

Meeting Note	Scottish Strategic Archaeology Committee
Date: 27 March 2018	
Meeting Location: Riddle's Court, Edinburgh	
Present: Stephen Driscoll (SD) (<i>Chairman</i>), Derek Alexander (DA), Kirsty Dingwall (KD), Simon Gilmour (SG), Peter Hinton (PH), Rebecca Jones (RHJ), Jacob O'Sullivan (JO), Robin Turner (RT), Val Turner (VT)	Apologies: Kate Britton (KB), Peter Connelly (PC), Mark Hall (MH), Laura Hindmarch (LH), Fraser Hunter (FH), Eila Macqueen (EM), Kirsty Owen (KO), Tom Rees (TR), Edward Stewart (ES), and Richard Strachan (RS).
In attendance: Mike Elliot (ME) (<i>Minutes</i>)	
Note of Meeting/Discussion	Action Points:
<p>1. Welcome and apologies: SD thanked everyone for attending and noted the apologies received. SD advised KB will be back at next meeting. There were no further announcements, SD commenced proceedings.</p> <p>2. Minutes of the October meeting and matters arising: There were no matters arising from the October minutes. RHJ advised the hashtag, #ScotArchStrat, is progressing well. The Landward report was disseminated. RHJ advised she has an outstanding action point relating to liaison with SUP.</p> <p>3. Minutes of the January workshop and matters arising: There were no matters arising and the workshop minutes were noted.</p> <p>4. Communications: RHJ advised that there will be a Strategy report of activities later this year, which will be circulated by email and posted up online.</p> <p>5. Delivery Plan - brief summary of key activities since last meeting</p> <p>a. Aim one - Delivering Archaeology: RHJ advised HES has collated a list of all projects they and their predecessor bodies have funded. Part of this list is up online but in slimmed down format as the longer list but contains sensitivities. The list is currently purely project funded by HES and predecessors; the potential for adding developer-funded projects was noted but there were some reservations from ALGAO.</p> <p>The list can be found at: https://www.historicenvironment.scot/media/4325/archaeology-programme-projects-funded.pdf</p> <p>SD and RHJ attended a meeting in February with heads of archaeology from Scottish universities. It was recognised that there is a lot of goodwill in Scottish universities and other universities which work in Scotland towards the Strategy and they are keen to</p>	<p>Action 1: RHJ to embed link to list in the minutes:</p> <p>Action 2: RHJ / ME to circulate February minutes from University Heads of Archaeology meeting</p> <p>Action 3: ME to send SD pack of Archaeology Strategy postcards</p>

be more involved. It was agreed that the minutes from the February meeting will be circulated to the SSAC once available. RHJ advised there is a new batch of promotional postcards, which now include the hashtag.

b. Aim two - Enhancing Understanding: SG advised that there is still no confirmation of funding from HES. The ScARF project manager is leaving, so will be advertising for a replacement. The reference panels for academics are coming together. Working towards getting an open access platform in order to put Portmahomack online. RHJ advised HES is also pushing open access; prepared to consider funding for projects for open access even if they have not previously received funding from HES, see <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/media/4466/archaeology-programme-open-access-procedure.pdf>

c. Aim three - Caring and Protecting: VT advised been focussing on aspects around managing change. 3.2.2 RHJ advised that HES have been discussing an archaeology science seminar on soil after an earlier successful one on flint. Would wish to see these as ClfA accredited. Recognised need to avoid double handling on aspects of aim three - communication and dialogue is key going forward. Current focus is on training for ALGAO members who are already managing change. A discussion took place on a diagram produced by ALGAO and pre-circulated. Comments to be sent to VT.

SG advised Treasure Trove have a four year strategy online. Under the museum angle, RHJ advised that HES are helping NMS to set up a workshop. Proposed that a two pronged approach to museums with archaeological connections. JO advised intent is to engage museums with archaeological backlog and identify issues and guidance needed going forward. SG advised of the ScARF Museums project running in Aberdeenshire.

d. Aim four - Encouraging Greater Engagement: RHJ reported in EM's absence. New group has been set up which has been meeting, called the Archaeology & Learning Working Group (ALWG). Group is up and running looking into aims and objectives of aim 4. One project was running with Northlight leading and due to finish in autumn. RHJ offered to ask about circulation of minutes from the group. A discussion took place on getting a school qualification and to revive an advanced Higher. There are two SQA higher modules in archaeology. It was agreed to look at the awarding bodies and to keep this on the agenda. CSYS route not desirable. Dig it also promoting greater engagement. Now into its final year. Looking into the future of what Dig it should be and asking people's opinions

e. Aim five - Innovation and Skills: PH and RT have been discussing. The ClfA-led survey of skills and training is almost complete with the Summary report received. It identified some skills areas. Aware there are capacity issues. A general discussion followed. It was agreed to keep this discussion for a future

Action 4: VT to disseminate comments and to forward on to Bruce Mann (Aberdeenshire Council)

Action 5: RHJ to speak to EM and learning group about archaeology higher

Action 6: PH to find career pathways map in 5.2.3 and circulate

meeting. It was recognised that the vast majority of archaeologists come through the university route and there needs to be greater diversity of routes into professional archaeology. ClfA ran a mental health awareness course, which went down very well. Agreed to run it again, clear recognised benefits

5.4.3 RT advised been receiving feedback and responses to consultation. Have pencilled in visits to SQA, UHI. Apprenticeships are a big driver in England and may want to look into promoting that in Scotland. Pathway from young archaeologist to university. England has vocational qualifications, no such equivalent in Scotland.

SG advised there is a report on Brexit with impact on archaeology; <http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/tha-website/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Brexit-and-Heritage-Briefing-FINAL-with-Royal-Society-Report.pdf>

6. Discussion of January workshop and way forward: RHJ advised Action 2 is still outstanding. Annex A was identified as a way forward. A discussion took place on how to grapple with the key issues raised and how to use the notes in the annexes. PH advised that the key issues he identified were;

- Funding, is the current developer model the one we want to go with
- Improving planning guidance and planning system
- Local authorities and other curatorial agencies
- The way the commercial sector works, contracts and work driven or commodified
- Licensing question
- Guidance and standard

A discussion followed on issues identified in the workshop and associated notes. SG suggested that an event be held on everyone to come in to discuss issues in the sector and how to drive forward. The group agreed that sessions could be held in other venues around the country, which could be streamed online. It was further agreed to provide a mechanism for people watching remotely to engage, either in real time or later. Further discussion followed, with funding and backlog identified as two key areas that need to be discussed and agree ways forward on. SD suggested a facilitated group with invited "provocateurs" in attendance. The group agreed to have one person lead on this and to have somebody in post for this by July. It was further agreed that, subject to funding, ClfA and other partners from around the table will put forward a proposal.

It was agreed to try and have something up and running in autumn

Action 7: ClfA to explore making mental health awareness course regular fixture

Action 8: RHJ / SG to embed link in minutes to report in Brexit:

Action 9: PH to discuss with ALGAO (VT) & FAME (KD, PC) and send a proposed project design to RHJ

<p>2018, winter 2019, and spring 2019. After discussion, the group identified the following challenges;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding - what percentage of funding comes from where? • Change management - planning with a focus on archaeology, not conservation, local authorities and commercial • Methods • Licensing and standards • How do we get better archaeology from change management? • Who funds archaeology? • Who does archaeology? • New directions in Scottish archaeology <p>SD and SG were identified for the organising steering committee. Alan Leslie was suggested as a possible provocateur. The group agreed there is the potential to hire someone to project manage this project.</p> <p>7. Committee membership: RHJ advised we need a new member with community heritage experience. One suggestion received. ClfA voluntary group was also suggested as potential source. RHJ identified those members due to come off this year. We will be looking for a new chair. There are some key organisations we should keep around the table, with the benefit being if some individuals were unable to attend some meetings then others from their organisation can attend in their place. A discussion took place on replacing the chair. It was generally agreed that it would be good to have a successor in place by 2019 following a transition period, and requested if SD could extend his period as Chair to cover the proposed forthcoming workshops. It was agreed that lead bodies should continue to be represented and current members who will be coming off stay in communication so experience is not lost.</p> <p>8. Next meetings and AOCB: Friday 8 June. It was agreed coffee on arrival will be at 10:30 with the meeting starting at 11:00am and finishing at 15:30. It was agreed to get a project consortium discussion on 10 May ahead of the June meeting. RHJ advised she and Kirsty Owen went to the European archaeological council, and presented on how HES' Archaeology Programme is being influenced by the Strategy. Her paper on Strategy development from the previous year's EAC (together with Mary Teehan from Ireland and Mike Heyworth from CBA) was now published; http://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue49/12/index.html</p>	<p>Action 10: RHJ to ask Eila Macqueen and ClfA</p> <p>Action 11: Those members coming off the committee this year to think about possible succession/ replacements (including how to open up recruitment) and to bring their suggestions to the next meeting.</p> <p>Action 12: RHJ to put link in the minutes to the discussion.</p>
<p>Mike Elliot Archaeology & World Heritage Team</p>	<p>27 March 2018 0131 668 8811</p>

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