

Forensic Archaeology Special Interest Group

16 December 2025, 18:30

Online, Teams

AGM Minutes

Present: Cara Burton (ClfA staff), Dee Hillier - Ordinary committee member, Robert Janaway – Chair, Sabrina Ki – Advisor, , Deborah Ryder - Ordinary committee member, Madeleine Stephens - Ordinary committee member, Diana Swales – Secretary, Jess Butt, Ian Hanson, David Jordan, Andrea Scott.

Agenda Point		Action (Initials)
1.	Apologies for absence Alexandria Young, Caroline Sims	
2.	Minutes of last AGM Have been accepted without changes to date.	
3.	Matters Arising None reported	
4.	Chair's Welcome and AGM Report The chair, Robert Janaway (RJ), welcomed everybody to the meeting and summarised key themes from the year. Principally this regarded the actions to organise a joint practical workshop with OSTEOSIG which failed to come to fruition. FASIG is still positive about progressing with a practical workshop but it was decided that a firm baseline was needed on what the membership wanted. A survey was sent to ClfA membership to gauge interests of the group and preferences for scheduling and delivery of any workshops, webinars and presentations etc. The survey also considered the modes for communication with the membership due to concerns regarding the use of X (previously Twitter). There were 17 respondents to the survey, 16 of which were ClfA members at a professional level. RJ provided a summary of key findings from the survey but more detailed analysis of the responses will be undertaken and reported on in a committee meeting early in the new year. Avenues that will be investigated include a group presence on LinkedIn. A notable conclusion from the survey was that the ClfA annual conference would be a good medium through which to deliver conference style presentations, posters and networking opportunities requested in the survey instead of a separate one-day event of that nature. Regarding the proposed exercise in practical recovery from fire scenes, which was the main area of discord in proposed plans with OSTEOSIG, Alexandria Young has reported interest from the British Association for Forensic Anthropology (BAFA). There was positive response from the committee for this collaboration. Deborah Ryder expressed	<p>Plan a session for ClfA annual conference (28 and 29th April 2026) - To be discussed in next committee meeting.</p> <p>More forward with planning practical exercise – To be discussed at next committee meeting.</p>

	support for both collaboration and moving forward with planning practical exercise.	
5.	<p>Secretary's Report</p> <p>Committee meetings were held on the 28 March, 24 April and 7 October. A meeting arranged for 16 May was cancelled.</p> <p>The focus of these meetings has been the advancement of plans for a conference, training sessions and webinars for 2026. This has included resources available from ClfA.</p> <p>Suggestions for conferences/workshops/activities and potential guest speakers were collated within the Group, and some key potential speakers for webinars have been contacted with positive responses.</p> <p>It was decided in the April Forensic Archaeology SIG meeting that it would be advantageous to try and gather more information about the membership and what their preferences would be for activities from us, eg., online, in-person, time of year, evenings and weekends, location etc.</p> <p>Cara Burton provided valuable information regarding the demographics and regional distribution of the membership and helped with the design and the delivery of the FASIG Membership Survey, which was released at the beginning of December with a response deadline of the 12th December, the Friday immediately prior to the AGM.</p> <p>The meeting on the 7th October focussed on the membership survey and potential modifications to the accreditation process, specifically the ethical competency review.</p>	
6.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The Treasurer, Alexandria Young, was unable to attend but emailed to confirm there has been no expenditure by the group this year and note the positive growth of the group membership by the sign-up of two non-members of ClfA.</p>	
7.	<p>3-Year Plan review</p> <p>The plan is to overhaul the 3-year plan going forwards based on the survey and preparatory work undertaken this year. A better understanding has been gained of the changes in membership and the profession since the formation of the group 6-9 years ago. The current plan is coming to an end, so it is a good time to prepare a new focussed plan.</p>	To be discussed at next committee meeting
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>N/A</p>	
9.	Date of the next committee meeting, and future events.	

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	<p>The committee should confirm the next committee meeting date and general location and inform ClfA staff via Groups@archaeologists.net</p> <p>Week commencing 5 January 2026 (or Monday – Tuesday week after)</p>	
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