



Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project
www.claspweb.org.uk
Please reply to Roger J Penny Secretary, Organising Committee, CLASP
rogerjohnpenny@gmail.com

Re- Re- Re- Issue of the Minutes of the Organising Committee
Monday 2nd September 2013

1. Attendance

- 1.1. Angela Evans (Trustee and Treasurer), Julia Johns (Weedon Bec History Society), Rob Close (Barby Hill Archaeological Project), Bill Wiggins (NNPAST), Georgina Boreham (Towcester District Local History Society), Jim Aveling (Blisworth Heritage Society), Alan Kent (Bugbrooke History Society), Jennifer Smith (Harpole Heritage Group), Stephen Young (Archaeological Director), Dave Hayward (Chair), Roger Penny (Secretary)

2. Apologies

- 2.1. David Adams, Derek Batten, Dave Derby, Tony Kesten.

3. Approval/Changes to Previous Minutes

- 3.1. Approved with agreed changes

4. Review of actions

- 4.1. Directory of CLASP Members' Expertise complete No other outstanding actions were reviewed

5. New Business

- 5.1. Roger Penny was co-opted as the Secretary to the Organising Committee
- 5.2. The changed agenda format was accepted
- 5.3. The application of the Barby Hill Archaeological Project to join CLASP was accepted.

6. Standing Items

- 6.1. AGM and Public Open Meeting. This will take place on 10th September at Bugbrooke Community Centre. The speaker will be Mark Holmes from Northamptonshire Archaeology who would speak on the Neolithic triple ditch enclosure at Swan Valley Northampton. Julia Cassidy of the PAS has offered to give a talk. It was agreed that this was a good idea. **Action Stephen Young.** Food, drinks and plastic bags will be needed. **Action Georgina** who will provide these. Help will be needed to organise and support the event. **Action Dave.** Raffle donations would be needed. **Action All**
- 6.2. Annual Report – nothing to report
- 6.3. Archive – nothing to report
- 6.4. External Liaison and other activities
 - 6.4.1. A press release for Daventry Museums will be prepared and the Chronicle and Echo contacted. Radio Northampton will be contacted. **Action Dave**
 - 6.4.2. Examination of the legality of putting externally sourced documents on the CLASP website. Dave also suggested that we invite Jeremy Cooper to the next meeting to discuss the question of docs being placed on the website.
 - 6.4.3. DIRFT III – Dave described the scale and scope of the next development phase and the submission to the national planning authority. This would impact on undefended Iron Age and Roman sites. **Action Dave**
 - 6.4.4. The Atlas of Hillforts in Britain and Ireland project. This was discussed; Stephen questioned whether expenses would be paid by the project. Dave asked if anyone was interested in participating. **Action Dave to follow up and determine interest.** It was suggested that we contact the team running the project. **Action Roger to contact the Oxford and Edinburgh teams and report back.**

- 6.4.5. The CBA AGM. This was briefly discussed and it was decided that we would abstain from voting for the new Chairman on the grounds that there was little enthusiasm for supporting the proposed candidate but that CLASP wished to avoid dissent and confrontation.
- 6.5. Finance
- 6.5.1. Treasurer – Funds to hand £12,921.60, receipts £939.78, Expenditure £541.00
- 6.5.2. Applications for Finance – none
- 6.6. Planning
- 6.6.1. DIRFT III – Dave described the scale of the next phase at the site, as large as the two previous phases combined, and submission of the plans at national level and the impact on Iron Age and Roman sites in the development area and on potential burial sites on or adjacent to Watling Street. Action Dave and Stephen to maintain contact with the archaeologists working on the proposed site and report back to the COC**
- 6.6.2. Moat Lane, Towcester. Since the interim report from Cotswold Archaeology further interesting discoveries of masonry buildings have been made. One has a cellar which was lined both externally and internally with a band of clay. In another area of this large exaction, a skeleton and a Roman cremation urn discovery was made.
- 6.6.3. Burcote Wood Court. Prior of approval of the Planning Application the council had requested an initial archaeological pre-evaluation. This was awarded to Oxford Archaeology. The excavation involved machine trenching in areas chosen to address features show to be of interest from an earlier magnetometer, geophysical survey. There is evidence here for early settlement. The medieval material is most likely to be from the remains of the shrunken medieval village of Wood Burcote. However, the presence of several large pieces of Roman pottery and building material is more surprising as the nearest know settlement if over half a mile away. A significant discovery of a previously unknown Roman site.
- 6.6.4. Belle Baulk Towcester. The final report by Northampton Archaeology has now been received. They reported on two main features. The first a large sub-rectangular pit, filled with fire-cracked river pebbles. This has been radiocarbon dated to the middle bronze age. The larger excavation detailed features of a Roman enclosure, building and tank. A possibility is that the building, tank and drain were associated with the fulling of cloth. That the building was isolated is almost certainly of importance, but whether isolation occurred because of safety concerns or because it was an unpleasant, smelly place, is again unclear.
- 6.7. Newsletter – published and distributed
- 6.8. Trustees – The Strategy Document to be finalised and presented at the AGM. **Action Trustees to consider the Document and tell the COC whether they accept it or not.**

7. Reports

- 7.1. Barby Hill – the first trench has exposed post holes and black pottery sherds.
- 7.2. Blisworth – Nothing to report
- 7.3. Brington – nothing to report
- 7.4. Bugbrooke – nothing to report
- 7.5. Friends of Daventry Museums - Planned opening was covered by the Daventry Express on 29 August. Re-opening will be on 14th September after a spend of £125,000 from HLF grant (£25,000), SITA grant (£25,000) and Town Council grant (£50,000).
- 7.6. Flore – Stephen Young has been contacted by Northampton Archaeology on the scale of work created by the new Flore Bypass alignment. They are looking to use data from CLASP work in their report. No action at this stage.
- 7.7. FOAM – Derek Batten the owner of the Alderton Monument is selling the monument with a covenant that archaeological work must be permitted on the site. It appears that this will mean FOAM will be wound up but CLASP members will be invited to participate in any future work.
- 7.8. Harpole – a plaque to remember the crew of the crashed Wellington will be added to the War Memorial. Field walking with magnetometer survey has not yet been carried out at Barn Close. Jeremy Calderwood has requested an archaeological survey be carried out at Hall Farm but has as of now

received no response. The Committee gave advice as to how he should proceed. **Action Jennifer Smith to pursue.**

- 7.9. NARC – Initial work carried out by metal detectorists on the potential settlement at Cuttle Hill. Dave Derby will feature in the next issue of Searcher Magazine
- 7.10. NNPASt – nothing to report
- 7.11. Tiffield - the farmer would like more work to be carried out. **Action Stephen Young**
- 7.12. Towcester in July to celebrate the CBA's Festival of British Archaeology a guided walk of medieval Towcester was arranged, this was a success. The museum was officially opened by the Lord Lt of Northamptonshire.
- 7.13. Weedon – nothing to report
- 7.14. Whitehall – A brief mention was made of the field work carried out at Whitehall this year. The re burial of the Anglo-Saxon remains was mentioned. A video of this ceremony will be shown at the forthcoming Whitehall Open Meeting, the date of which still has to be finalised. The Tuesday sessions will be restarted, the start date will be circulated. **Action Stephen Young.**

8. Projects and Research

- 8.1. Tiffield No further work has been undertaken there but it is hoped to be able to progress this in the future.
- 8.2. Lactodorum Hinterland Survey. Reference was made to the Towcester Vale Field 11 Fieldwalking Summary which had been circulated with the Agenda. The quantity of a pottery fabric, Brackley Ware, not previously noted in fieldwalking around Towcester, was highlighted.
- 8.3. Burcote Wood Project. The pottery data base is now near completion. The majority of 800+ identified pots have been fabric coded by SY; arrangements to complete the rest have been made. The Samian collection is being catalogued and building material is more surprising as the nearest known settlement is over half a mile away.
- 8.4 Landscape of Governance. Dave reported that this is still progressing, a lot of the writing has been done but further research has revealed what may be two possible pre Danelaw administrative areas straddling Watling Street in the area under study. A 'taster' for the membership was provided in the last Newsletter.
- 8.5 Local People – Local Past. Bannaventa - there are a lot of work still to be done here to be organised by the Archaeological Director. He will also do further work to prepare the application to the HLF for Phase III of the Local People-Local Past Project. **Action: Stephen**
- 8.6 Lending of Archive material – there was very brief discussion. No actions resulted
- 8.7 Boudicca – there was some discussion of the Battle site topic. No actions resulted

9. Any Other Business

Jennifer Smith mentioned that the CLASP telephone had not been updated since last year and that there was a need to bring it up to date. There was discussion on CLASP Tees and/or polos.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

15.00, 25th November

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

Organising Committee: Dave Hayward (Acting Chair), Roger Penny (Minute Secretary), Julia Johns
(Membership Secretary)

CLASP is grateful for support from:



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