

## **Scottish Group of the IfA**

### **Minutes of the AGM of the Scottish Group of the Institute for Archaeologists**

**Friday 28 October 2011, 3pm**

**Sydney Smith Lecture Theatre, University of Edinburgh, Teviot Place, Edinburgh**

**Chair:** Daniel Rhodes

**Present:** Jonathan Benjamin, Andy Bicket, Steven Birch, Susan Casey, Piers Dixon, Lynn Fraser, Angela Gannon, George Geddes, Amy Gillespie, Candy Hatherley, Melanie Johnson, Cara Jones, John Lawson, Julie Lochrie, Gavin MacGregor, John McCarthy, Peter McKeague, Lachlan McKeggie, Mary Peteranna, Matt Ritchie, Phil Richardson, Mark Roberts, Alan Saville, Becky Shaw, Jonathon Wordsworth.

- | <b>1. Apologies</b>  | <b>Action</b> |
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| Apologies were received from: Coralie Mills, Beverley Ballin Smith, David Bowler, Robin Turner, Kenneth Aitchison.   |               |
| <b>2. Welcome to members and guests</b>  |               |
| The Chair welcomed members and guests and thanked the afternoon's seminar speakers for their presentations: Matt Ritchie, John Lawson, and George Geddes.  |               |
| <b>3. Treasurer's Report</b>   |               |
| The Hon. Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report. Clarification was provided on the way in which SGIfA is allocated funding and how that is spent. The accounts were approved unanimously.  |               |
| <b>4. Chairman's Report</b>  |               |
| The Chair reported that the Newsletter had continued to grow and be successful over the previous year, with two issues a year issued to members. The previous year saw the delivery of two training sessions on Surveying and Post-Medieval Pottery, which were well received and included a session in Inverness as part of the Group's intention to deliver training away from the Central Belt. The Chair thanked all of the tutors and committee members who made these sessions possible. Training sessions planned for the coming year include GIS, Health & Safety, and a re-run of the Surveying course. |               |

The Chair read out a statement from Kate Geary regarding the NOS consultation and CPD. SGIfA continued to contribute to advocacy work in Scotland, by assisting the Reading office with consultations on Scottish matters and through membership of BEFS. The Committee also gave talks at Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities to students regarding career opportunities.

The Chair stated that future aspirations for the Committee were to investigate SGIfA's ability to perform an advisory role to members for IfA applications and upgrades, and to look at whether a Scottish 'Southport' vision was appropriate.

Membership statement – 358.

**5. Elections**

As there were fewer nominations than places on the Committee, the nominees were elected to the Committee without requiring a ballot. The Committee members are Mark Roberts (Chair), Melanie Johnson (Hon. Secretary), Mary Peteranna (Hon. Treasurer), Susan Casey, Kenneth Aitchison, Cara Jones, Candy Hatherley.

The outgoing Chair thanked those Committee members who were standing down for all their hard work over the previous year.

**6. AOCB**

A wide ranging discussion was held. It was noted that the IfA's conference had not been held in Scotland for a number of years and that the membership was keen for it to return to north of the border.

It was noted that ALGAO in Scotland were working on guidance notes and that there was an opportunity for joined-up-thinking to ensure SGIfA's training plans were not duplicated by ALGAO.

It was noted that there is a degree of overlap between the contents of the Newsletter and that of Archaeology Scotland's magazine. This led on to a discussion about promotion and some of the ways in which membership of the IfA in Scotland could be promoted.

The idea of a Scottish 'Southport' was discussed, debating whether such a document was required in Scotland given the nature of the industry here and the different opportunities presented.

Melanie Johnson, Hon. Secretary, 7 November 2011