Minutes

Present: Nick Bateman (OCM), Dave Bolton (Secretary), Catherine Cavanagh (Treasurer), Victoria Donnelly (OCM), Duncan Hawkins (Chair), Guy Hunt (OCM), Sofie Jackson (OCM), Christina Reade (OCM), Michael Tierney (OCM), and 12 members of the LAG.

1. Opening Remarks and Apologies for absence

     Hon Chair opened the meeting.
     Hon Sec reported no apologies for absence had been received.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

     The minutes of the 2016 AGM were accepted without comment.

3. Chair’s Statement

     Duncan Hawkins welcomed all present and wanted to highlight the development during the last year of the CPeasyD series of CPD events (more in the reports to follow) with the hope that these should become established.

4. Secretary’s Report

     Dave Bolton reported:

     Commencing the group year with the AGM debate on The future of London’s archaeology; speakers from CIfA, GLAAS and GgMs /RPS, introduced and discussed aspects of the impact the proposed loosening of planning controls might have on our ability to do archaeology in London. This was followed by the AGM where all the existing committee members retired having served full terms. Three new committee members were elected, and several individuals volunteered; the new committee being made up to its full strength subsequently through co-opting these and further volunteers.

     Continuing our fruitful relationship with IHBC we again held a joint day conference at Alan Baxter’s Gallery venue in Cowcross Street EC1. HELP! - Getting the Historic Environment into Local Plans-and the London Plans; examined the theory, policy and implementation behind the inclusion of historic environment policies in local plans. Richard Parish, Historic Places Adviser, Historic England spoke about Heritage in Local Plan-making, Sandy Kidd, Principal Archaeology Advisor (GLAAS) Historic England, covered Archaeological Priority Areas, in conjunction with Borough Local Plan reviews. David Divers of MOLA provided a case study and Isabelle Adams gave the viewpoint from Crossrail 2.

     The first of our C Peasy D events "Environmental Samples; When, why, and how to take them" was presented by Sylvia Warman (Historic England Science Advisor for London) in May. The event, sponsored by cgms, was attended by 24 delegates. CPeasyD is a series of half hour informative and educational presentations, with half an hour to discuss the topic and put questions to industry leading experts. The series - designed to be of
particular interest to archaeologists in the PCIfA grade looking to gain some wider knowledge about commercial archaeology in London, continues with events in October, November and January; all are sponsored by London archaeological organisations.

A London Group presence on twitter has been established this month - members are invited to follow @CIfA_LAG.

5 Treasurer’s Report

Catherine Cavanagh reported:

The London Area Group budget for 2016/17 was £200, primarily for committee member travel when representing LAG. Most of the budget admin is handled centrally by CIfA.

The LAG committee is aiming for all our events to be sponsored, so that they are free to CIfA members and there are refreshments to facilitate networking.

We are very grateful to CgMs for sponsoring this year’s events – both the CIfA LAG AGM 2016 and our first CPeasyD Environmental Sampling workshop in May 2017. Thank you to MOLA and L-P Archaeology for funding today’s AGM.

The Joint IHBC Day conference was financed from ticket sales and made a small surplus, which we share with IHBC.

Please make contact (cathecavanagh@gmail.com) if you’d like to sponsor a future event.

6 Constitution and Rules

Dave Bolton explained that the New Constitution and Rules (posted prior to the AGM) were essentially unchanged from the existing, other than to reflect CIfA’s achievement of chartered status, and exactly followed the CIfA model for Groups.

The Constitution and Rules 13 September 2017 were adopted.

7 Elections

The following Members have served as co-opted members of the committee over the past year and stand down. All have put themselves forward for election:

- Hon Chair: Duncan Hawkins
- Hon Treasurer: Catherine Cavanagh
- OCM: Michael Tierney, Christina Reade, Nick Bateman, Sophie Jackson.

There being no other nominations received and no objections, all were duly elected.

8 AOB

Guy Hunt advised the meeting that the next CPeasyD would be London’s Prehistory with Jon Cotton on 4 October 2017, and asked members to promote the event within their organisations.

Catherine Cavanagh advised the meeting that a walk around Kings Cross with Becky Haslam (PCA) and David Divers (MOLA) on 24 September 2017 was the next LAG event; with booking by Eventbrite see CIfA LAG Webpage or twitter.

There being no other business the meeting closed.