



## **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> November 2010**

**Baptist Church Rooms**

**The Green, Nether Heyford**

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

Angela Adams (Friends of Daventry Museums), David Adams (Daventry Local History Group), Jim Aveling (Blisworth Heritage Society), Derek Batten (Friends of Alderton Monument), Dave Darby (Northampton Artefact Recovery Club), Georgina Boreham (Towcester District History Society), David Hayward (Co-opted-Secretary Organising Committee), Julia Johns (Weedon Bec History Society), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society), Rev Francis Rodriguez (Norton Northampton Portable Antiquities Search Team), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group), ,

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

Alan Clark ( Co-opted), Jeremy Cooper (Chair- Co-opted), Brian Culling (Flore Heritage Society and Whitehall Villa Project), Angela Evans (Treasurer - Trustee), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director - Trustee)

#### **3. Chair**

In the absence of the Mr Cooper, Mrs Smith took the Chair for the meeting

**4. Minutes of Meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> September were accepted as a true record.

#### **5. Friends of Daventry Museums:**

An application for membership was received from the Friends of Daventry Museums, this was unanimously accepted by the Committee. Mrs Angela Adams was welcomed to the Committee as the representative for this group

#### **6. Matters Arising:**

##### **6.1 Whitehall Store (4.1)**

As no update had been received on this Mr Adams agreed to have a look at the store to assess the extent of the problem; he may also know somebody who may be able to assist with any tiling that needs doing.

**Mr Adams**

## **6.2 Metal Detecting Standards (12)**

The Secretary apologised that he had omitted to refer this to the Trustees for them to identify their representative, he undertook to pursue this and also Mr Derby would identify the name of the NARC representative, this work can then be completed.

**Secretary  
Mr Derby**

## **6.3 Heritage Heroes Award (17.2)**

The Secretary informed the Committee that we had not been successful in this award competition.

## **7. Technical Matters**

### **7.1 Blisworth**

Mr Aveling reported that his group had two meetings including an interesting talk on Medieval Fishing Weights.

### **7.2 Brington**

No report

### **7.3 Bugbrooke**

Mr Kent reported a plaque was to be unveiled at Bugbrooke Primary School on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December to mark the granting of the first radio licence to the Headmaster of one hundred years ago, Frank Wright. The 2<sup>nd</sup> volume of the History of Bugbrooke from 1930 to 1980 has now been published.

### **7.4 Daventry History Society**

Mr Adams reported that Northamptonshire Archaeology had carried an archaeological investigation in the area of the proposed waterside project. This had revealed the site of some medieval houses. The Secretary asked what further action was intended as these houses could reveal a lot about the boundaries of early Daventry. It was agreed that Mr Adams would pursue a copy of the report.

**Mr Adams**

*(Secretary's Note: Both Mr Adams and the Secretary have unsuccessfully pursued access to the report with Northamptonshire Archaeology. It appears however that it is the property of their customer, Daventry District Council. The Secretary will pursue access with the council.)*

### **7.5 Friends of Daventry Museums**

Mrs Adams informed the Committee that her organisation was not just related to Daventry Town Museum but can support local museums and archive collections with grants. In principle this applied to parishes that bordered Daventry itself but could possibly include other parishes in the Daventry area. Mention was also made of an 'Ave Maria' pilgrims brooch that had been found by a metal detector at Ashby St Ledgers that had been purchased by the Friends and will be displayed at Daventry Museum. Whilst it had been reported

to the FLO a full identification had still to be made, one suggestion put forward was that it may have originated from Walsingham. The Secretary stated that he would be visiting Walsingham that weekend offered to make enquiries whilst he was there.

#### **Secretary**

*(Secretary's Note: Enquires at Walsingham have identified this as a high status pilgrims brooch, probably used to fascinate a cloak at the upper chest, the securing pin is missing. Because of the delicate dimensions of the brooch it is considered to be a child's brooch or even possibly from a statue decoration. It was advised that further enquiries should be made of experts at King's Lynn Museum and the Museum of London.)*

#### **7.6 Flore**

No report received.

#### **7.7 FOAM**

Mr Batten reported that he had received the first report but it needs revision before finalisation. A précis will be available for purchase at £4. Ben Robinson of English Heritage very supportive of future work.

#### **7.8 Harpole**

The autumn excavation at Barn Close was successfully completed by a team of twenty excavators. A large number of finds were including a piece of chain and a nut. It is hoped that there will be further excavation next year, it is anticipated that dates will be announced in the spring.

#### **7.9 NARC**

It was suggested by Mr Darby that NARC and NNFAST could help other member groups with structured metal detecting surveys. It was **agreed** that this was a good idea and any request for surveys should be co-ordinated through the Secretary.

#### **7.10 NNFAST**

Nothing to report.

#### **7.11 Tiffield**

Mr Jowers mentioned that his group was stilling getting established. The first ledger of St Johns School from 1856 - 70. This document provides a valuable insight into the social history of what was the first reformatory school in the world. He also reported that some research was being undertaken into the Oxford Way droving road.

#### **7.12 Towcester**

The new TDLH booklet on Archdeacon Sponne is available at £3.50 from the Towcester Tea Room. Ms Boreham also reported that the report on the desk top survey and site visits on up to fifty-five potential sites of archaeological interest in the parishes that border Towcester, should be available in the new year.

#### **7.13 Weedon**

Nothing to report

## **7.14 Whitehall**

No Report

## **8. Financial Matters**

### **8.1 Treasurers Report**

Not received

### **8.2 Applications for Expenditure**

#### **8.2.1 Harpole Water Costs**

Mrs Smith made application, from the Harpole funds, for £10 to cover her costs for water used whilst processing finds at her home during the past two years -**agreed**. She also mentioned that figures had known been received for the 'digger' use in 2009 and 2010, £200 each year, a total of £400. Both matters to be passed to the Trustees for approval.

**Trustees**

## **9. Projects and Research**

The Secretary reported that he had undertaken both field and desktop work into the work required for our contribution to the Landscapes of Governance Project. Weather permitting he hoped to undertake more fieldwork during the winter period.

## **10. External Events**

### **10.1 NALH History Day**

Mr & Mrs Adams thanked the Committee for authorising their visit to represent CLASP at the subject event at Harpole. Whilst there was a lack of interest in the CLASP display the whole event was very useful for CLASP, not least because the speaker was our Archaeological Director.

### **10.2 MKHA Open Day**

Mr Batten who attended with FOAMS display stated that he thought the displays, both CLASP's and his own were somewhat isolated from the main activities and the overall lack of information. The Secretary undertook to pass his views to our representative, Tony Kesten.

**Secretary**

### **10.3 MKHA AGM**

Report by Mr Kesten on this meeting was attached to the agenda for noting.

### **10.4 Weedon Fete**

Mrs Johns reported there was some interest in our display. The Secretary reported that we had been advised to make an application for a donation from the proceeds of this event, he stated that he had done this.

*(Secretary's Note: We have been awarded £250.)*

### **10.5 Nether Heyford Village Fete**

The Secretary suggested that both CLASP and Whitehall should have displays at the subject fete. This can be considered again when dates are known.

## **11. Archive**

Mrs Smith provided contact details of the contractor for Norwood Farm at Harpole where some buildings will be made available for community use. The

Secretary undertook to make contact. The Committee noted a previously circulated Agenda Paper containing the views of the CBA on the national crisis with archaeological archives.

Secretary

## **12. Planning Issues**

Nothing to report.

## **13. Local People - Local Phase Two Report**

Secretary that the Archaeological Director and the Chair are still working on this report; it is hoped that it will be published by the end of the month. Hopefully then CLASP will then be able to claim the balance of the Heritage Lottery fund money.

*(Secretary's Note: This report has now been published on the CLASP website)*

## **14. Trustee Minutes**

Noted

## **15. Annual General Meeting**

### **15.1. 2010**

It was **agreed** that the meeting was a success, the principal speaker being well received. There was a view that we may need more space for table displays next year although this may be resolved by careful management.

### **15.2. 2011**

The topic for this meeting was **agreed** as the 'The Archaeology of DIRFT'. It was considered the meeting should be held in the north of the CLASP area, Watford and Harpole Bowls club were suggested as potential venues. Enquiries Director. The meeting would be held in the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> September,

## **16. Magnetometer**

### **16.1 Funding**

The Secretary reported that all funding had now been agreed and should be in place in the next few days. The order for the machine would then be placed.

### **16.2 Training**

Once the machine had been purchased the training into the use of the machine, for four as yet to be identified volunteer, would take place. Several members have shown an interest in undertaking the interpretation and report writing role. Details of software that it is intended to use for this data interpretation had been passed to these members.

### **16.3 Administration**

The Secretary raised the question of administration of the ongoing training of members in the use of the machine and hopefully future co-ordination of it's use. He stated that he did not want to undertake this role and hoped that somebody else would undertake this role. Ms G Boreham volunteered to initially undertake the role, the Committee welcomed this.

## **17. Meeting Programme for 2011**

The following meeting dates were **agreed**, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 5<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> November. All meetings apart from that on 4<sup>th</sup> July will be

held at the Baptist Church Rooms, The Green, Nether Heyford. Following a request from the Committee it was, subject to the view of the Archaeological Director, meetings would commence in future at 14.30hrs. The meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> July would be held at the Whitehall Farm, Nether Heyford excavation site beginning at 17.15hrs. As mentioned in paragraph 15.2 above the AGM date is to be resolved as soon as possible.

### **18. Computerised Back Up**

The Committee noted the comments in the Agenda Paper.

*(Secretary's Note:*

*Please find here the Chairs response to Fred Kay's paper. Hopefully the Committee agrees that these precautions are adequate, especially as the data base is backed up in two separate houses, I have discussed this with Jeremy at length previously. I will put this under matters arising for the next meeting.*

*"I noticed Fred's paper on data security on the agenda, so I thought I'd let you now about the security of the data I have generated and manipulated for CLASP ('CLASP' includes Whitehall throughout).*

*I run an Apple Macintosh computer system.*

*I have a Mac-formatted external hard drive devoted solely to CLASP materials, and all CLASP materials of all kinds are stored on it. At the moment it holds 122GB of data in roughly 15,000 separate files.*

*This CLASP external hard drive is backed up in several ways:*

- 1. When batches of photos are added to it (after each dig, or batch of coins, for example) the same photo files are copied to DVDs and distributed to Steve, Dave, Nick and others as appropriate.*
- 2. The CLASP hard drive is backed up to another Mac-formatted external hard drive (not exclusively CLASP);*
- 3. My CLASP hard drive is mirrored to a PC-formatted external hard drive kept at his home by Steve. Obviously, when I am copying from my CLASP drive to Steve's the two drives are in the same house at the same time, but there is no way round that.*

*While I am working on new files, they are stored on an internal hard drive which is automatically backed-up to a specialised external hard drive every hour.*

*When we go away from home for more than a weekend, all my external hard drives are hidden carefully around the house, and the CLASP drive is squirreled away in a fireproof box.*

*I have looked at using on-line backup, but for the quantity of data concerned it is just not practicable - it would take two weeks of constant uploading to shift the contents of the CLASP drive onto an on-line site.*

*It is perhaps worth noting that site records are also shot on black and white film: the negatives, prints and contact sheets are held by Steve.*

*Also worth noting is that Macs are not vulnerable to virus attack - I have never suffered any effects from viruses in over 20 years of using Macs. Now there's a good reason for switching to Apple! I hope this sets minds at rest as far as possible. But, unfortunately, there is no such thing as total security!*  
*Jeremy"*

## **19. IFA Special Interest Group**

Deferred to next meeting for Archaeological Directors views.

## **20. Any Other Business**

### **20.1 Ben Burbidge Films**

Mrs Smith drew the attention of the Committee to the subject business that made copies of films, videos etc. The website is [www.benburbidgefilms.co.uk](http://www.benburbidgefilms.co.uk) , email [benburbidgefilms@aol.co.uk](mailto:benburbidgefilms@aol.co.uk)

### **20.2 Minute Secretary**

The Secretary stated that he is very keen to relinquish at least part of the Secretarial role. Initially he requested that all committee members formally ask their membership if there were any volunteers to assume the role of Minute Secretary.

**All members**