



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Stonehenge, Avebury  
and Associated Sites  
inscribed on the World  
Heritage List in 1986

## ASAHRG

10.30 am Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Education Room, Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre

### Draft Notes

#### 1. Apologies

Timothy Darvill  
Jude Currivan  
Phil Harding  
Ian Barnes  
David Roberts  
David Field  
Martin Papworth  
Rachel Foster

Steve Marshal  
Brian Edwards  
Bruce Eagles  
Jonathan Last  
Ros Cleal  
Julie Scott-Jackson  
Gill Swanton  
Jacqueline McKinley

#### Present

Katy Whitaker  
Kerry Donaldson  
Dave Sabin  
Helen Weedon (Notes)  
Brian Edwards  
Sarah Simmonds  
Colin Shell  
Martin Barber  
Sian Williams

Nichols Crabb  
Briony Clifton  
Kate Fielden  
Dan Miles  
Nicki Cook  
Lisa Brown  
Alistair Barclay

#### Membership Review

Lisa Brown was formally welcomed to the group  
Nominated by Dan Miles, seconded by Colin Shell

Thomas Sunley was formally nominated to join the group  
Nominated by Colin Shell, seconded by Katy Whitaker

## 2. Minutes and Matters arising

### 2.1. Minutes Agreed

### 2.2. CBA 75th Anniversary Archaeology Festival – Colin Shell

CS suggested that ASARGH should have more active involvement/undertake more outreach activities for example link to the Living with Monuments dig

**Action – BE, Josh, CS & GS to follow up how this might be facilitated**

## 3. Monitoring of the Research Framework

### 3.1. Approach to updating the framework – Dan Miles

Work is on-going with decisions required including options for website hosting. DM is in discussion with Tom Sunley regarding possible links to the HER. The group will need to decide what information is required and agree how it can be regularly updated and revised. This should include where archives are held/deposited and signposting to further research. Historic England research is mostly registered on the HER and they also have own internal systems. The National Trust have their own HER. Academic researchers will require a clearer system for reporting. There was debate on the extent to which ASARGH can lead on this work as a profile raising/advocacy exercise. Do all relevant researchers and academics know this group exists and its purpose? Does ASARGH require greater presence/profile? What about ongoing research in the museums on the collections?

#### **Action**

**DM** to circulate ideas document with options and establish small working group prior to the next meeting in November

**CS/Chairs** work together on an intro to ASARGH article for next Megalith newsletter

## 4. Current archaeological & historical research

### 4.1. *Results of Geophysics A303* Wessex Archaeology

Nicholas Crabb presented the work



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- Introduction to A303 Stonehenge scheme and landscape.
- Definition of the geophysical survey techniques in terms of their capability for archaeological prospection.
- Discussion of why and how certain techniques were used e.g. Standards and guidance.
- Presentation of geophysical survey results representing remains from a broad chronological range.
- Consideration of the effectiveness of the adopted approach.
- *NB Many of these features have not been dated, they are interpreted as pertaining to specific periods based on their form and layout, together with other evidence provided by HER records, aerial photographs and intrusive investigations where available.*

See presentation attached

#### 4.2. *Geophysical Investigations near The Sanctuary*

Kerry Donaldson, Archaeology Surveys Ltd

Kerry presented the results of investigations south of the A4 near the Sanctuary.

See presentation attached

### 5. **Review of current opportunities for dissemination of research including recent and forthcoming publications**

5.1. GS reported the North Wessex Downs AONB investigating HLF funding for White Horses Project

### 6. **Other research opportunities** (i.e. development-led archaeology, utilities)

6.1. County Archaeology Update – No update

### 7. **Review of monitoring (e.g. Condition Surveys, Management Plan)**

7.1. WHS Condition Survey – Sarah Simmonds

This work is required to be repeated every 10 years, Historic England is beginning the process bringing together a project board to discuss approaches and following the

baseline methodology.

## 7.2. WHS Burrowing Animal Strategy – Sarah Simmonds

Designated Funds have been secured to fund this work. AECOM delivered an initial presentation to the Project Board, made up of representatives from key partners. It is likely that volunteers will be required to assist with surveying. Resources are available to train and manage volunteers.

## 7.3. WHS Setting Study – Sarah Simmonds

The draft Brief has been prepared, hard copies were available for members to take a copy. Alternatively, please email SS if you would like a copy to be emailed. Funding required to employ a consultant to deliver the work

**Action: All to email SS if they would like an electronic copy of the Setting Study brief**

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

CS reported:

- 8.1. Avebury WHS Steering Committee – He raised the option of an experimental one-way traffic restriction on B4003
- 8.2. Ridgeway Surface Protection Group – TTRO for experimental repairs. Methodology agreed, materials being sought. Ongoing issue with byways AVE5 and Green Street. Changes made to DCO process in Stonehenge to allow trail bikes on byways post A303 work. Impact of vehicle use on tranquillity not be properly considered. Note that trail bike riders and other vehicles are accessing the Ridgeway by driving around new barriers and gates.
- 8.3. Attended DCO Enquiry Interest Specific Hearings 2 and 3 and raised issue of lack of 3D and digital modelling. Concerned that cultural landscape needs to be looked at as whole rather than individual asset groups and their relationships.

## 9. Opportunities for site/exhibition/archive visits in 2019

- 9.1. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July – WHS Cricket Match Avebury – Dan Miles



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9.2. Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August – visit to Living with Monuments dig at the West Kennet Palisade Enclosures

## 10. Revolving Meeting Chairs/Convenors

Next Meeting - Richard Osgood to Chair

## 11. AOB

11.1. HW called for future meeting venues

Devises offered and LB will also discuss with Wessex Partnership to see if Salisbury Museum can host

**Action LB to contact Salisbury Museum**

1.1. BE - Lorna Haycock memorial service on Sunday

11.3 CS – Partnership Panel feedback on Trust options and meeting with Doug, highlighted the value of the work of the Unit and need for it to maintain its core functions including providing secretariat for ASAHRG

11.4 DM – would like to see more public engagement in research and archaeology. For example the children from KVS are going to the West Kennet dig.

11.5 BE – future agenda item on Community engagement and work with schools

11.6 KW – Newcastle University Research

<http://www.heritage2020.net/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Mapping-Collaborative-Interactions-between-Higher-Education-Institutions-in-the-UK-and-the-Heritage-Sector.pdf>

11.7 LB – Designation Development Fund Project Outline

WM has applied to the Designation Development Fund (Art Council) for a grant to employ a Research Officer for 2 years (starting in March 2020), to update the Museums Collection Management System (MODES), with the research carried out on the archaeology collections over the past 10 years. We will find out in November if the bid has been successful.

Most of the WM collections are already online, but a substantial number of the records have not been updated since their creation in 2005-09... making the database rather static

We will start by putting the results from Woodward & Hunter / Beaker People projects onto MODES and then contact the 148 PhD candidates who have accessed our collections since 2009 – chasing them up for results.

These records will also be made available online, to promote the WM as a centre for academic research.

11.8 LB – New Store for Wiltshire Museum:  
Wiltshire Museum has had an offer accepted on a new store in Amesbury. Estimated it will hold 4,000 boxes. It will be filled with 1,000 boxes from Wessex Archaeology and other contractors almost immediately. £125,000 WC cash put towards it.

11.9 LB – new Deposition Guidelines for Archaeology Archives  
Being updated as part of the Seeing the Light of Day Project. Wiltshire Museums (Devizes, Salisbury, Swindon, Chippenham and Avebury) are using an agreed template, largely put together by Swindon Museum.

By the end of the year, Devizes and Salisbury will be charging £80 per box for archives deposited.

Flagged up the funding model for the Vale of Pewsey Project (Marden), where £7,000 was built into the AHRC grant application, to help pay for the long-term storage and curation of the archive after it is deposited at WM. This funding is a critical source of income for museums and future AHRC applications for fieldwork will expect to see storage costs built into any project – recommendation from a HE working group for archaeology archives.

Community Engagement is also included in the new Deposition Guidelines and will be discussed in more detail at the ASAHRG meeting in November.

## 12. **Date and venue of next meeting**

Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Venue Wiltshire Museum, Devizes