

**Inaugural Annual General Meeting for the Institute for Archaeologists
Voluntary and Community Special Interest Group**

**British Academy, London
Monday 7th March 2011, 2pm.**

Present: Participants of the Council for British Archaeology's Winter General Meeting, including of the proposed Committee: Craig Spence (Chair - CS), Suzie Thomas (Secretary - ST), Margaret Broomfield, Abby Guinness, David Rudling and Adam Thompson.

- 1. Introduction** CS welcomed everyone, thanked the CBA for hosting the meeting, and explained the aims of the Group as described on the Group website and in previous announcements concerning the proposed formation of the group. In addition, it is the purpose of IfA Special Interest Groups to promote membership of the IfA through their work.
CS then summarised the standardised aims and purposes of IfA Special Interest Groups, and pointed out that the Group was primarily a professional group, hence the focus would be on the professional practice of community archaeologists and others that include community engagement in their work, while also raising awareness of the voluntary sector within the IfA. There were no questions.
- 2. Group Identity** CS explained that as the Group developed it would be responsible for organising events such as seminars and CPD opportunities. This would help form the Group's identity, and importantly also had a small budget attached from the IfA. An event would be planned for 2011, probably to take place in the Autumn.
- 3. Membership** Any IfA member (corporate or non-corporate) can join the Voluntary and Community Group. Non-IfA members can also join, but for an annual fee of £10, which is the minimum fee as stipulated by the IfA. Membership offers access communications from the Group and to other Group activities.
- 4. Committee** CS reported that a ballot had been circulated as a formality to starting the group. As fewer nominations had been received than available committee places and that no honorary officer positions had been contested all the proposed committee members could be co-opted, unless there were any objections. The proposed Committee is therefore:

 - Craig Spence (Chair)
 - Suzie Thomas (Secretary)
 - Rachael Hall (Treasurer)
 - Margaret Broomfield
 - Abby Guinness
 - Phil Richardson

- David Rudling
- Adam Thompson

All the Committee was co-opted, and there were enough committee members present to be quorate.

5. **Next Stage ST** to submit the minutes to the IfA and the web page to be updated. More information to be circulated to members and the Committee soon.
6. **Any Other Business** A question was asked as to whether student and other non-corporate IfA members could join the Committee. It was explained that the IfA bye-laws state that Committee members should be members of the IfA, while honorary officers should be corporate members. Mike Heyworth suggested that non-members and non-corporate members not on the Committee might be invited to observe and comment at Committee meetings in the spirit of community archaeology and inclusivity; this was agreed.
7. **Date of next meeting** To take place at the 2011 IfA Annual Conference (13-15 April 2011) at a date and time to be specified.