



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Stonehenge, Avebury
and Associated Sites
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ASAHRG

10.30 AM Friday, 22nd February 2019

Wiltshire Museum, Devizes

Notes

1. Present:

Melanie Pomeroy-
Kellinger (Chair)
Colin Shell
Gill Swanton
Heather Sebire
Rachel Foster
Sarah Simmonds

David Sabine
Josh Pollard
Matt Leivers
Bruce Eagles
Nick Baxter
Brian Edwards
Helen Miah (Notes)

Phil Harding
Alistair Barclay
Martin Barber
David Cox
David Dawson

Apologies

Mark Bowden
Timothy Darvill
Jeremy Damrell
Susan Greaney
Ian Barnes

Katy Whitaker
Julie Scott-Jackson
Ros Cleal
Jacqueline McKinley
Steve Marshall

Jonathan Last
Kate Fielden
Briony Clifton
Jude Curriuan

2. Apologies/Introductions. Review of Membership

All present introduced themselves.

3. Minutes and Matters arising

Minutes of last meeting agreed

3.1. Disposals Policy

CS has taken advice and The Museum Association Guidelines are stringent and the accepted industry standard. Reference to be made to these Guidelines in the next WHS Management Plan.



DD reported that Salisbury Museum have acquired new stores which are likely to be able to accept archives soon.

3.2. HER Update

Wiltshire Council IT department have rebuilt the on-line HER and it is now up and running.

<https://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/HistoryEnvRecord/Home/Index>

It is optimised for Microsoft Internet Explorer and Microsoft Edge. If there are problems using Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox please contact Tom Sunley, Historic Environment Record Data Manager.

[REDACTED CONTACT]

4. Monitoring of the Research Framework

See below message from Dan

"I have spoken to a few people about working on an online research framework and have some volunteers. I am waiting for the PDFs from Wessex to then upload the text on to the platform. The platform is currently in testing but I will hopefully be able to show something next meeting.

I am trying to think about ways we can capture research being undertaken in the WHS. At present there are HER reports and HE Scheduled monument reports. We have spoken about looking at what presentations have been given at ASAHRG to give an idea of what research is being undertaken and by whom.

I am creating a spreadsheet that will enable us to be able to record the projects and map their aims/results to specific areas of the research agenda. This should be very useful as a tool to manage the framework and to keep track on what is going on in terms of research projects and results etc.

Tasks:

1. *Putting the current RF online*
 - 1.1. *Development of the RF platform – still on-going – in test*
 - 1.2. *Waiting for texts from Wessex*



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2. *Capturing what research is being undertaken in the WHS*

2.1. *Bring information together from the different sources:*

HER report – Wilts Council

Scheduled Monument report – Historic England

National Trust – DM can talk to NTSMR

PPTs from ASAHRG – WHSCU

Museum collection research – Wiltshire Museum, Salisbury Museum, Alexander Keiller Museum

Other suggestions – all?

3. *Mapping research to the specific areas of the Research Framework*

3.1. *Create a document to pull in the information collected in 2. above*

3.2. *Map research aims/ results to the specific areas of the research framework*

3.3. *Add these as comments to the specific areas of the online research framework*

I can put this in my work programme for April onwards to bring some of the information together and map it etc. but I'd really like help on collecting the information – e.g.

2.1 Help required by ASAHRG relevant members.

5. **Current archaeological & historical research**

5.1. *Living with Monuments Project Fieldwork Easter and Summer 2019 – Josh Pollard (University of Southampton)*

Presentation attached

5.2. *Riders after the Storm - further consideration of the archaeology on the Ridgeway and its protection – Colin Shell*

Report to AWHSSC reasons for extending removal of motorised vehicle including climate evidence and evidence of damage from both four-wheel drive and trail bikes.

Photographs taken after a summer 2016 rainstorm show that damage to the Ridgeway surface, including to surviving earthworks, from wheeled vehicles, is as prevalent after heavy rainfall in the summer as it would be in winter. Even before the effects of climate change can be taken into account, past rainfall records show bursts of heavy rainfall can be expected in summer months with a corresponding vulnerability of the surface. The impact of motor vehicles on the tranquillity of the Ridgeway in the WHS needs to be more fully investigated.



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5.3. *Devizes Assize Court – a new home for the Wiltshire Museum* - David Dawson

5.4. *Update on DCO Process* – David Cox (Highways England)

Presentation attached

6. Review of current opportunities for dissemination of research including recent and forthcoming publications

6.1. Publication of *Megalith quarries for Stonehenge's bluestones*

https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/AAF715CC586231FFFCC18ACB871C9F5E/S0003598X18001114a.pdf/megalith_quarries_for_stonehenges_bluestones.pdf

6.2. Wiltshire Archaeology Conference 23rd March 2019

6.3. Wiltshire Museum Exhibition 25th May – Artists' responses to finds in the WHS

6.4. Stonehenge Au-Dela Du Mystere exhibition 13 Oct 2018 – 21 April 2019 musee Gallo-Romain

6.5. Science Museum Late 27th March 2019 UNESCO

6.6. Open Farm Sunday – 9th June 2019

7. Other research opportunities (i.e. development-led archaeology, utilities)

7.1. County Archaeology Update:

7.1.1. Further works at Larkhill, not yet published

7.1.2. Work to remove sewage works at Stonehenge

8. Review of monitoring (e.g. Condition Surveys, Management Plan)

8.1. WHS Condition Survey

SS in discussion with HE and partners on how to proceed with this work. The work carried out every 10 years is very important for monitoring condition and for assessing and planning management approaches. It also forms the basis of reporting to UNESCO.



8.2. WHS Burrowing Animal Strategy

Designated funds from Highways England have been secured to fund this work. A draft brief will shortly be circulated to relevant partners and project group meetings held to agree this. Work will be undertaken by HiE consultants once their competency and capacity to deliver the brief assured.

8.3. WHS Setting Study

Brief in final draft waiting for final comments from HE

ASARGH will be consulted as relevant as this work develops

8.4. WHS Landscape Access, Sustainable Transport and Sustainable Tourism Strategies

Designated Funds from HiE to deliver this work. Will be one overarching brief that a project board representing the WHSP will need to agree. WHS partners will be consulted at relevant points in the development of the strategies.

9. Representative's report from/to WHS Steering Committees and Partnership Panel

9.1. WHS Partnership Panel – met as Trust Transition Project Board. Next WHSP in May

9.2. WHS Trust

SS reported work underway on this project to find a sustainable and resilient funding structure for the WHS to include the Management Planning function and coordination. Trust Transition Project Manager appointed, Doug Stuart. 18-month project will consult with this group.

9.3. Traffic Regulation on the B4003 Avenue road

Repairs to the parking area at the end of the Avenue are being developed by Wiltshire Council Highways with input from the National Trust, HE and WC Archaeology. It is hoped that they can be completed between Solstice and the school summer holidays.

CS considerable damage to the verges

Transport Plan and Management Plan long term aim to close this road

CS suggests weight limits or one-way as an interim



There is evidence of damage to archaeology all along the road

Do we need a detailed archaeology condition review? Proof of damage? Monitoring of newly built out verges will provide erosion evidence.

10. Opportunities for site/exhibition/archive visits in 2019

10.1. CBA 75th Anniversary Archaeology Festival – Colin Shell

CS should ASARGH have an active involvement/outreach? Link to the Living with Monuments dig

Action – BE, Josh, CS & GS to follow up

10.2. WHS Cricket Match Avebury – Dan Miles

Dan is in discussion with Dominic Fry at Avebury Cricket Club and others to organise a cricket day, similar to the one at Stonehenge last year. ASARGH was supportive. Highways England expressed interest in possibly fielding a team.

Post meeting note from Brian

I have now spoken to Dan about the cricket, he will go for 2 local teams (Avebury C.C. and Kennet Valley School) and two archaeology/heritage professional teams (ASAHRG & The Prehistoric Society). The date he is aiming for is 13th July bar any clash with 'Avebury Day' and this might fit in with the CBA festival of archaeology

11. Revolving Meeting Chairs/Conveners

Anyone wishing to nominate themselves/others please contact SS. Chairs cannot revolve until new conveners identified. The initial term is 3 years.

Richard Osgood proposed CS, seconded MPK

12. AOB

12.1. HS West Kennet Long Barrow roof lights repaired following vandalism, monitoring water egress

12.2. HS Wood Henge plaque will be replaced



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- 12.3. Avebury WHS plaque – location under discussion. NT farmyard proposed. Any other suggestions to SS.
- 12.4. Terry Dobney is unwell having had another stroke.
- 12.5. Suggestion to develop ASARGH website either independently or as part of the WHS website. This would meet WHS Management Plan action. CS has the domain name. As WHS Trust under development better to consider independently until it can be linked to this. Approach to be discussed. (CS)

Action

CS discuss with SS – next agenda

13. Date and venue of next meeting

Friday, 12th July 2019, Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre