

**Avebury World Heritage Site
Archaeological and Historical Research Group**

DRAFT Notes of meeting 20.04.06.

1. Present:

Amanda Chadburn (Chair), Sarah Simmonds (WHS Officer), Rachel Foster, Bruce Eagles, Isabelle Bedu, Fachtna McAvoy, Nick Snashall, Melanie Pomeroy Kellinger, Julie Scott Jackson, Brian Davison, Colin Shell, Brian Edwards, Kate Fielden, Martin Papworth, Sue Farr, Martyn Barber, Peter Fowler, Gill Swanton, Siân Williams, Mike Pitts.

2. Apologies:

Andrew Lawson, Jonathan Last, Katie Hinds, Andrew David, Paul Cripps.

3. Matters arising:

3.1 10 AOB: C14 [This must refer this must to seminar in Aug. Details of comment?]

3.2 7 Silbury Hill: oral histories preliminary meeting [I have 2 names: Jane Driscoll & Roy Hayward - roles?]

3.3 2 Fieldwork and Research: Mike Pitts' SMC has been granted but the project may not now take place in 2006.

4. Fieldwork and Research

4.1 Lithics in the AK Museum: Nick Snashall reported [Nick my notes: Kendall/Ave Down/S side green St/last arable before pasture/LBA-EIA. Could you please untangle?]

4.2 Stukeley [Brian - I have river crossing @ Avebury/14C makeover/NW sector/mapping/landswaps - ???]

4.3 Wroughton: Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger reported that evaluation at Wroughton has revealed important Iron Age settlement remains (hut circles,pits, post holes) [Mel I have also got notes re ? open ground/Meso/J15/knapping/Beaker/EBA - could you please fill out?]

4.4 PADMAC: Julie Scott-Jackson reported that the last phase of work has been completed. It may be possible to raise funding for future research, perhaps starting 2007. This led to a discussion of

4.5 Environment Schemes:

1. Peter Fowler asked about selection of field walking projects and the attached standards under the Schemes; were these discussed within the farmers' group? Could such projects lead to further identification of Palaeolithic material? [between WKLB & A4]

2. Colin Shell suggested that archaeological fieldwork should be part of grassland conversion.
3. Siân Williams said that advice could be given to landowners.
4. Melanie Pomeroy Kellinger reported that struck flint has been found in molehills in established grassland on Roger Charlton's land.
5. Gill Swanton reported that the AONB is encouraging grassland reversion in the area through the Downland Heritage Initiative.

5. Development Control and Utilities

1. Bridgmead extension - Beckhampton Ave
2. Red Lion extension
3. Thames Water
4. WK Avenue

[Sue - can you fill in briefly, please?]

6. Silbury Hill

Resistivity and Magnetometry surveys were carried out around the Hill north of the A4 during February. The report will be available shortly.

Colin Shell reported that the Lidar Survey of the WHS commissioned by EH had been carried out by the Environment Agency and included detailed survey of Silbury. There is shortly to be a terrestrial laser scan (Env Agency).

7. Ridgeway & AONB

1. The matter of the surfacing of the Ridgeway was taken to the WHS Steering Committee and the Chairman was writing to the relevant bodies.
2. The AONB continues to promote its Downland Heritage Initiative and is involved in the DELOS project.

8. Guide for householders

Brian Edwards brought forward a proposal for a Householders' leaflet to be produced for those living within the WHS. This would enable all to have access to information regarding the reasons for the existence of the WHS and the parts played by e.g. EH, NT, AAHRG. The format and funding to be discussed. It was agreed that this proposal should be taken to the WHS Steering Committee.

9. Any other Business

Research in the Stonehenge and Avebury parts of the WHS.

The Stonehenge Research Framework has recently been published and the Avebury Research Agenda is about to be updated. Recent discussions have considered whether the two parts of the WHS could sensibly form a single research body. Currently:

- It is recognised that the Sites are very different in character
- There are different management issues
- The research traditions are different
- e.g. AAHRG meetings could easily take all day now.

Thoughts were:

- It would be excellent if a similar body to AAHRG could be set up for Stonehenge
- It is likely that many individuals would sit on both groups
- It is important that those who do sit on both recognise the links and the individual needs of the two parts of the WHS at a strategic level
- There should be joint meetings.

10. Date of next meeting

14.07.06. in the Avebury Study Centre. 10.00.

You will all have gathered that I have put this document together from rather scanty notes - I would have done more if I had realised I was supposed to be taking the notes for the meeting - sorry guys.

I have put in bold all the bits on which I need info. Please comment on the other bits - I know you will.

It's all so close to the meeting 'cos I lost my reading glasses and as I have trouble reading my own writing with them, waiting for replacements seriously curtailed the work output. Jeering allowed.

These draft notes can be used as *aides memoires* for the meeting 14.07.06. so don't injure yourselves filling in my gaps - when I get the info I will deal with it and then pass it on to Sarah so completed notes can go out on WHS headed notepaper.

For anyone who did not get notice and agenda for the meeting tomorrow, I found out yesterday that for some reason Sarah had not been given a full e-mail list. We are working on this.

Hope to see as many as possible on Friday - and that my e-mail list is OK!

Gill