

CIFA LONDON AREA GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 19th September 2019, 19:30
Arup, 13 Fitzroy St, Bloomsbury, London W1T 4BQ

Minutes

Present: Dave Bolton (Secretary), Catherine Cavanagh (Treasurer), Victoria Donnelly (OCM) and 10 members of the LAG.

1. Opening Remarks and Apologies for absence

Action

Hon Sec opened the meeting and reported that apologies had been received from Duncan Hawkins (Chair), Christina Reade (OCM), Chris Mayo, and Rob Whytehead.

In the absence of the Chairman Hon Sec proposed Victoria Donnelly to chair the meeting which was accepted.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were accepted without comment.

3. Chair's Statement

Victoria Donnelly welcomed all present and thanked the speaker for the preceding talk.

4. Secretary's Report

Dave Bolton presented the Annual Report:

Our focus for 2018/19 continued to be on continuing professional development, for and about London archaeologists.

Vision for the Future - Supporting our 2018 AGM, we had a panel discussion on *Aspirations for London Archaeology*, kindly sponsored by CgMs (RPS) with free food and drink at The City Pride Pub EC1.

Chaired by Taryn Nixon, the Question Time format tackled diversity, equal opportunities, dissemination and innovation. With thanks to our wonderful panel for addressing these issues head on: Adam Corsini from Museum of London Archive, Raksha Dave from DigVentures, Peter Hinton from Cifa, Michael Tierney from Headland, and Sadie Watson from Mola.

Representing London Archaeologists – Our regular activities include representing our members by contributing to discussions and issues wherever there is a London angle. Discussions around introducing a Chartered grade of member were of course one of the major themes over the year. The London Group Committee is always seeking the views and concerns of our members and continue to represent these through our representative at Advisory Council; Christina Reade took over this role for most of the past year.

CPeasyD - Rebecca Haslam of PCA gave a refresher session on site formation in October.

We are planning more of our popular CPeasyD events, designed as informal training for archaeologists, particularly those in the PCIfA grade and an opportunity to network these are regularly attended by professionals in all the membership levels and disciplines together with a number of non-members. The format is to combine discussion and networking with half hour presentations by industry experts - for free and in a pub. Suggestions and assistance for future sessions are welcome. These events are sponsored by a range of organisations "in the business" in London.

We were in turn very pleased to be able to support MoL Archaeological Archive in July with a free event about significance-led selection for archives in London.

Getting up to Speed - *Infrastructure and the historic environment: HS2 in London*. Once again, we held a joint seminar with IHBC London Branch at the Gallery in Cowcross Street, with Alan Baxter generously letting us use this great venue for free. The speakers were literally in the hotspot on one of the warmest days of the year, which didn't prevent us from enjoying their presentations.

Ken Sable of Atkins and HS2 introduced the project from the client's perspective; new methods are being developed not only to monitor and record standing buildings, but for the largest archaeological excavation programme ever undertaken in the UK. David English of Historic England put the project into its strategic context; the new station and its setting are informed by the need to create an attractive new destination, such as improving Euston Square informed by earlier town planning and safeguarding of monuments. Sorina Spanou of Mola Headland Infrastructure showcased practical solutions to challenges such as recording over 30,000 burials at Euston. Finally, Alan Wito of Camden Council illustrated how the council is managing the impact on its heritage assets, with some detailed case studies of adapting listed buildings to help residents during the long construction period and beyond.

With thanks to Catherine Cavanagh and IHBC London committees for contributing to the smooth running of this event.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Catherine Cavanagh reported:

The London Area Group budget for 2018/19 was £250, primarily for committee member travel when representing LAG and that it was largely underutilised. Most of the budget admin is handled centrally by ClfA.

The LAG committee continues to aim for most of our events to be sponsored, so that they are free to ClfA members and there are refreshments to facilitate networking.

We are very grateful to RPS for sponsoring last year's ClfA LAG AGM 2018; and our CPeasyD session on site formation processes. Thank you to Arup for sponsoring today's event and AGM.

The Joint IHBC Day conference "Getting up to speed " was financed from ticket sales - and Alan Baxter's provision of their venue - and again 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. Election of committee

Hon Secretary: One nomination was received for the position of Honorary Secretary from **Dave Bolton**. As the number of nominations for Honorary Treasurer did not exceed the number of vacancies Dave was declared elected at the AGM.

Ordinary Committee Members: Three nominations were received for the positions of Ordinary Committee Member from; **Victoria Donnelly, Guy Hunt and Chris Mayo**. As the number of nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies Victoria, Guy and Chris were declared elected.

Advisory Council Representative: Secretary reported that the committee have again appointed **Christina Reade** to be Advisory Council Representative for the next year.

The committee has been supported by Co-opted members over the last year and propose to co-opt additional members to assist in co-ordination with other organisations, event planning and communications over the forthcoming year.

7. AOB

None

There being no other business the meeting closed.