



Fieldwork Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday 12th October 2019.

Kent Archaeological Society's Library, Maidstone Museum,
St. Faith's 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 15th February 2020 these minutes are a true and complete record of the meeting held on Saturday 12th October 2019 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 15th February 2020

Fieldwork Committee Minutes

1: **KP** opened the meeting at 10:40 hrs.

2: **Attendance and Apologies**

Quorate Attendance

Keith Parfitt	KP	<i>Chair</i>
Emma Harker	EH	Secretary
Chris Blair-Myers	CBM	
Elizabeth Blanning	EB	
Shiela Broomfield	SB	
Clive Drew	CD	

Fieldwork Panel Members

J Ahmet
G Burr
V Burrows
G Cramp
L Dyson
M Eddy
R Emmett
K Fromings
A Richardson
R Taylor

All members of the Fieldwork Committee Quorate were present. **SB** felt that one or two other members of the Fieldwork Committee Panel should be present at future meetings to give more diversity. **CD** explained the reason for the scaling back to Quorate members under the new set up and how Panel members could be called upon at any time to stand in for absent Quorate members. It was suggested that to keep Panel members informed, the Minutes should be circulated to them once signed off by the Quorate.

3: **Declarations**

KP has paid out to Lees Court Estate and Lyminge?

4: **Fieldwork Committee Minutes 16th February 2019**

The Minutes were agreed by the Committee and signed by **KP**.

(a) Matters Arising

None.

Fieldwork Committee Minutes

5: Fieldwork Committee Forum

EB conveyed Steve Willis' frustration over the inconsistent organisation of the forthcoming FWC Forum to date; consequently the initial proposed venue at University of Kent, Canterbury has already been booked and a Lecture Hall at Eliot College and some other less suitable rooms are the only available venues left. Discussion took place around the venue options and it was agreed for **EH** to email Steve Willis to ask him to go ahead with the booking of the Eliot College Lecture Hall. It was agreed that the Forum should be targeting active Fieldwork Affiliated Societies and encouraging them to attend and to share their progress with others. Suggested Guest Speakers were noted as possibly Peter Slaughter (Swalecliffe) or Pat Reid with **KP** to round up and Chair the Forum.

SB suggested that the Spring 2020 Forum be held at Forsyth Hall, Age UK Sevenoaks and Tonbridge, Tonbridge, as she had used the venue before and found it to be highly suitable. A date of Saturday 21st March 2020 was decided upon and **SB** agreed to book the venue and Jane Clayton was proposed as a possible Guest Speaker.

6: 2020 Proposed Budget

CD ran through the proposed 2020 Budget and 4 Year Forecast. It was noted that £500 needed to be included under the Fieldwork Forum column for 2020 and the total column to be altered accordingly.

Discussion took place over the joint costs of Annual Kent Archaeological Society Conference with Council for British Archaeology South East. **EB** is to arrange for the Guest Speakers, Chairman and President (and wife) to dine externally from University of Kent, Canterbury as this seemed to be the preferred and prudent option. A Bursary is to be awarded to the University for hosting the Conference. **EB** stated that the last Bursary awarded to the University had not been received.

CD will send the proposed Budget to the Treasurer and ask for the Bursaries to be paid to the University.

7: Grant Applications – New and prior applications

- a. **£1000 grant refund** - ?????????????? given back to KAS FWC as the landowner has removed approval for dig.
- b. **Tim Bain Smith for Charing Archaeological Group** – This application was approved with the provision of an article being submitted for the next Newsletter and a copy of the Geophys results to be shared with the Fieldwork Committee. **CD** to pass approved application on to the Treasurer.
- c. **Robert Baldwin for Dr Gabor Thomas; re-excavation of Lyminge Church.** – The grant application of £5000 is the full year's grant quota and therefore too great. A reduced sum of £1500 was suggested to go towards post-excavation work with the condition of an article for Arch Cant being produced. The possibility of the refunded £1000 grant being also awarded to this application was

Fieldwork Committee

Minutes

discussed and **CD** will put this proposal to Council for consideration as it was felt that this major excavation should be seen to be supported by the Society.

- d. **Dr Luke Levan, University of Kent at DROP (Discover Roman Otford Project)** – As this application was for travel expenses it was not approved due to the terms of approval. It was noted that the University of Kent students had carried out some very good Field Work at DROP.

Previous applications

- a. **Dr Andrew Bates Application** – **CD** will liaise with Andy Bates to resubmit with amended wording.

8: Conferences

- a. **2019** - **CD** observed that the KAS seemed not to be represented at the forthcoming joint Conference. **EB** stated that representation had not been a known priority at the time of booking Guest Speakers and that they had been booked for their areas of expertise only.
- b. **2020** – **CD** will email Andrew Richardson and Victor Smith to ask them for their co-operation and support in running a joint Conference, under the heading of “The Invasion and Defence of Kent – from Roman Times to Modern Day”.
- c. **2021** – **EB** suggested an Anglo-Saxon Monastic Conference be held instead of the proposed “A Kent Landscape – From Pre-history to Industrialisation”. The latter subject might be postponed until 2022 as Lees Court Estate would have developed greatly by then.

9: Curator Report

EB stated that the Maidstone Museum Audit continues and more KAS items are being uploaded to ADLIB. The inscribed silver spoon **EB** had received is going to be documented and stored at Marsham Street archives. **EB** spoke of being contacted by Jo Ahmet who had received a catalogued KAS archive (bowl base) from another fellow Finds Liaison Officer. **EB** will arrange with Jo Ahmet for the bowl base to be returned to KAS Archives.

CBM enquired as to whether there is room in the Marsham Street office to house a small display case for non-valuable finds. **KP** and **CD** spoke of the ongoing need for storage solutions.

Fieldwork Committee Minutes

10: Lees Court Estate

Work at Baddlesmere Bottom, Stringman's Field and Wood's Court Field took place as per outlined in the year's programme, resulting with the discovery of 30 more features along with a huge amount of pottery and flint finds. Approximately 7000 sherds of pottery were unearthed; of which were a high proportion of bases - **KP** was unsure if this held some relevance. **KP** spoke of the thatch/loom weight find and asked **CD** to weigh it, in order for **KP** to pass on its statistics to Penelope Walton-Rogers for identification. **KP** will be writing an article for Arch Cant concerning Woodman's Field.

12: Any Other Business

- a. **Roman Pottery Study Weekends (2020)** - **EB** has spoken at length with Anne Sassin and believes that the Darent Valley Project may be able to help facilitate such training opportunities. This may now be able to be realised in 2020 rather than postponed until 2021.
- b. **Treasure Act Consultation** – Gerald Cramp submitted the feedback from the Society to the Government, but it does not seem to have had any bearing on the composition of the Treasure Act.
- c. **South East Historic Environment Research Framework** – **CBM** has liaised with Lis Dyson and believes that the SEHERF does not impinge on KAS business.

13: Future Fieldwork Committee Meeting Dates

It was agreed that the next Committee Meetings will take place as follows:

Society Annual Joint Conference with Council for British Archaeology South East - Saturday 2nd November 2019, Rutherford College, University of Kent, at Canterbury.

Fieldwork Committee Forum - Saturday 23rd November 2019 at 10.00hrs, Eliot College, University of Kent, at Canterbury.

Fieldwork Committee Meeting – Saturday 15th February 2020 at 10:30hrs, KAS Library, Maidstone Museum.

Fieldwork Committee Forum – Saturday 21st March 2020 at Forsyth Hall, Age UK Sevenoaks & Tonbridge, 5 Bradford Street, Tonbridge.

Fieldwork Committee Meeting – Saturday 17th October 2020 at 10.30hrs, KAS Library, Maidstone Museum.

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