

Finds Special Interest Group

14 May 2025

Online Teams meeting 1pm

Minutes

Present: Emily Johnson (EJ, chair); Bekky Hillman (BH, secretary); Peter Guest (PG); Anna Tyake (AT); Ruth Beveridge (RB); Rachel Cubitt (RC); Gulfareen Kamran (GK); Laura Ratcliffe-Warren (LRW); Cara Burton (CB, CIfA).

Agenda Point		Action (Initials)
1.	Apologies Deborah Fox (DF), Imogen Wood (IW),	
2.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting Approved no changes	
3.	Advisory Council Feedback EJ Nathan has stepped down as CEO Alex Llewellyn and Kate Greary have taken over Two main points: 3 year plan-Attract, Develop, Assure and Influence Also develop a training advisory panel AT will represent us	AT to contact Kate to join training advisory panel
4.	Town Hall Meeting Feedback (EJ) EJ meeting was a success in that it allowed for useful discussions with several representatives of different finds adjacent groups AT has been doing PAS training, which as an outcome of the meeting have been opened up for those outside the PAS. The flint course attracted 65 people. Courses are approximately an hour with guidelines and reference material suggested. Matt Ball is the new advisor for FLO. EJ Meeting has made us aware of courses that are already available that we weren't aware people could attend AT/EJ funding always an issue, putting burdens on small societies and their fee-paying attendees especially. Reduces accessibility of training for eg early careers. Often professionals have to give their time to provide training, HE very good at being involved though or other bodies such as the National Lottery RB worth highlighting that it was mainly local societies that joined the meeting, none of the larger groups attended. Discussions could have been more fruitful had they come.	AT to ask how many extra people are now attending their sessions that aren't FLO's

	<p>EJ could the group be a communications centre for groups to advertise their training, could be a hub for case studies etc such as IW session</p> <p>RC List of specialists needs to be done</p> <p>BH BAJR have said their list needs updating</p> <p>RB could we link the ClfA one with BAJR one so we have one list PG ClfA needs to be the place to go and it need to be ClfA registered members only BAJR allows you to register even if you have no real specialism (as well as if you do)</p> <p>CB list needs to be more searchable; discussion about having tags for listed specialists like “open for work”, “looking for mentee”</p>	<p>Finds SIG to consider championing the specialist list – to discuss in future meetings.</p>
5.	<p>AMP Feedback (RC)</p> <p>RC went well 25 people attended, there were more potential mentees than mentors. Mentors and Mentees did a ‘speed dating’ session. Feedback was good and partnerships were formed. 1 June is the deadline for applications.</p> <p>PG need to be aware that we need to meet the sector needs not just what people want to do</p>	
6.	<p>FAFF Update (LRW)</p> <p>LRW website is live, has had a soft launch at the moment. To follow there will be online events on how to use the website and linked to chapters. September will be marking of finds, two weeks after there will be a surgery. November will be packaging and a two week follow up. Next year will be more finds based. A session on block lifting is also planned.</p>	<p>GK to share link on social media platforms for website and then for the sessions</p>
7.	<p>Communications (GF)</p> <p>GK hasn’t finished posting the bios as had other stuff to add, in Feb made a template for finds on Khub for people to add and then can put on to social media. Need to keep posting to keep traffic coming through. 46 new members on FB and gaining one to two members a week while posting regularly</p>	<p>EJ to make folder on Khub for photos for social media posts as GK cant make folder</p>
8.	<p>AGM</p> <p>PG could use his site to discuss how reports are finds led and use this as an AGM for discussion.</p> <p>EJ could we get other speakers to discuss how these finds reports are joined together to make the final report</p> <p>RC Back in the Bag book that she reviewed could do something to do with this and how we look at small finds</p> <p>RC if we did in person we could bring finds</p> <p>EJ has to be available online as hybrid not just in person</p> <p>EJ Should be between September-December need venue</p>	<p>RC to contact them again to see if we can use this publication as a basis of a discussion</p> <p>AT to investigate Bristol Museum as a venue; EJ to investigate UCL.</p>
9.	AOB	

Insert group logo here

	<p>Toolkits Wales (EJ) EJ presenting at Cymru AGM 20 May on toolkits 45 minute presentation talking about each toolkit and how it is used. All online with focus on Welsh archaeology</p> <p>Phil Mills (BH) At Midlands institute in September a selection of papers being given in memory of Phil, more information to follow any queries contact Jerry Evans (jerry.evanspot@gmail.com)</p> <p>Roman coin toolkit (PG) Updated version nearly finished. Main changes are a recording template and the renamed to recording toolkit. Updated list and website is now live and includes FAQ section and downloadable PDF of how to use and video introducing the Toolkit</p> <p>Should we nominate the Toolkits to CBA Archaeology Awards for acknowledgement of our achievements as a group</p>	
10.	<p>Date of next committee meeting and future events Doodle poll to follow for meeting in July</p>	