



CLASP

Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project

www.claspweb.org.uk

Please reply to N. Garnett Esq., The Secretary, Organising Committee, CLASP
24, Meadow Close, Duston, Northampton, NN5 6RL. normangarnett@tiscali.co.uk

Minutes of the Organising Committee Monday 19th. November, 2012

1. **Attendees.** Georgina Boreham (Towcester District Local History Society); Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group); Bill Wiggins (NNPAST); Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society); Angela Evans (Treasurer); Tony Kesten (Individual Members Representative); Stephen Young (Archaeological Director); Dave Hayward (Chairman); Norman Garnett (Minute Secretary).
2. **Apologies.** Jim Aveling (Blisworth Heritage Society); Derek Batten (FOAM); Julia Johns (Membership Secretary)
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting.** It was mentioned that the "Matters Arising" section of the Agenda should incorporate only items from the previous Minutes. Agreed. The Minutes of the 3rd September meeting were then accepted.
4. **Matters Arising.**
 - 4.1 **Archive Storage.** Tony Kesten indicated that the opportunity for archive storage at the Henry Royce Foundation had now passed.
 - 4.2 **Research Strategy Document.** The Committee has received the documents and discussion has occurred it was indicated that the Archaeological Director's views should be representative of those of the Committee. Agreed.
 - 4.3 **Magnetometer.** The magnetometer is still non-operational and may require returning to the manufacturers for investigation. It was mentioned that Fred Kay would probably do this unfortunately Fred has been ill lately. Gina enquired whether there were available written instructions for the operation of the magnetometer. It has been determined that these are not on the CLASP web-site but can be accessed through the manufacturers web-page www.barington.com under the "Manuals" section, the model being the "Grad 601". In association with this Fred is willing to undertake training sessions. A group of 3 or 4 together is preferred and a field session of 3-4 hours in the field at Bannaventa .

If people wanted an introduction to the software for interpretation of the results Fred can offer it at his home in Weedon for 2 people at a time, again 3-4 hours. Anyone interested should contact Fred at fkay@mingus.plus.com

4.4 Daventry Friends of Museums Grants. Steve Young indicated that further discussion will be required with Daventry regarding their offer of grant. Dave Hayward agreed to do this.

It was agreed that further investigation would be required regarding the proposal to acquire a GPS unit as regards price, most suitable model etc. Dave Hayward indicated that he would talk to Steve Reed regarding suitability.

4.5 Whitehall. Refer to section 5.14 Society Technical Matters

4.6 "Open Meeting - Admin. Arrangements" The subject of involvement of more Committee members at the setting-up of the venue prior to the Open Meeting and the AGM was raised by Jennifer Smith. More assistance was required when this event occurs. Agreed

A vote of appreciation of the guest speakers and their subjects at the Open Meeting was proposed. Agreed.

4.7 Harlestone Firs. The small excavation mentioned by Jennifer (Item 12.1 in previous Minutes) has now gone.

5. Society Technical Matters.

5.1 Blisworth. Nothing to report. Not represented.

5.2 Brington. Nothing to report. Not represented.

5.3 Bugbrooke. Alan Kent commented on a "ring" feature in the garden of one of the Bugbrooke resident's garden and asked for advice on how to undertake a preliminary investigation of this. Steve Young, Dave Hayward and Bill Wiggins offered advice. Bill Wiggins offered to visit the location. Agreed. Alan Kent enquired about the availability of the magnetometer to other Societies. Dave Hayward is to respond to this.

Gina Boreham made mention of a dig which had occurred in Alan's area. Dave Hayward indicated that this could be perhaps researched through the Planning Permission web-site.

5.4 Daventry History Society. Nothing to report. Not represented

5.5 Friends of Daventry Museum. Nothing to report. Not represented

5.6 Flore. Nothing to report. Not represented.

5.7 FOAM. Nothing to report. Not represented

5.8 Harpole. i). Jennifer reported on a talk given to the Harpole group by David Adams. ii). Jennifer has recently provided assistance on a local school project. iii). Jennifer reported on an article addressing the mosaic found at Harpole in local records of 1856.

5.9 NARC. Dave Hayward reported on finds made at the Canons Ashby and Preston Capes sites.

5.10 NNPAST. Nothing to report after the Bannaventa involvement.

5.11 Tiffield. Nothing to report. Not represented.

5.12 Towcester. i). Gina Boreham showed print outs of the geophysics. work in the area of the racecourse. The geophysical report covers the area south of Towcester and is part of the planning application for the proposed development known as "Towcester Southern Extension" formerly Towcester Vale. This should come under Section 11 Planning Issues.

ii). Gina also showed photographs of the bronze "dirk" found at Burcote Wood Farm (not the villa site)

iii). Gina reported on the launch of the Victoria County History of Northamptonshire, Volume VIII which will cover the Towcester and indicated that considerable finances would be required for this.

5.13 Weedon. Nothing to report. Not represented.

5.14 Whitehall. Site finally closed. Re-burial of the skeletal remains will take place probably in the Spring of 2013. A video presentation of the event is to be made.

It was proposed that a closure meeting, discussing the Whitehall project, would possibly occur in May of 2013.

6 Financial Matters.

6.1 Treasurers Report. Angela provided details of the current financial position. Comments were made on the increased income from the recent increase in the cost of membership & the fact that Julia Johns had sent out reminders to those with late subscriptions This generated app. £300 of revenue.

Jennifer suggested that membership numbers be regularly reviewed & the Committee requested that current membership numbers be notified. Agreed. Angela had received letters from British Archaeology regarding membership.

6.2 There were no applications for expenditure received.

7 Projects & Research.

7.1 Barby Hill. Currently "on hold" due to ground conditions on the site.

7.2 Tiffield. Nothing more to report at this juncture.

7.3 Bannaventa. Jennifer queried format of letters required from each Society to be sent to the Lottery Fund. Dave Hayward addressed this and Steve Young enlarged on the requirement for each society to submit a request to participate, in order that these can then be forwarded to the Fund for the release of a grant which he had applied for. Steve is to re-address the situation & provide a pro-forma letter for the Societies use.

7.4 Lactodorum Hinterland Survey; Gina discussed the 2 field walking exercises which had occurred, 1 of these being at Pattishall and the other North of Towcester near the A5. The first provided Roman, medieval & post-medieval pottery while the other provided relatively few finds.

It was indicated that pottery finds, app. 590, were to be reviewed.

7.5 Landscapes of Governance. No further developments to report. Dave Hayward indicated that he will be addressing the report shortly & that there was some editing to be undertaken.

7.6 Local People – Local Past. Steve indicated that there were no further developments to date.

7.7 Directory of CLASP Members Expertise. This list has now been circulated to the member societies..

7.8 Lending of Archive Material. This is still on-going with a suitable format to be agreed, Dave Hayward & Norman Garnett are to collaborate on this.

8 External Events.

8.1 MKHA. Tony Kesten discussed CLASP representation at MKHA event & extended his and the Committee's appreciation to the members of NARC for their display items.

9 Trustee Matters.

9.1 Dave Hayward reported on a short meeting of the Trustees recently held at Bannaventa site. A full meeting has been requested as there are several issues to be addressed.

10 Archive.

10.1 Steve Young has indicated that a visit to the archive store is to be carried out. Steve also mentioned the condition of the building at the "old" Whitehall archive facility. The situation is under review.

11 Planning Issues.

11.1 Monks Moor. Dave Hayward provided an update. Exploratory work is being undertaken at the South end of the site. It is anticipated that a display of finds may occur next year.

12 Any Other Business.

12.1 "Community Archives & Heritage Group" (Item 4.3 in previous Minutes) A correction was made to this item inasmuch that Gina Boreham indicated that Towcester District Local history Society would provide a link.

12.2 "Protect Our Place" Gina Boreham mentioned this organisation sponsored by English Heritage (www.protectourplace.com) whose "...overall aim is to understand the range and type of community action currently underway to protect and promote the local historic environment and make recommendations on how best to strengthen and extend community action for the historic environment in the future." Gina is to provide further details.

12.3 "2013 Meetings" i) It was suggested that the meeting times next year be altered to 15.30 and that the meetings would be as brief as possible due to this later start time. Agreed.

ii) The dates of next years' meetings were proposed as: - February 18th.; April 29th.; June 24th.; September 2nd. And November 25th. Agreed.

iii) The venue of the Summer (June 24th.) meeting has yet to be decided.

12.4 2013 AGM. Possible venues were discussed with Bugbrooke preferred. Early booking would be required. Weedon was suggested as a possible second choice.

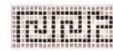
Angela agreed to contact Bugbrooke. It was suggested that the week commencing 15th September would be preferred. Several guest speakers were discussed with Tony Kesten mentioning a representative from the Nottingham Cave group. Dave Hayward suggested representation from Northampton Archaeology with their involvement in a Neolithic site dig near junction 15A. Dave Hayward is to enquire. Agreed.

13. **Date of next meeting** This is to be 18th February 2013 at 15.30 at Nether Heyford Baptist Church Rooms.

Executive Committee: Alan Watson (Chair), Sandra Deacon (Secretary), Angela Evans (Treasurer), Stephen Young (Archaeology Director), Nick Adams, Tony Kesten

Organising Committee: Dave Hayward (Acting Chair), Norman Garnett (Minute Secretary), Julia Johns (Membership Secretary)

CLASP is grateful for support from:



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