

CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

BUILDINGS ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP (BAG)

Committee Meeting

11.00am, Thursday 9 May 2024

Minutes

Circulation

Jeremy Lake (Chair), Amelia Allen, Amir Bassir, Cara Burton (CiFA Coordinator), Catherine Bell (Adviser), Cathy Coutts, Franki Webb, Helen Wallbridge (Adviser), John Mabbitt, Lorna Goring, Patrizia Pierazzo (Adviser), Seth Price

1. Apologies for absence

Helen Walbridge, Lorna Goring

2. Introductions

We welcomed new members to the committee:

Cara Burton (CiFA Member Engagement Coordinator) – assists admin for groups. Contactable on groups@archaeologists.net

Committee members as also introduced on spring newsletter:

- Patrizia Pierazzo, HMS Victory co-ordinator, experience of buildings archaeology with MOLA and consultancy. Officially advisor role
- Seth Price – consultant at SLR focused on buildings
- Amelia Allen – SW Archaeology, relatively new to buildings, recently picked up buildings work especially lime finishes and cob
- Franki Webb - interested in retrofit, refurbishment, regeneration. Experience from Atkins in military and manages communications also for IHBC

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Passed.

4. Matters arising (if not covered below)

JL mentioned first meeting of Landscape Special Interest Group (SIG) chaired by Sam Turner

JL and CB recapped on Festival of Archaeology on the theme of 'Archaeology and Community' – there is still time to get events registered. CB shared link to FoA web pages [Festival of Archaeology Council for British Archaeology \(archaeologyuk.org\)](http://archaeologyuk.org)

5. Events for 2024-2025

Festival of Archaeology events?

Potential for interaction with Landscape SIG

Teabreak sessions/online seminar: JL can now contact (CiFA) to assist with dates

6. Newsletter and communications

Newsletter - recently put together. JL – reflecting views of others as discussed before – questions given past delays if this is the most appropriate way to go and whether we need to more effectively communicate via bulletins, updates and other ‘snippets’ via e-mail, LinkedIn and the website (to be refreshed by CiFA). Should we just send out information as and when we have it? JL cited a recent contribution for the newsletter by William Wyeth, the nature of which begs for a faster response (attached to minutes). CB and AA suggest moving to an annual review to summarise regular updates can host material on CiFA or even link to external sites – and add links to future timetabled events. SP asked about the audience, AA suggested member survey on the newsletter via email.

Teabreak seminars – approx. 1 hour on theme of significance – three dates before the end of the year. Identify leader for each session comprising a talk and provocation questions, and relevant support. Topics may include forward thinking on farmsteads (Cathy and Jeremy), comparative farmsteads (Patrizia/Catherine/Amelia), and community engagement/Crystal Palace (Franki).

LinkedIn – discussion about revitalising the group. Cara and JL to liaise to try to identify how to get membership onto LinkedIn/other social media. PP queried whether Linked In was necessarily the only/most appropriate medium. Alison also showed that only a proportion of BAG membership were on LinkedIn which also has non-CiFA members, and discussion agreed that a combination of this and e-mails was the best way forward.

Seth Price suggested a Buildings Archaeology company page which will enable us to post comms. He quickly set this up on

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/103569825/admin/feed/posts/>

We then need a dedicated committee member and/or Cara Burton to communicate with e-mail

Khub – for internal comms between CiFA groups. Questions for Cara about who has access.

CiFA website – plans to update the website. Nothing to stop information/materials being added on an ongoing basis.

7. Regional Groups/Events

Festival of Archaeology – JL will plan for a tour of the rebuilding of Nantwich after the 1584 Great Fire, he can do this as a BAG member; other ideas welcome

JL has corresponded with Mary Neale of Archway Heritage re Industrial Archaeology – she has been talking to Historic England re a joint session with BAG on some building types not properly considered: we can have this as a Significance item for later in 2024, with potential for follow-up

8. Advocacy

General note for committee members to be proactive in flagging consultations/key issues to bring up to Rob Lennox, and for JL to bring things down to committee for comment.

FW raised potential opportunity for cross-working with IHBC – need a talker for nature and buildings; JL happy to help here but away in early November.

9. AOB and date of next meetings

8 August - online

Late Sept-early Oct for in-person meeting in York?

7 Nov – online pre-AGM?? We can consider in August.

10. Directions for 2024 and 2025

Each committee member to identify a single key priority for the committee/BAG to address over the coming 12 months and be prepared to explain why this needs to be addressed and how.

AD – need to communicate effectively

AA – communication needs improvement – need for a brief social media strategy

PP – consistency of approach is the critical point in comms; maintaining and sustaining engagement

SP – work out how to use company page

FW – comms and awareness – look at other ways to raise awareness, newsletter revamp/
review

CB – some caution around SM strategy, but supportive of ‘rules of engagement’ type document

AD – value for discussion of specific queries; value of e-mails; communication on a regular basis so we can learn and grow

AB – echoes comms points

CC - forum for questions would be very useful

JM - rules of engagement and the sorts of content we can put out