

CIIfA Scottish Group AGM- DRAFT
18/11/2025
Remote meeting via Microsoft Teams

Present:

1.	Apologies	Action
	Helena Gray, Christina Hills	
2.	Previous Minutes	
	Accepted Matt Ritchie & Corline Mills	
3.	Chair's Welcome- David Connolly (DC)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG had an exciting year • A brilliant in person networking event, thanks to Dr Rebecca Jones, Simon Gilmour, the brilliant speakers (Steve Birch, Jeff Sanders and Liz Robson) and Matt Ritchie. It was successful and is being used as a template for future “gatherings” and in person networking events • SG are exploring a Conference event • SG has been involved in several consultations in the last year – Solar Farms and HES Corporation Plan to name a few • Special thanks to Helena Gray who is stepping down as an OCM for her contribution to the SG • Thanks to all the committee and the members 	
4.	Cara Jones' Strategic Skills Development update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of skills development in Scotland • Two accredited archaeology degrees Edinburgh and Aberdeen • Skills to be equitable • Scotland's Archaeology Strategy- It was based on identifying skills gaps and needs, it is now at the end of the 1st iteration • Apprenticeships, designed for 6-7 students, it is in stage 2 or 4 of development and is due for roll out in Winter 2026; CIIfA also need to be accredited qualification providers • Vocational courses to be offered • Online offerings to provide geographical access • Student development- last activity was Heritage Careers Week • HES partnership • Looking to deliver 6 CPD workshops by end of March 2026- 3 pencilled in for carbon capture with different timings through the week • Looking into more e-learning for more flexible access • Cara Jones is always open to ideas and can be contacted on cara.jones@archaeologists.net 	Cara Jones is always open to ideas and can be contacted on cara.jones@archaeologists.net
5.	CIIfA Conference 2026	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of SG ideas for the CIIfA conference 2026 • Coffee break idea; Pub (locations proposed Athletic Arms/The Diggers, Waverly Bar) 	Committee to workshop further ideas Committee can be contacted with ideas

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cara Jones (CJ) noted that the new Scotland Archaeology Strategy will be presented at an session and will include presentations on Scottish base archaeology • Paul Harrison (PH) noted that Mary Kings Close and Auld Reekie were popular tourist ideas which may be discussed for offering to Conference attendees 	
6.	In person networking event 2026)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Ritchie (MR) • Building on success of in person networking event in September 2025 • Thanks to Dr Jones and NMS • 22 attendees • Next event pencilled for October 2026 • Need a good venue • Any ideas please contact MR • Simon Gimour (SG) noted that the Society had used the ice breaker idea successfully with students from Heriot-Watt • DC- questioned Kilmartin Museum on accessibility • Perth and Dundee discussed- MR has connection with V and A to explore and SG noted that the Society has connections to the McManus Museum 	Committee to explore location for 2026 event
7.	SCGlFA Online Conference	Further workshopping Identify a date, time and niche
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An online conference- something like between 10-3pm • Access across Scotland • Short papers- 12-15 mins • Identified a gap in the market, focusing on Methods and Practice • Wide variety of voices • Request for anyone interested • Notes the Arp is a hybrid conference • Dr Jones- needs a theme and subject; and a way of linking to ClfA CPD • Kevin Mooney (KM) – would need ClfA help in facilitating; would be a place for unrecognised names; happy to help • Dan Rhodes (DR)- nice idea to pitch to EC and students but note although conferences do this; would have to watch for timing; could be a place for people to practice and would need to pitch to managers as a space for practice • Joe Somerville (JS)- in principle a good idea but need to work through programming and range and look for a nice • CJ- Anna at ClfA happy to help to link any conference into CPD • DC- need to look at timings and go away and workshop 	
8.	Roles in Committee	
	<p>Many thanks to Helena Gray who is stepping down as OCM.</p> <p>OCM- Co-opted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorothy Graves McEwan • Kelsi McDaniel <p>Congratulations and welcome on board</p>	CB to update Committee lists- website, email and Knowledge Hub

	<p>DC- requested that we keep searching for a Student member</p> <p>Advisory Council Rep</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Hills CIFA AC rep • Lisa Bird SG Rep on AC Comm 	
9.	AOCB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KM- Thanks to committee • JS- Need to sort secretary access to Gmail account • SG Finances (£235 out, £340.56 in)- Cara Burton (CB) SG group are doing ok • DC- thanks to all for coming • CB- thanks to the Committee for their hard work 2024-25 	LB to contact JS to resolve SG Secretary Gmail account access
10.	<p>Date of Next Meetings</p> <p><i>*Pencilled in Jan 2026</i></p> <p>Knowledge Hub available to Committee Member- ideas and drafts minutes to be shared there</p>	LB to provide dates for Jan 2026 meeting