

Committee Minutes

24 March 2025, 19.00 By Zoom

Present:

Matilda Holmes (MH) (Vice Chair) Colin Forrestal (CF) (Secretary), Perry Gardener (PG), Matilda Holmes (MH), Daria Dabal (DD), Marianne Mödinger (MM), Cara Burton (CB) (ClfA), Ermelinda Trinder (ET)

1.	Apologies	Action
	Evelyne Godfrey (EG) (Chair), Katerina Vavaliou (KV).	
2. 3.	Previous Minutes	
	These were accepted.	
	Matter Arising from Previous minutes	
	All on this meeting's agenda.	
4.	Formal co-option of Vice Chair	
	MH has signed the co-option form, and the RIG committee formally co-opted Matilda Holmes as our Vice Chair unanimously at this meeting. As the Chair was absent, MH took over the chairing of this meeting	
5.	Setting an in-Person meeting – CIfA conference 2025	
	• MH/PG & DD have been liaising with Early Careers about the joint session and an abstract has been agreed for the session, and all the speakers have been booked. They will circulate the details to the committee as soon as possible.	MH/PG/DD
	• CF to advertise in the RIG newsletter, it will also be put up on the KnowledgeHub and on social media.	CF/MH
	DD and CF to liaise with ClfA to obtain a Banner and postcards for RIG, hopefully they will be available for our upcoming session at ClfA conference 2025.	CF/DD
	• PG asked CB if RIG could feature in the Innovation festival as a follow up to this session.	СВ
6.	PhD Funding Update	
	• As KV was not present at this meeting, this item is being held over until the next meeting.	
7.	Heritage Crime Workshop.	
	• The contact has gone quiet with the International Practice and the Heritage crime groups.	CF/EG
	CF to re-establish communications, as soon as possible.	
8.	Standards and Guidance (S&G) and Regional Plans (RP)	
	 MH and PG have agreed to work with CIfA on the Standards and Guidance which is on hold for the moment. PG thinks that in the case of Regional Plans, one should think regional and then think local. CF made the point that it is up to regional plans to encourage synthesis and so encourage commercial and academic units to perform synthesis and so feedback into and inform and update the regional plan and HER records. CF also asked PG the number of "County Mounties" there were? PG explained that the numbers were falling, with lots of senior county archaeologist's post remaining unfilled due to funding and government strategic issues. DD pointed out the different systems in the devolved countries. PG then spoke about community societies and that FAME are interested on stepping in to assist/control/direct or benefit from interaction with them. Both the senior archaeologist issue and that of the community societies were considered important subjects, along with pressures on funding such that CF was directed to put this item on the in-person meeting Agenda for the meeting in Birmingham at the CIFA 2025 Conference. 	Ongoing CF/PG
9.	RIG Facebook page	
	 CF has reported that the RIG Facebook page is closing but Facebook takes 30 days to close and delete a page. 	
	• CF to open RIG LinkedIn and Bluesky pages instead and inform CIfA.	CF



10.	EAA Belgrade 2025	
	• ET had agreed to assist with the EAA 2025 Heritage Crime session but has now	All
	withdrawn from it, for personal reasons, which this committee fully support.	
	• EG to circulate the abstract for the session for the committee to find suitable papers,	EG/All
	especially, if possible, from those archaeologists who took part in the discovery of	
	Bosnian and Kosovan mass graves. Suggestions to EG .	
11.	New RIG CIFA webpage & Knowledge Hub	
	CB pointed out the message from ClfA concerning the problems that some people	
	have had with the new CIfA website and renewed the request for photos and blurb	
	and asked if members of the committee would contribute something as soon as	
	possible. It does not need to be detailed.	
	RIG Knowledge Hub has 25 members. Postings from MH and CF are the most recent	
	postings on it.	
12.	Academic Matrix report back	
	• MH and PG have received further feedback from CIfA suggesting certain amendments in	MH/PG/CF
	wording in a few sentences. CF will circulate the suggested amendments to the committee	
	which don't change the meaning with the view of an email agreement to the suggested	
	alterations as soon as possible and hopefully an adoption at CIFA 2025 Conference.	
	• CF proposed a vote of thanks for MH and PG for their sterling work which was	
	unanimously accepted.	
13.	Business Plan	
	• CF formally handed over responsibility to MH as Vice Chair.	
	• CF pointed out that as we are in year 2 of the 3-year business plan and that after the next	
	AGM meeting we should start preparing the next 3 year plan to be adopted at the	
	following year's AGM.	
14.	AOB	
	• The issue of mentoring with English Heritage assistance was brought up as a possible	
	agenda item for the next meeting.	
15.	Next Meeting	
	At CIfA conference in person. TBC	CF