



Fieldwork Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting held Saturday 12th May 2018

Venue: Society's Library, Maidstone Museum, St Faiths Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1LH

As agreed by those present from the Fieldwork Committee at the Society's Office in Maidstone Museum, Maidstone, Kent, on Saturday 13th October 2018 these minutes are a true and complete record of the meeting held on Saturday 12th May 2018 and it is agreed that the Chair Mr Keith Parfitt is duly authorised to sign this document as such.

Mr Keith Parfitt (Chair) Fieldwork Committee.

Saturday 13th October 2018.

KP opened the meeting at 10:30hrs.

1: Attendance and Apologies

Attendances

Present

Keith Parfitt	KP	Chair
Clive Drew	CD	
Chris Blair-Myers	CBM	
Elizabeth Blanning	EB	
Kevin Fromings	KF	
Andrew Richardson	AR	
Cliff Ward	CW	

Absences & Apologies

J Ahmet
S Broomfield
V Burrows
G Cramp
L Dyson
M Eddy
R Emmett
A Partridge
R Taylor
P Reid
S Willis

CD noted that Ted Connell had resigned from Council and all the Committees of the Society in February.

It was with much sadness that the Committee was informed that Rod LeGear has resigned from the Fieldwork Committee due to ill health.

2: Conflicts of Interest

EB Noted a conflict with the grant application from the Maidstone Area Archaeological Group

KP Noted a conflict in all matters relating to Lees Court Estate – he will be on paid secondment from Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) during the September excavation.

3: Minutes 3rd February 2018 Committee Meeting

The minutes were agreed by the committee and signed by **KP**.

3(a): Matters Arising

AR gave an update on the break in at one of the CAT's storage units. One of the burglars has been arrested and charged by the Police but has since "jumped" bail. Some of the material stolen has been recovered, unfortunately much of the bone material had been removed from its marked finds bags and it has proved impossible to return the artefacts to their respective bags, these artefacts will now be used to form a reference set.

4: Grant Applications

It was noted that Council had approved grant application to assist with the publication of the Ringlemere Project (£3,000)

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002/2018	C. Sparey Green	£1,000.00
Reason:	To provide excavation assets (JCB) to further the work at Upper Harbledown, Canterbury	
Conditions:	Referring to paragraph 8 in the application Archaeologia Cantiana articles and or Newsletter contributions	
Decision:	Recommended to Council by all present.	

003/2018	Maidstone Area Archaeological Group	£2,400.00
Reason:	To fund the post excavation work on the Roman Villa at East Farleigh – including work on the pottery assemblages by Malcolm Lyne	
Conditions:	This grant to be conditional on at least a Newsletter Article or an Arch Cant article. EB to ask about this condition and report to Council for 9 th June meeting.	
Decision:	Recommended to Council subject to the above conditions being acceptable to MAAG.	
Conflict:	EB declared a conflict as being a member of the MAAG	

5: Budgets:

No Report

6: Conferences:

a. 2018: **EB** was now overseeing this conference.

The working title for the conference is “Every Object Tells a Story” with a sub title “Using Artefacts to Explore Kent’s Past from Bronze Age to AD1100” The panel of speakers is being finalised with **EB** opening the conference.

The Society to look at the possibility of accepting credit cards for this event. This will raise issues about validating members if discounted pricing is offered.

Media for this conference will be an outline in the June Newsletter followed up by a more detailed article in the September edition with the membership being emailed in October – November. Once the full slate of speakers has been settled, flyers to be produced and posted to website and Simon Elliott to spread the word.

Venue has been confirmed as Rutherford College, University of Kent at Canterbury.

Date Saturday 24th November

Pricing £20 non-members £15 members £10 Students

Ticketing Shiela Broomfield

b. 2019: A discussion took place about holding a conference looking at the relationship between Kent and the continent, looking at trading relationships from prehistory to March 2019. This to be reviewed at the October meeting.

The committee is mindful that the CBA South East will be hosting a conference in November and the possibility of the CBA and KAS holding a joint conference.

Provisional date Saturday 23rd November 2013 University of Kent.

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- c. **2020:** It was agreed to explore the possibility of a conference on invasion and defence of Kent from Caesar through to the Cold War. **AR** to co-ordinate. Victor Smith from the Historic Defences Committee to be asked if this Committee would like to be involved.
- d. **Industrial Archaeology Conference 2019 (SERIA):** Previously the Fieldwork Committee had been asked if they could co-ordinate this conference. The Industrial Archaeology Committee have now made their own arrangements.

7: **Lees Court Estate:**

Stringman's Field: An excavation is currently ongoing managed by Richard Taylor. **CBM** had previously identified a possible 20m ring ditch in the field. At the end of April, the area in question was subject to a magnetometry survey now followed by 25m x 2m trench across the ring ditch. Some bronze age pot had been found and it looks as if there might have been a second outer 1rd chalk ditch around the feature. The excavation will continue until 20th May. KB mentioned that he has had a conversation with Martin Bates from the University of Lampeter who was very interested in the Lynchets and was planning a trip to the site in September.

Woods Court Field: Using the Society's Bartington and maybe the KCC Bartington the hoards area will be subject to magnetometry survey with structured fieldwalking and metal detecting.

Society Bimble: On the 2nd June the Society will host an organised bimble on the Estate covering about 8 miles in a figure of 8 route taking in the Churches at Sheldwich and Badlesmere, ending up at the bronze age site at Stringman's Farm.

8: **Fieldwork Projects:**

Reports were submitted by:-

- Maidstone Area Archaeological Group (MAAG):
- Discover Roman Otford Project (DROP)
- Canterbury Hinterland Project
- Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT)
- Dover Archaeological Group

9: **Any Other Business:**

- a: **Eccles Roman Villa: AR** reported that he and Paul Bennett had been to Bristol to see Rachel Shaw who holds the Detsicas archive on this project, which includes day books, site plans etc. Rachael Shaw has agreed that a secure digital copy of this archive can be made. Peter Kendall Historic England is looking at providing funding for this digitisation. This then means that once done the full archive will be in Kent. **AR** noted that Paul Oldham was funding his own project into this Villa.
- b: **CIO and the Fieldwork Committee: CD** told the meeting that the status of the Society will be changing on 1st January 2019 together with a new constitution. This is an opportunity to review how the committees are setup and function. A wide-ranging discussion took place about the proposed changes. It was agreed that **CD** will submit

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a proposal on these changes to the committee. The committee will discuss and make a recommendation to Council at their October meeting.

- c:** **CD** told the meeting that there are ongoing discussions for the Society to host two study weekends with Roman Pottery as the subject matter, in 2020
- d:** Further discussions are taking place with Rochester Cathedral looking at the feasibility of running an Archaeology and History of Rochester weekend, using the cathedral as the central point around which the event will be held. 2020 is the target date for the weekend.
- e:** The meeting was told that information had been received that CKA has called an Extraordinary General Meeting of its membership with the proposition to close down the Charity.

10: Next Committee Meeting:

It was agreed that the next committee meetings will take place as follows:

Saturday 13th October 2018 at 10:30hrs in KAS Library, Maidstone Museum

Saturday 24th November 2018 Fieldwork Conference, Rutherford College, University of Kent at Canterbury.

There being no further business **KP** closed the meeting at 13:15hrs.