



## CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD GROUP

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th April 2023 at 7.15 p.m. at Storeys Field Centre, Eddington Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 1AA.

Dr Paul Spoerry, President, in the Chair, accompanied by Michael Coles, Deputy Chair. CAFG Chair, Barrie Fuller, joined remotely via video call.

20 members were present.

Apologies for absence were received from Martin Bacon, Peter Cornelissen and Robert Skeen.

The AGM followed a presentation by the Group's President, Dr Paul Spoerry. The topic was: **'Iron, charcoal, pottery, salt: urban provisioning from marginal rural landscapes in Eastern England'**

### **AGM AGENDA**

1. On the proposal of committee member Colin Coates, seconded by Treasurer John Waterhouse, the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th June 2022 were **CONFIRMED** as a correct record and signed by the President. There were no matters arising.

2. **Chairman's Report**

The report was delivered by Mike Coles, as Deputy Chair.

Mike noted the return to regular in-person activities over the previous year, and expressed gratitude to Oxford Archaeology East for the group's continued ability to meet at Bar Hill each Wednesday. The group has had a busy schedule of fieldwalking and excavations, as well as regular meetings and pot-washing. Mike also thanked Susan May for her many years of service as secretary of the group.

Paul Spoerry thanked Barrie Fuller for all he has done and continues to do as Chair, and Mike for standing in on many occasions

The report had been circulated in advance and was accepted.

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

3. **Secretary's Report**

The secretary's short report on the business and activities of the Group since the last

AGM had been circulated and was accepted. The report noted in particular activities being led by the committee to manage, preserve and get best value from CAFG's archives of archaeological data, information and finds, and thanked Susan May for her support in handing over the role to Tom Midgley and other committee members over the last year.

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

#### 4. **Fieldwork Report**

The report on fieldwork during the year, compiled by Mike Coles, had been circulated in advance. Mike reported on the long season of fieldwalking, and the test pits dug at Top Twenty on the Wimpole Estate in October 2022. It is hoped that upcoming activities will include:

- test pits at Wimpole in July, behind the Parterre and in the region of the orchard near the farm, where a new play area is planned
- fieldwalking at Reach on land recently acquired by the National Trust
- excavation of a mediaeval moated site in Eltisley under Bill Franklin, to which CAFG members are invited

Paul Spoerry noted appreciation of the value of the long and developing relationship with National Trust archaeologists

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

#### 5. **Treasurer's Report**

The accounts for 2022/23 had been circulated and the treasurer reported that they had been examined and approved. The Treasurer, John Waterhouse, noted that fees and subscriptions are due for the coming year - he will send an email in coming days to prompt payment

On the proposal of Colin Coates, seconded by Susan May, the accounts were **ADOPTED**.

*The accounts are attached to the minute book copy of these minutes.*

#### 6. **Subscriptions and fees**

The Committee recommended that subscriptions for 2023/24 be retained at:

- £12 individual membership
- £18 family membership
- Entrance to lectures for non-members £1

The committee also recommends that if subscriptions are first paid after 1st January of any given year, the subscription remains valid for the duration of the following financial year.

Tom Midgley and Terry Dymott proposed the motion - unanimously **RESOLVED**.

#### 7. As advised via email by the Treasurer on Wednesday 15th March, the committee had

resolved that non-members should be able to join fieldwalking sessions for a fee of £1, affording them temporary membership for the session, and covering the Group for insurance purposes.

Nicky Walters and Bill Franklin proposed the motion - unanimously **RESOLVED**.

**8. Election of officers and committee members for the coming year.**

All officers and committee members were willing to stand again, and the Secretary received no new nomination forms.

The following were therefore unanimously **ELECTED** to the offices indicated for 2023/24:

Chairman	-	Barrie Fuller
Secretary	-	Tom Midgley
Treasurer	-	John Waterhouse
Fieldwork	-	Mike Coles
Coordinator		

Committee	-	Martin Bacon
		Colin Coates
		Peter Cornelissen
		Terry Dymott
		Susan May
		Susanne Thompson

June and Bill Woodfield have now stood down from their roles as members of the Committee. The Committee and Group offer their sincere thanks for their work over the years, and wish them all the very best for the future.

9. The Committee has accepted Tom Midgley as the incoming CAFG secretary, and recommends he become a signatory for the Group's bank accounts. In order to fulfil the requirements of NatWest Bank specifically, a motion was proposed by John Waterhouse and seconded by Bill Franklin that Tom become a signatory to the account owing to his status as group secretary.

The motion was unanimously **RESOLVED**.

**10. Election of Examiner of Accounts**

On the proposal of Mike Coles, seconded by Colin Coates, it was **RESOLVED** that Robert Skeen be elected examiner of accounts for 2023/24, *in absentia*.

The Treasurer noted that Robert Skeen is willing to accept the role again this year

**11. Any Other Business**

2 items were passed to the Secretary ahead of the AGM:

- Martin Bacon intends to create a 'fact sheet' for new and existing members to outline exactly what we do with finds, and how we process them end-to-end, the names of the various archaeology bodies/organisations we work with, or which we should be aware of, and any abbreviations we use, and what they stand for. Martin also intends to create a form of receipt for guest fieldwalkers.
- Colin Coates extended grateful thanks on behalf of the entire group to Bill and June Woodfield for all they have done for CAFG, as they retire from the committee - seconded by all present.

The President discussed his presidency, feeling he should expect to step back as he nears retirement from Oxford Archaeology, and noted how well CAFG is going from strength to strength at present. He and various members of the audience discussed options that could keep the group close to both Oxford Archaeology and the University faculty. Barrie Fuller led thanks for all Paul Spoerry has done for the Group as President.