

Meeting Note	Scottish Strategic Archaeology Committee
Date: 21 February 2017	
Meeting Location: John Sinclair House, Edinburgh	
1. Present: Stephen Driscoll (SD) (<i>Chair</i>), Mike Elliot (ME), Rebecca Jones (RHJ), Kate Britton (KB), Robin Turner (RT), Val Turner, Susan Kruse (SK), Laura Hindmarch (LH), Katie Stevenson (KS), Derek Alexander (DA), PC, Eila Macqueen (EM), Richard Strachan (RS), Jacob O'Sullivan (JOS), Kirsty Owen (KO)	Apologies: Simon Gilmour (SG), Mark Hall (MH), Peter Hinton (PH)
Note of Meeting/Discussion	Action Points:
<p>1. Welcome and apologies: SD thanked everyone for attending. RHJ advised Matt Ritchie (MR) has now come off the Committee and welcomed DA as his replacement. SD extended thanks to MR and, after a round robin of introductions, commenced proceedings.</p> <p>2. Minutes of the October meeting and matters arising: typo in section 2. RHJ still to set up a meeting between with SD and the HES Chief Executive. Most other matters were covered elsewhere in the meeting. The new Republic of Ireland Strategy for Archaeology: <i>Archaeology 2025</i>, is being launched on 27 April - RHJ has been invited but is unable to attend.</p> <p>3. HES's Archaeology Programme 2017-18: LH presented an overview of the HES Archaeology and World Heritage team's annual Archaeology Programme, which provides £1.4million funding for archaeology projects across Scotland, plus an additional £300k for contracts such as the Human Remains Call-Off Contract (the £300k is additional and was applied for by RHJ because of both the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology and the Archaeology Strategy). Funds are application through various priorities set by the strategy, with some monies set aside for conferences. A question and answer session followed. Around £2m worth of external bids were received to the Archaeology Programme, with firm offers made for the £1.4m available. RHJ clarified that the application form is being updated and will be online. SD suggested more should be made of the increase of funding for the coming financial year with new projects.</p> <p>4. Delivery Plan – activities It was noted that ClfA are organizing a workshop for the lead bodies on 23 March.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Aim one – Delivering Archaeology: LH gave an overview of the aim.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1.2.1 – LH will be sending out a draft paper, and highlighted an approach that involved people from the sector in its creation, highlighting that it would be another way to open up the Strategy to audiences.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1.6.1 – LH gave an overview of an approach to dealing with the backlog of incomplete projects (pre-circulated paper). There was</p>	<p>LH to circulate and ALL to comment</p>

considerable discussion regarding quality control and material held by individuals and companies long after projects had finished fieldwork (and, in some cases, post-ex) stage. A portal or register of material being held was suggested. It was AGREED that HES would do stage 1 of this project and make accessible as a pdf a list of all incomplete archaeological projects funded by HES.

1.7 – It was noted that Communications would be discussed further later in the agenda.

- b. **Aim two – Enhancing Understanding:** SG submitted a brief report from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. KO advised the regional frameworks will be created first and will feed up to the national ScARF. A workshop will take place in March, which will kick off this process. Two Museum-based frameworks are in progress, thanks to funding from MGS and HES. KO gave a further overview in SG's absence. On Open Access - RHJ advised that HES now have an Open Access procedure for the Archaeology Programme:
<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/media/3999/archaeology-programme-open-access-procedure.pdf>
- c. **Aim three – Caring and Protecting:** More information after the workshop on 23 March and ALGAO Scotland meetings.
- d. **Aim four – Encouraging Greater Engagement:** EM gave an overview of the Aim and a discussed the desire for a “go-to place” for archaeological resources. A general discussion took place on Glow. It was agreed to build links with Moray House, Jordanhill and other teacher training colleges.
- e. **Aim five – Innovation and Skills:** RT advised that good progress has been made. RT gave an overview of the archaeological specialist skills audit. Will be meeting up with Historic England and Landward next week to go over the audit results. The findings will be published after that. RT advised that apprenticeships in England take a different format to those in Scotland. Talks are also taking place with SQA and there are links with employers and universities.

5. Communications: LH presented the communications strategy, which was emailed to the group. She asked for any comments or suggestions to be emailed to her and would like the group to have a think about which audiences work well for them. LH is keen to communicate more effectively with the education sector, and also think about visitors and tourists. The Communications Strategy will also be presented at the 23 March workshop. She has also drawn up a style guide to help with branding of the Strategy. She advised that the communications strategy is designed to hit as many targets as possible, but also to be as practical as possible. RS advised the communication plan should also go through Comms to ensure it meets disability inclusion criteria. Thanks were extended to LH for drawing up the draft

**ALL to get back to LH
with any feedback by
Friday 10 March**

communication delivery plan. SD advised that while it's great having this delivery scheme, the tricky part will be the actual delivery. The Scottish Archaeology Strategy focus of the latest ClfA magazine was welcomed with thanks extended to Matt Ritchie for all the work that he put into this.

6. SSAC Role in Delivery Plan: It was generally agreed to continue with three meetings per year and reports of activities provided by the lead bodies and partners as appropriate.

7. 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology update:

This is a standing item for 2017.

There was a discussion in the Scottish Parliament on YHHA last month. In HES, there are broad-themed months taking place throughout the year (e.g. February is "Royalty"). A series of lectures are taking place in Longmore House, to showcase urge expertise and skills of HES staff. These will be recorded and placed online. KO advised that as this had been so well received, a similar series may take place to support the 2018 Year of Young People. RS reported that a series of InSites tours are taking place, being facilitated by the Conservation team, which takes visitors through aspects of conservation and maintenance at various HES sites. A large event is taking place at Fort George in August, with separate zones for history, heritage and archaeology. JOS advised that MGS have also been doing themed months and producing a series of blogs and Twitter handles.

EM advised that Archaeology Scotland launched their Heritage Heros award. It's an inclusive award, though primarily aimed at young people. They also have funding for a project at Stobs Camp (a former Prisoner of War camp near Hawick). Run by DigIt 2017, there is a Scotland in Six competition which will run from April to September. DA advised that NTS events - walks etc - are being marketed as part of the YHHA. There may be some work taking place at Culloden and Glencoe on the Jacobites. KS advised that Jacobites are also the big theme for NMS this year. VT advised there is a competition being scheduled for the summer in Shetland, with a Viking-themed event in September, which will take place over two weekends. KB informed of a dig at Kings College, Aberdeen, being funded by HLF, also part of the YHHA. SD advised that the insular art congress is coming to Glasgow University in July. RHJ asked for any ideas on how to promote the YHHA and SAS and to come back with ideas at the next meeting.

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8. Next meetings: RHJ advised these are scheduled for Wednesday 24 May and Tuesday 31 October 2017.

9. AOCB

9.1 KS advised that the Treasure Trove Unit has a new website; <https://treasuretrovescotland.co.uk/>.

RHJ and KO will be attending the European Archaeological Council meeting in Athens, and presenting on "Three for One", joining

RHJ to circulate copies of Magazine to non ClfA members

KO to look into getting YHHA pin badges for the SSAC members

<p>colleagues from Ireland and England on differing approaches to archaeology strategies.</p> <p>RS advised the Minor Archaeological Works to Properties in Care 'call-off' contract is due to expire on 1 April. The contract is out for tender (closing on 6 March) and the existing contract holder is not re-applying, so HES will have a new contractor for call-off works on the estate in April 2017.</p> <p>9.2 Length of meetings: A general discussion took place on timings and meeting length. It was agreed to make future meetings 11:00 to 15:00. It was also agreed that advance notice of reports etc before meetings will give attendees time to fully digest before meetings take place, with the having to take up meeting time.</p>	
<p>Mike Elliot Archaeology & World Heritage Team, HES</p>	<p>21 February 2017 0131 668 8811</p>