

Scottish Group Minutes

22 August 2013, 2pm
RCAHMS, Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh

Present: Susan Hamilton (Minutes), Peter Hinton, Matt Ritchie (Chair), Andrea Smith.

1.	Apologies	Action
	Kenneth Aitchison, Mel Johnson, Cara Jones, Cait McCullagh, Mary Peteranna, Mark Roberts	
2.	Minutes	
	Previous minutes approved.	
3.	HS Voluntary Sector Grant Report	
	<p>AS will circulate the project design and task list.</p> <p>Training Courses: Plans are underway for the four training courses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Speaking - Tuesday 8 October. This is booked and the trainer is arranging venue. Cost £45pp. Details are included in the forthcoming newsletter. Both CJ and SH have been on a 'taster session' given by the trainer and can recommend it. 2. Archiving (date TBA) – AS is in progress of arranging a meeting with Iain Fraser (RCAHMS) and Alan Saville (NMS). The Archives SIG are also involved. Suggestion that the day should incorporate a workshop element and look at why archiving is important and the processes involved in addition to simply providing instructions on 'how to do it properly'. 3. Professional Standards (November) There was brief discussion on whether a session looking at the whole range of IfA Standards and Guidance would be useful, which the group agreed it would be. PH noted the proposal is to look at the whole suite, which would act as a reminder that there have been changes made to them, and then focus on some of the Standards in more detail; MR suggested the <i>IfA Standard and guidance for archaeological advice and procurement of archaeological services</i> and the <i>Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Advice</i> may be worth looking at in detail. 4. Technical Skills (December)TBA. The proposed session on Photogrammetry has been postponed. AS to liaise with Mro to discuss a day on medieval pottery. <p>Conference 2014: A list of proposed sessions will be circulated. It was discussed briefly with some suggestions for merging sessions. To enable the call for papers to go out on time, comments are requested by Wednesday 28 August. Amanda Forster thanked the group for its efforts in helping with the Conference. The suggestion from Amanda to produce a SglfA leaflet in time for the Conference was accepted; MR suggested the text from MJ's <i>The Archaeologist</i> article would provide a good source of quotes.</p>	<p>AS attached with minutes</p> <p>AS</p> <p>AS</p> <p>AS/MRo</p> <p>ALL (urgent)</p>

	<p>PH noted that the IfA will be inviting Fiona Hyslop to open the Conference.</p> <p>Recruitment: PH noted that recruitment drive must continue in order to meet the Group's target. There was discussion of recruitment events and the possibility of bespoke leaflets/handouts was discussed. This will be explored by AS. Further suggestions may come from the questionnaire.</p> <p>'Southport' Event: It was agreed, that this event should be held on the day of the AGM. This event will look at the public benefit of developer-funded archaeology in Scotland. The SGIfA will be required to suggest invitees in due course. HS are happy to provide the venue if dates suit (which would also be the AGM venue). As an alternative, MR suggested the Royal Society of Edinburgh.</p> <p>TA and NPPG: The edition of <i>The Archaeologist</i> immediately before the Conference will act as a 'warm up' and include a number of articles of Scottish interest, including a review of 20 years of developer-funded archaeology. MR suggested that the Group suggest a 'wish list' of articles. AS noted that the deadline for articles was early February.</p> <p>Student Prize: This will be advertised by a mail-out to the universities. A poster/pdf will be created which can also be attached to the emails. The competition will be an essay entitled 'why I want to be a professional archaeologist' and the prize will be a year on the SGIfA Committee as student rep and possibly a book token (to be confirmed by central office).</p>	<p>AS</p> <p>ALL to suggest invitees; AS to organise venue</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>MR to provide poster content to IfA centre</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>AGM</p>	
	<p>The call for nominations to the Committee must go out by the end of August. This will be added to the newsletter and the newsletter cover email. SH will be standing down at the AGM due to maternity leave. It was agreed that informal efforts will be made to recruit from local government, academia and HS. MR suggested talking to organisers of the First Millennia Studies Group, as they have achieved successful cross-sectoral representation.</p> <p>AS noted that the accounts and annual report should be circulated prior to the AGM, and need to be with Lianne Birney by 11 September.</p> <p>MP should liaise with Lianne Birley re the accounts (the central office will be able to draft the accounts)</p> <p>MRO is to draft the Hon Chair's report – PH suggested that an updated version of the report produced for council would be suitable.</p> <p>Once the venue had been confirmed, a venue for post-event drinks will be organised.</p>	<p>ALL PH – speak to Rebecca Jones re HS.</p> <p>MP</p> <p>MRO</p> <p>SH</p>

5.	Advocacy	
	<p>BEFS HEWG Report: PH provided a report from the BEFS HEWG meeting. The two main themes of discussion was the Historic Environment Strategy and the merger between RCAHMS and HS.</p> <p>Strategy – An analysis of the responses to the Strategy has shown that everyone is broadly supportive, but there were also more detailed comments. There was discussion on which body would have responsibility for implementation, as it is Scotland’s Strategy. BEFs is considering convening cross-sectoral sub-groups of lead bodies to develop an approach, and will request Scottish Government support to begin this.</p> <p>Merger – BEFS HEWG will be setting up a small group to work out what the key ‘asks’ will be, in particular what will be in the Bill. The best way to secure the functions of both organisations will be to include them within the statutory functions of the new body.</p> <p>Consultations: PH passed on the thanks of Tim Howard for recent responses to consultations, especially those from MRo and MR. PH noted that there are a number of marine consultations coming up and Tim will circulate the usual bulletins.</p> <p>SPP – PH reported that following the IfA’s strong response to the SPP consultation, he and Tim Howard were invited to a meeting with the Scottish Government policy team to discuss the issues raised.</p> <p>Archaeology Strategy: PH noted that Rebecca Jones was still in the process of trying to set a date for the advisory group. Information will be passed on as soon as it is available.</p>	
6.	Newsletter	
	The group noted their thanks to MJ for the production of the newsletter, which will be circulated (with the addition of the call for nominations) the w/c 26 August.	
7.	Matters Arising	
	There were no matters arising.	
8.	Dates of Future Meetings	
	AGM – 23 October 2013 January 2014 – Date TBC	
9.	AOB	
	None	