were endeavouring to update the written archive of material relating to Flore. This was proving to be a very difficult and time consuming task. It was suggested that the Marc Fitch could be a source of funding to have this work undertaken commercially. The Secretary stated that he would pass information to Mr Culling.

**Secretary  
Mr Culling**

### **5.7 Harpole**

Mrs Smith reported that the October exhibition had gone very well and that the Roman display at Harpole school should be completed shortly. Processing the 2008 finds should be completed shortly; once completed the 2009 batch will be commenced. No bills have still been received for the excavator for

2008 or 2009.

## 5.8 NNPAST

The Revd. Rodriguez thanked CLASP for the publicity provided for their January meeting when Sam Moorhead from the British Museum spoke on Roman coins. Three out of four of the local landowners turned up at the event enabling strengthening of a good relationships.

## 5.9 Towcester

Ms Boreham reported that remains of a Roman wall and hypocaust system had been found in the Moat Lane area. The report into the archaeological investigations at the Tesco site has indicated the site of a possible well. The report for the Woolgrowers site is still awaited.

## 5.10 Weedon

No report

## 5.11 Whitehall

Mr Culling reported that finds processing was still continuing.

## 5.12 Bannaventa

No report

## 5.13 Local People - Local Past

The Chair reported that the inclusion of Phase 2 on the website was in hand.

**Archaeological Director  
Chair**

## 5.14 Projects and Research

### 5.14.1 The Great Way

The Secretary reported that this was still progressing with a possible one year time scale. Some very interesting material was being located with far wider sphere of interest than was first envisaged.

**Secretary**

### 5.14.2 Boudicca

The Secretary reported that he had obtained a copy the document from the Westminster Abbey archives, a translation of which is attached to these minutes. Whilst he agreed that this result was very interesting he did make the point that it was not uncommon in times past for 'queen' to refer to a common woman, not just a royal person (*Secretary's note: Clark-Hall AS Dictionary interestingly differentiates between 'cwên' {that means woman but specifically wife, consort, queen, empress, royal princess - even Virgin Mary from one source} or 'cwene' {that means woman but specifically female serf, prostitute} The 'cw' element is the AS manner of writing a 'q'. The spelling in the document we have is 'quene', this is of course post Saxon and the 'cw' element has evolved into a modern 'q'.*)

Mention was also made of a rich find of human bones being found at Windmill Hill, Cuttle Mill; this is recorded in Northamptonshire Archaeology 1978. Some research was also undertaken into this subject in 1905. Mr Batten suggested it might of value for CLASP to call a meeting of

interested parties in this topic sometime in the future. The Committee agreed that this was a possibility, the Secretary stated that he would consider progressing this at the appropriate time. (*Secretary's note: I shall place this on the Agenda for the September meeting.*)

**Secretary**

## **6. Financial Matters**

The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance was £6893.04 with £1127.36 as uncommitted money.

## **7. AGM 2010**

The Secretary reported that had written to Dr Francis Pryor at Flag Fen inviting him to talk at this meeting. It was **agreed** that the Secretary should pursue this invitation as no response had been received to the letter. In the event that this was unsuccessful the Committee gave him authority to identify an appropriate speaker. The Treasurer confirmed that Paulerspury Village Hall had been booked for the event.

**Secretary**

## **8. Outside Talks & Exhibitions**

### **8.1 Weedon Vision**

The Secretary reported that he had received an enquiry from a group called Weedon Vision who wished to hold an exhibition in Weedon including a historical element. He referred this group to Mrs Johns as the representative from Weedon Bec History Society although it does appear that the event has since been deferred owing to a clash of dates.

### **8.2 NALH Heritage Day 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010**

Mrs Smith reported that this event would this year be held at Harpole. It is anticipated that full details will be available in either June or July.

**Mrs Smith**

## **9. Archive**

The Secretary reported that we had been unable to proceed with the suggestion of utilising space at the Rolls Royce Museum at Paulerspury. This was because the bulk of our material was in excess of what they could accommodate. The only update re the situation with the current store at Whitehall house was that the property had been taken off the market for the winter period; mention had also been made that there was problem with the roof. See also paragraph 12.2 below.

## **10. Health & Safety**

Nothing to report at this stage.

## **11. Flyer**

The Secretary reported that the Chair had circulated a draft of the proposed revised circular for comment. The Secretary stated that the Archaeological Director was currently negotiating with a new group at Tiffield to join CLASP and he felt that we should delay finalising the flyer until this was resolved to avoid inbuilt obsolescence.

**Secretary**

## **12. Applications for Funding**

### **12.1 WNDC Stronger Communities Fund**

The Secretary reported that our application to this fund for £11,000 to fund the purchase of a gradiometer had been initially heard at their panel meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> February. They deferred making a decision as they required additional information as to the benefits to the wider community of our project. This information had now been submitted; the next panel meeting is now to be on the 12<sup>th</sup> March when it is hoped that this will be finalised.

### **12.2 HLF**

This application is being progressed by Tony Kesten and is seeking funding of up to £50000 to cover the cost of leasing premises for an archive for an initial three years. There are concerns however as to how funding for thereafter will be obtained and a converse view that we should look for larger funding to cover outright purchase was also being considered. This will be discussed in greater depth at the next Trustees meeting

### **12.3 SNC Community Grant Scheme**

The Secretary reported that he had been passed details of this scheme by SNC as a result of the approach to them regarding a partnership arrangement for an archive. Having looked at the details though he questioned whether it was currently appropriate for CLASP.

## **13. Northamptonshire Renaissance Heritage Awards 2009**

The Secretary drew the attention of the Committee to these awards and proposed that CLASP should formally enter the Whitehall Villa Open 2009 Open Day into the contest. He would be happy to progress the submission and would discuss it at the next Trustees meeting. This was **agreed**.

**Secretary**

## **14. Festival of British Archaeology 2010**

### **14.1 Alderton**

The possibility of including the Alderton excavation into this Festival was identified as a possibility if the excavation did take place. Mr Batten would consider the implications once the excavation was confirmed

**Mr Batten**

### **14.2 NNPAST**

The Revd. Rodriguez stated that he thought his committee should consider the feasibility of NNPAST making a contribution to this event, he would pursue this.

**Revd. Rodriguez**

## **15. Newsletter**

The Secretary reminded the Committee that the deadline for the next edition of the newsletter was the 22<sup>nd</sup> February. He also ask that as many members as possible make contributions to give a wider breadth of content.

## **16. Strategic Planning Document**

It was reported that the next meeting of this Committee would be a joint meeting with the Trustees. The intention was that the meeting would principally discuss this document. Following a brief discussion it was decided that it would be difficult to establish a position at this stage although there were concerns regarding resources and the completion of existing projects.

**Next Meeting:** 15.30hrs Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010; The Baptist Church Rooms, The Green Nether Heyford. - **Joint Meeting with Trustees**

Chair: J. Cooper                      Secretary: D. Hayward

February 2010