

IfA Graphic Archaeology Group AGM

Friday 20 April 2012, 4 pm

Oxford Town Hall

Committee members present: Steve Allen (SA), Lesley Collett (LC), Laura Templeton (LT), Margaret Mathews (MM), Colin Berks (CB);

1. Apologies **Action**
Rob Read, Tom Small, Jennie Anderson.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

3. Officers Reports

Secretary: LC reported that following the merger with AAI&S the Group has acquired c. 100 new members and was therefore one of the larger Groups with membership of c. 350. In addition to secretarial duties LC had redesigned and produced two Newsletters, and produced a new edition of the former AAI&S paper on illustrating pottery, now IfA Professional Practice Paper No. 9.

Treasurer: LT reported that IfA now controlled all budgets and the Group's Treasurer has only to check on expenditure; in future the Treasurer will only have budget responsibility for committee meetings (travel expenses & room hire etc.).

Expenses in the last year were slightly over budget; committee meetings had been expensive due to the number of AAI&S Council members co-opted onto the committee during the merger period. Also some expense for RR researching current copyright legislation, and purchase of fonts to allow the production of LC's pottery paper.

Standards: CB was not in a position to report anything at present.

SA has been appointed to the Validation Committee and is looking into how IfA validation procedures can be adapted to candidates in the graphics and survey fields, particularly whether former AAI&S assessment procedures can be used as a form of pre-validation.

SA has also edited the new IfA Yearbook – a large proportion of contributions were received from Scotland, much less interest from the rest of the country.

Plea that if a similar opportunity happens again that GAG members take better advantage of it.

MM attended an assessment of two AAI&S member whose applications had been outstanding at the time of merger, so their membership grade has successfully been made up to MIfA.

4. Election of Committee Members

There is a vacancy for Chair as RR is standing down: also the posts of Treasurer and Secretary are vacant as LT and LC must stand down at the end of their terms.

Nominations to the committee have been received from the following:

Steve Allen
Jennie Anderson
Lesley Collett
Liz Gardner
Tom Small
Laura Templeton
Leeanne Whitelaw

As the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies, it was proposed that all those nominated were accepted as elected. (proposed Richard Bryant, seconded Margaret Mathews.)

Sarah Lucas was willing to be co-opted as Exhibitions organiser. Further members may be co-opted if required. RR may continue as co-opted member to work on copyright issues and remain on IfA council.

5. Future Projects

i) pushing forward the implementation of Standards in survey.

CB

ii) Guidance on Copyright in liaison with AOI, if Rob Read willing to carry on with this.

RR

iii) Continue with production of papers in Professional Practice series: new editions of wood and lithics papers, plus introductory-level guidance in other aspects of graphics and survey.

**SA,
LC,
ALL**

iv) CPD events: LT is investigating a potential workshop in lithic identification for illustrators led by Hugo Anderson-Whymark to be held in Worcester. Paul Backhouse suggested a possible workshop in public presentation & speaking for graphics people who seldom get the opportunity to speak. Paul Backhouse also mentioned a joint IfA/EH initiative on assessment of skills deficit and strategy to improve the standing of graphics staff.

v) Next year's IfA Conference, which may be in Glasgow (TBC) – we must start planning for it now. Depending on the theme of sessions: Richard Bryant offered a talk on Anglo-Saxon sculpture; Paul Backhouse on Stonehenge visitor projects.

There was discussion of a possible separate one-day GAG event in advance of the Conference, but it was felt that this would not be a good idea as it would lose the advantage of interacting with other IfA members.

Sarah Lucas reported that IfA are keen to continue to have the Exhibition at future conferences, with new artwork, preferably more field drawings, survey work and artefact illustrations. Chiz Harwood may be able to help with field drawings from Diggers Forum members, demonstrating the 'field to publication' sequence.

6. AOB

CB raised a query that non-corporate members were no longer required to adhere to the Code of Conduct and were no longer listed in the Yearbook (two non-corporate members had resigned as a result. SA to check but the matter is one for IfA council, rather than the group.

SA

Richard Bryant queried the level of his subscription, as retired. RB also raised issue of the surveyors feeling disgruntled at name change from Illustrators and Surveyors Special Interest Group to Graphic Archaeology Group. Problem that certain IfA-only members of the group believe that they should have been consulted and they believe the AAI&S marched in and took over- apparently being unaware that the ISSIG was set up by both bodies and run by the AAI&S/IfA members. MM suggested we produce a Mission Statement and reiterate it – that we represent all 'non-verbal' archaeologists and must make it clear that we are inclusive.

RB proposed thanks to SA for chairing the meeting and the whole day's sessions.

The meeting concluded at 5.25pm.