



Meeting held Saturday 13th May 2017

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 May 2017 these minutes are a true and complete record of the meeting held on Saturday 21st January 2017 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 May 2017.

Fieldwork Committee

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KP opened the meeting at 10:30hrs.

1: Attendance and Apologies

Attendances

Present

Keith Parfitt	KP	Chair
Clive Drew	CD	Secretary
Andrew Richardson	AR	
Chris Blair-Myers	CBM	
Ted Connell	TC	
Jo Ahmet	JA	
Geoff Burr	GB	
Vince Burrows	VB	
Liz Dyson	LD	
Steve Willis	SW	
Cliff Ward	CW	
Gerald Cramp	GC	
Albert Daniels	AD	

Absences & Apologies

Mike Eddy
Andrew Richardson
Pat Reid
Richard Taylor
Kevin Fromings
Richard Emmett
Shiela Broomfield
Annie Partridge

2: Minutes 22nd October 2016 Committee Meeting

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

3: Matters Arising

The Committee welcomed Mr Jo Ahmet from KCC (PAF/FLO) as the replacement for Ms Jennifer Jackson

a: Action List

The Action List from the meeting on 22nd October 2016 was discussed. **CD** to attend to the follow up items regarding the failed grant applications.

4: Grant Applications

It was noted that Council had approved grant applications to Fawkham and Ash Archaeological Group and the Maidstone Area Archaeological Group

5: Budgets:

CD told the meeting about Council's decision to cut the Fieldwork Committee budget for 2017. In the autumn of each year the Treasurer asks all committees to submit their budgets for the following year. In November, there is Finance Committee meeting which reviews the budget submissions from the committees together with

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other Society expenditure and Society Income. The Finance committee after due deliberation makes a recommendation to the December Council meeting in terms of Income and Expenditure. Council will then set the budget for the following year.

In the 2016 budget cycle Council had to make decisions based upon the following information: The budget spend for 2017 was projected at £191k - with a projected income in 2017 of £90k. Council made the decision to cut budgeted expenditure across the board to bring that expenditure in line with the anticipated income. All aspects of the Society have been effected by this decision.

In terms of the Fieldwork Committee the East Wear Bay Project (£5000) and the KCC/CAT Fieldwork Liaison Post (£6000) were cut from the budget. However, the Fieldwork Grants Budget was increased from £2500 to £6000, with the other budget items being left as per the Fieldwork Committees recommendations. The total budget for the Fieldwork Committee in 2017 was agreed by Council at £11500.

CD further told the meeting that the door was not shut on projects that had been potential agreed under the KCC/CAT Fieldwork Liaison Post. These projects would have to make either a normal Fieldwork Grant or an Emergency Small Grant application. The meeting was reminded about the grant approval cycle. Any grant application received before the next Fieldwork Committee on 13th May could well be recommended to the Council meeting to be held on Saturday 3rd June.

6: Conferences:

- a. **Roman Villas in the Landscape 2016:** This conference was a considerable success with 152 delegates attending the conference:

Society Members	87	£1720
Non Members	42	£1050
Complementary	23	

A surplus of £1893 was achieved after covering expenses associated with the conference.

It was agreed that **SW** oversee a bursary of £750.00 to be awarded to assist with the archaeological course work being undertaken by the students at the University.

GC said that because of the conference further questions about the Roman influence on our landscape had arisen, **GC** intends to have a meeting with the conference speakers to pursue this matter further.

The Committee thanked **CBM** for organising an informative and well attended conference.

- b. The 2017 Conference was agreed as being **“The Archaeology of Medieval Kent”** Date Saturday 4th November. Venue University of Kent - Canterbury Campus. Ticket pricing Society Members £15.00 Non-Members £20.00. Annie Partridge to be asked to be Conference Organiser with help from all committee members. **SB** to be asked if she would like to manage the ticketing arrangements.
- c. **Industrial Archaeology Conference 2018:** To be discussed with South Eastern Regional Industrial Archaeology.
- d. **Regional Aspects of Anglo Saxon and Monastic Sites in Kent 2019:** It was agreed that following on from a suggestion from Gabor Thomas the committee will host a conference in relation to this matter.

7: Lees Court Estate:

A report regarding the structured fieldwalking that took place in December was circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting. A Steering group meeting was to be held after the committee meeting were a

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programme of events for 2017 will be scheduled. Once agreed by the Estate they will be shared with the committee. Thought is being given to the submission of two Heritage Lottery bids the first one to purchase geophys equipment for the Society and our Affiliates Societies which would be used on the Estate and a second bid which will be Estate centric and will be submitted to buy in expertise needed for the project.

8: Fieldwork Projects:

Reports were submitted by:-

Maidstone Area Archaeological Group (MAAG):
Kent County Council (County Archaeologist)
Canterbury Hinterland Project
Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT)
Kent Archaeological Metal Detecting Support Unit (KAMSU)
West Kent Archaeological Society (WKAS)
The Alkham and Guston research Groups
St Peters Church Sandwich (GC)
Fawkham and Ash Archaeological Group (FAAG)
Dover Archaeological Group
University of Kent

9: Any Other Business:

a: Fieldwork Committee Secretary

Annie Partridge has agreed to become Secretary to the committee. Her first meeting will be on 13th May.

b: Eccles

The Steering Group has had its first meeting. **TC** suggested that to professionally finish this project would cost approximately £250,000. However, Rachael Shaw who originally worked on the project is in possession of the plans, day books and other project documentation, this material should be retrieved from Rachael Shaw and then over a period of years digitised and hosted on our website as a Corpus. This work could be carried out by a team of amateurs. From this Eccles Corpus, the final report on the project could be professionally produced. It was noted that **AR** had shown Rachael Shaw how to use the Integrated Archaeological Database but no material had been posted to it. **LD** commented that one of the actions from the Steering Group was for **AR** to write to Rachael Shaw to gain access to the Eccles paperwork to date no response has been received. **LD** has spoken to Peter Kendall at Historic England and there was potential funding available to help with the physical and intellectual security of the project material. **SW** suggested putting an article for any "Eccles" stories or photographs to add to the Eccles Corpus. The Steering Group to meet again and move this matter forward.

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10: Next Committee Meeting:

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

Saturday 13th May 2017 at 10:30hrs in KAS Library, Maidstone Museum

Saturday 14th October 2017 at 10:30hrs in KAS Library, Maidstone Museum

Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 20th May 2017 at Lecture Theatre 2, Eliot College, University of Kent Campus, Canterbury.

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