

CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD GROUP

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held
at 7.30 p.m. on 6th April 2011 at the
McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Downing Street, Cambridge

President, Dr P Spoerry, in the Chair

22 members and guests were present.

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Cornelissen.

1. MINUTES OF LAST AGM

Copies of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 14th April 2010 had been circulated and were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the President.

2. MINUTES OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Copies of the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on the 6th October 2010 had been circulated and were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the President.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The chairman reported on an eventful though sad year, in which we lost our President, Dr John Alexander. However the Group gained Dr Paul Spoerry as President and Dr Susan Oosthuizen as vice-president. The Group had also gained a new website, for which the chairman expressed his thanks to those involved, particularly Peter Cornelissen. The Group was now even more closely involved with the Department of Archaeology. The chairman commented that, from the good number of applications for the Val Whittaker Memorial Prize last year, only one had been received so far this year.

The excavations at Wimpole had been very useful for the Group, with lots of visitors, and we would be returning this year to further investigate Mr Ratford's house. The chairman thanked John Waterhouse and Stephen Reed for their work in preparing reports for the Historic Environment Record.

Mr Fuller reported on contact from the BBC in relation to their "Hands On History" project, and a meeting attended by himself and Mike Coles, at which the Group had been asked if it would be involved. A focus on archaeology would see "Digging up Britain" projects, including hands-on events with BBC support in July, with broadcasts in the autumn. Mike had discussed this with Angus Wainwright, and the National Trust would welcome this input. However, it was not certain whether the Group would be digging at Wimpole next year. There was to be a further meeting in May which Mr Fuller would attend.

The chairman commented that members had been very active this year and expressed his thanks to all for their efforts and enthusiasm.

At the invitation of the President, a vote of thanks was given to the chairman for his work.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report on the business and activities of the Group during the past year

had been circulated and was received. The President offered his thanks to the secretary.

Noting that only one application had been received for the Val Whittaker Memorial Prize, Richard Cushing suggested that the tutor at Hills Road Sixth Form College might be contacted to invite late applications and the chairman agreed to do this. It was noted that Peterborough College of Further Education had been advised, but the President suggested an alternative contact. The one application was being marked.

The report is appended to the minute book copy of these minutes.

5. **FIELD OFFICER'S REPORT**

The field officer's report on fieldwork during the year had been circulated and was received. He further reported that the season had revealed one previously unknown Roman site, had detailed the extent of the Comberton Roman villa site and had revealed a Neolithic flint scatter in the vicinity of the villa site. Besides other struck flint, a blade core had been found and he considered it would be worthwhile returning to the site for a detailed examination. A note was being prepared to update the fieldwalking report on the website. After 24 weeks of fieldwalking, the season had now drawn to a close.

The President offered his thanks to the field officer.

The report is appended to the minute book copy of these minutes.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The unexamined accounts had been circulated and the treasurer made one correction: expenditure on the website in 2010-11 had been £94.40, not £94.90 (the total was correct). He also clarified the difference between income and expenditure transferred to the Accumulated Fund: expenditure of £771.39 but income of £486.88 resulted in the total of -£284.51. Mr Bill Hughes had agreed to check the accounts and would report back. The accounts were received.

The treasurer offered his thanks to the committee and others for their help and support. The President expressed thanks to the treasurer, and confirmed that the difference in expenditure between 2009-10 and 2010-11 was due to the 30th anniversary in the earlier year.

The accounts have now been examined and the certified copy is attached to the minute book copy of these minutes.

7. **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

On the recommendation of the committee, and the proposal of Robert Skeen, seconded by Cyril Pritchett, it was **RESOLVED** that subscriptions be retained at:

- £8 for individual membership
- £11 family membership
- Entrance to lectures for non-members £1

8. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

Three committee members were stepping down: Graham Vincent, Stephen Reed and Emma Smith. Nominations had been put forward by the committee and, there being no other nominations, it was **RESOLVED** that the following be elected to the offices

indicated for 2011/12:

Chairman	Barrie Fuller, 47 Queens Edith's Way, Cambridge, CB1 4PJ
Secretary	Susan May, 94 High Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EH
Treasurer	Dudley Pusey, 45 St Laurence Road, Foxton, Cambridge, CB22 6SF
Field Officer	Mike Coles, 44 Cantelupe Road, Haslingfield, Cambridge, CB23 7LU
Committee	Colin Coates, 14 Humber Drive, Yaxley, Peterborough, PE7 3QB
	Peter Cornelissen, 4 St Albans, Fordham Road, Newmarket, CB8 7AJ
	Terry Dymott, 26 Barrons Way, Comberton, Cambridge CB23 7EQ
	Robert Skeen, 2 Malton Lane, Meldreth, Royston, SG8 6PA
	John Waterhouse, 22 Topcliffe Way, Cambridge, CB1 8SH

In view of the change in Treasurer and the requirements of the Bank in relation to the amendments to signatories to the account, it was **RESOLVED** that

the authorised signatories in the current Mandate for any of the Group's existing and future accounts with National Westminster Bank plc be changed by the removal of Graham Frederick Vincent and the addition of Dudley W. Pusey; the current Mandate will continue as amended.

9. **PLANS FOR LECTURES IN MEMORY OF DR JOHN ALEXANDER**

The President commented that he would have liked to have been at Dr Alexander's memorial service, but this had not been possible.

The chairman reported that the suggestions had been for a single lecture or for a conference, and the latter had been favoured. Alison Taylor had agreed to speak and had suggested that a lecture room at the Law Faculty could be used. She had spoken to someone that day who was interested in pulling together people who had worked with Dr Alexander in Africa. Ms Taylor and Mr Fuller would be involved in arrangements: Mr Fuller asked any member to email him if they had with ideas or information on anyone who had worked with Dr Alexander. It appeared that the Department was not planning any memorial event.

It was hoped to run the event within 8 – 10 months, and the President agreed with the suggestion that a date be fixed as soon as possible and emphasised the importance that it should not clash with other archaeology events.

The President expressed his thanks to the officers for their hard work and offered to help with the memorial to John Alexander. The chairman offered his thanks to the President.

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....