

Committee Meeting Minutes

22 April 2024, 10 am

Remotely via Teams

Present: Emily Johnson (EJ: Chair); Bekky Hillman (BH: Secretary); Imogen Wood (IW: Treasurer); Ruth Beveridge (RB); Anna Tyacke (AT) ; Rachel Cubitt (RC); Peter Guest (PG); Mags Gjedboe (MG: Advisor), Laura Ratcliffe (LR)

1.APOLOGIES

Deborah Fox (DF)

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING (not covered elsewhere)

Accepted from last meeting, **RC** reports HE corporate plan does cover inclusion and diversity, and collections, and also applications for funding for archaeology project such as the tool kits but it is clearer on the internal policy not the publicly available one. This has been raised with HE.

3 & 4 Tea Break and AGM

EJ suggests a pottery-focused online AGM and conference with the pottery specialist groups. As part of this we could launch the new pottery specialist toolkit, the type series, have talks on pottery research and innovations, the AGM, and a tea break and mentor/mentee introductions too. Making transport cheaper and allowing everyone to attend.

MG Suggests in future we do a meeting that isn't based around toolkits as much though this is a good idea we need to be seen to be addressing other issues as well as toolkits.

RC other pottery things are happening eg HE is funding type series for different counties so could get people to talk about that **ACTION RC** will supply contacts to **EJ**

IW can do talk on the science of pottery reporting or a talk on Devon and Somerset type series.

RB suggests we use it as an introduction to the workshops that we are planning to do, where to apply and who to apply to etc.

EJ The main subject will be pottery and the pottery toolkit will be a short part of the whole conference.

IW suggests open lunchbreak to allow networking **AT** agrees also could set up breakout rooms in advance.

General discussion that people must be guided so that it stays focussed and is a positive experience for all with suggestions taken on board and problems signposted without any negativity.

AGREED by all present that this is a good idea and will aim for September/October when toolkit and type series are finished/progress is enough for update.

5. Training session (Scotland)

EJ to confirm next steps with Cara Jones.

IW says it is a long way to travel and may be expensive, but maybe anything is better than nothing.

RC to approach MLPRG group to see if they are planning to do their two day session next year and see if we can be involved in some way with that.

Discussion leads to:

MG says we need to find some form of practical training funding from somewhere suggests we go back to the letter that **IW** was writing to HE for training.

RB Proposal letter is better idea as we could get funding in England and cover more periods/groups including things as well as pottery could encourage them to set up training sessions with our help.

PG training issue is proving difficult to get funding for on-going training even for the Roman toolkit (his proposal is one or half a day training a year every year). It has historically been difficult to get funding and CIFA don't seem engaged with hands on training ideas, preferring hands-off training. Reluctant to committing to funding an on-going training programme. **RC** suggests asking CIFA why the training sessions are so hard to get funding for.

IW we should be able to apply for funding to help other groups have training sessions and get the CIFA on board and helping with the training.

PG suggests that we approach the CIFA and say on the reviews of standards we should suggest that training needs to be within the standards.

IW we could piggyback on other training events and have an annual round up in the form of a networking session and AGM combined. We could signpost the events and ask for a group member to attend and add CPD certification for them making sure they follow a set format.

MG agrees that this is easier and quicker way of helping more people.

RC suggests we could take on the introductions of mentor and mentee as a group to make the initial contact easier. **EJ** suggests we could add this to our AGM.

AT we do need handling collections where possible in this training.

ACTIONS: **IW** to take another look at letter; **RC** to approach MLPRG and report back to committee. **ALL** to send details of any groups that you know of to **EJ** so she can send email to them proposing the help/involvement with training sessions. **EJ** to discuss plans with Jen PW to scope feasibility.

6. AOB

RB monitored the knowledge hub, people are posting AGM's and it is not very engaged yet, but this could build.

PG Phil Mills ex Chair has sadly passed away and we express our condolences and hope to add a memorial to him at our AGM and also in our newsletter.

7 Date of next meeting



Doodle poll to follow when we have some updates and better timeline.