

Meeting Note	Scottish Strategic Archaeology Committee
Date: 30 May 2019	
Meeting Location: Longmore House, Edinburgh	
<p>Present: Steven Driscoll (SD) (<i>Chair</i>), Kirsty Dingwall (KD), Kate Geary (KGe), Kevin Grant (KJG), Fraser Hunter (FH), Rebecca Jones (RHJ), Bruce Mann (BM), Jacob O'Sullivan (JOS), Kirsty Owen (KO), Helen Spencer (HS), Edward Stewart (ES), Jennifer Thoms (JT), Sharon Webb (SW)</p> <p>In attendance: Mike Elliot (ME) (<i>Minutes</i>), Lisa Brown (LB), Jen Parker-Wooding (JPW)</p>	<p>Apologies: Derek Alexander (DA), Kate Britton (KB), Peter Connolly (PC) and Tom Rees (TR).</p>
Note of Meeting/Discussion	Action Points:
<p>1. Welcome and apologies: Apologies were received from Derek Alexander (DA), Kate Britton (KB), Peter Connolly (PC) and Tom Rees (TR).</p> <p>2. Minutes of the February meeting: The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.</p> <p>3. AOCB</p> <p>a. 3.1 Heritage crime - KO advised HES is now collaborating with Police Scotland.</p> <p>b. 3.2 Climate change – KO gave an update on recent Climate change initiatives at HES.</p> <p>4. Matters arising: KJG advised, under point 5 of the previous minutes, he will be taking the magazine style report forward. However, his replacement will be leading on this when they are recruited. JT advised, under section 7.d of the previous minutes, she has still to circulate the learning framework.</p> <p>5. Communications - brief update including on Archaeology Strategy 2018 Report: RHJ advised progress has stalled on the delivery plan, due to staffing issues. However, KJG has been appointed as the new Archaeology Manager within HES Archaeology and World Heritage Team and will lead on this. KJG advised he has received feedback on the last magazine style report. KJG requested that anyone Tweeting to please use the hashtag (#scotarchstrat) as it makes it easier to track. KJG also requested good, high resolution photographs to be sent to him. Strategy partners will be supporting 'European Archaeology Days' (run by INRAP https://www.inrap.fr/en/newsletter/subscriptions) on social media from 14 to 16 June. Northern Picts project has just released a new video and has</p>	<p>Action 1: JT to send the learning framework and the updated figure for the Heritage Hero Awards to ME for circulating to the group</p> <p>Action 2: KJG to send ME an email to circulate to the SSAC requesting good quality photographs for the new magazine-style report</p> <p>Action 3: KJG to send email to group, via ME, regarding the</p>

<p>been reported in the <i>Metro</i> newspaper. Requested that members of the group keep an eye out for it and share it on social media. #askanarchaeologistday 17 July. Field season is starting. We printed 1,000 copies of the report, which also had 479 downloads. Conducted a SurveyMonkey which received 10 responses, all were useful. 70% of respondents said print and 50% said digital, suggesting we continue with both. The cost of the print run was not expensive, but we have now had a budget cut. Good feedback received - wanted more information on the Strategy and the thinking behind it. Want to hear more from actual diggers. A call on British Archaeological Jobs Research (BAJR) was mooted as an idea to request information from diggers. More engagement with students. Request for links to more reading material. KO advised the second report will not cost as much as it will have the same design. KJG circulated the proposed content to the group. KJG advised the absolute deadline for articles for the report is end of July.</p> <p>6. Delivery Plan - brief summary of key activities since last meeting</p> <p>a. Aim one - Delivering Archaeology (HES): LB updated and extended thanks to Alison Sheridan, Laura Mackenzie and ME for input and assistance. An ancient DNA list has been set up for Scotland, which is currently the only country in the world to have one. LB advised that a form will be put up on CANMORE for everyone to fill out to have aDNA samples added to the list. LB further advised this is an Open Access project and can be read by everyone (https://archaeologyscotland.org.uk/join-us/discovery-and-excavation-scotland/). It was agreed to keep the aDNA list as a regular item on the agenda.</p> <p>On 1.2.1 (Commission a review of the national approach to archaeological protection and recording to include comparisons to other countries and recommendations for improvements), KO advised the workshops are due to happen this year, likely in October or November and may be held in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness. They will be looking at how archaeology is funded and structured, with public benefit. KO advised she is seeking advice from the group on who they would like to commission reports from.</p> <p>For 1.4.1 (Assess existing standards, guidance and promotion), KO has written a report which was circulated to HES colleagues. KO will collate comments and circulate to the committee by the end of July. Half of this has been put on hold, but still able to put plans in place.</p> <p>1.6.1 (Produce a source of information to post-graduate students on projects from across the sector that have been left incomplete to encourage them to be) the Research Portal for Scottish archaeology closed in December. KJG has drawn up a précised report, which has been circulated to the SSAC members.</p> <p>b. Aim two - Enhancing Understanding (SoAS): HS updated. The role of ScARF is currently being evaluated by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. 2.1 (regular updating) Tracing the Lines is on the website. There is a blog coming out, which will go on the HES Website.</p>	<p>European Archaeology Days</p> <p>Action 4: KJG to take spare copies of the 2018 report to various events and conferences</p> <p>Action 5: ES to forward on email from Rachel Moss to KJG, regarding diversity and the Student Conference</p> <p>Action 6: SW to speak to KJG regarding content for the magazine style report</p> <p>Action 7: JOS to send content for the magazine style report to KJG</p> <p>Action 8: FH to send email with content for the magazine to KJG</p> <p>Action 9: KJG to request ideas, via ME, for the Look Ahead feature by email</p> <p>Action 10: KGe to put LB in touch with the ClfA working group looking at human remains</p> <p>Action 11: KO and KGe to have conversation on the structure of the workshops for Aim 1</p> <p>Action 12: KO and HS to have meeting with Peter McKeague to determine next steps on the</p>
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<p>The next Scotland's Island Research Framework for Archaeology (SIRFA) Conference will be held on 20 and 23 September in Shetland. KO advised HES is conducting a research audit which includes PhDs studentships.</p> <p>2.5 - website update. The domain name scarf.scot is now owned by SoAS, which will help with the existing identity.</p> <p>c. Aim three - Caring and Protecting (ALGAO & NMS): FH updated. Have made good progress since the last meeting and established a working group, with good representation both geographically and skill-wise across the sector. FH further advised there are three main thrusts of the work;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are new procedures, new checklists for artefacts when they are submitted to NMS. • Stamping out the practice of unprocessed soil samples being submitted to museums. Hoping to have draft funding bid coming in the next two months. • Have looked at Treasure Trove; there will be a review of TTU code of practice. Valuations were also discussed. Also discussed areas which fall through the gaps; call off contracts were discussed, particularly human remains. Looking at existing procedures. <p>The group discussed disclaimed material and procedures around those. BM advised the next workshop is on 26 August. Also discussed there is a lack of forums for museum archaeologists to discuss issues. Will be looking at the wording of guidance and procedures.</p> <p>KO advised she has liaised with Police Scotland about human remains; guidance called <i>Found Bones</i> will be going online.</p> <p>d. Aim four - Encouraging Greater Engagement (AS): JT updated. Focussed on 4.2. Dig it evaluation report is out. On 4.2, have conducted three meetings. Have decided to go into a network setup. Want network to be more focussed on feet on the ground - people who deliver learning out of the classroom. Another meeting of the working group is due to take place during the summer, before the next SSAC meeting. Doing work with Dundonald Castle, creating handling boxes; Viking, Romans and two mediaeval. Looking for a home for the handling boxes. Learning portal is quite popular with teachers. A lot of work going on with engaging with teachers. Heritage Hero award scheme has 9,000 people. Community Heritage Scotland are having a series of meetings around Scotland.</p> <p>e. Aim five - Innovation and Skills (ClfA): KGe updated. Article went into the <i>Archaeologist</i> in February. Discussion took place on apprenticeships. LB advised Cara Jones (ClfA) is continuing to work on the development of a Modern apprenticeship for field technician (name not final), and also continuing to work on a PDA (professional development award) & NPA (national progression award) in Archaeology. Cara has contacts within SDS and the Caseworker for the SQA, who are guiding her through this process. LB further advised Cara is currently working on a timetable for the development and delivery of these and hopes to present the timetable to the Archaeology Skills & Training working group in September 2019. Archaeology Training Forum is celebrating its 21st anniversary this year on</p>	<p>Archaeology Research Portal for unfinished projects Action 13: HS and ES to have a conversation regarding student and university engagement</p> <p>Action 14: KO to speak to Ben Thomas to circulate the list of HES funded PhDs, following HES research audit in second quarter of 2019</p> <p>Action 15: KGe to send email to RHJ for circulating to the group requesting any notes of interest on being on the review panels for ClfA accreditation</p>
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<p>14 and 15 October with reception at Edinburgh Castle. Will be starting to accredit university degrees. First wave in June. No Scottish universities in the first wave. A pilot for the first wave is running now, applications end on 1 June. https://www.archaeologists.net/Accredited_Degrees#overlay-context=accredited-degrees</p> <p>7. Impact report: A group discussion took place on KPIs and success benchmarks for the Strategy. A date of December 2020 for the report was mooted. First steps for the implementation of the impact report will be the creation of five sections on the Strategy website, to be populated by the leads with existing products and documents.</p> <p>8. Diversity - discussion on what to include and how to integrate: JOS advised an archaeology working group was held in the previous week.</p> <p>9. New Delivery Plan (2019) - any additional updates a. Aim one - Delivering Archaeology (HES): A general discussion took place on what was missed out on the original delivery plan and what should be included in the next one. The committee agreed to put diversity into Aim 5. KGe advised ClfA's developing and equality page is now online (www.archaeologists.net/practices/equality_and_diversity_in_archaeology). KGe further advised there is also a series of recommendations their working group presented to the ClfA board, which will be reported on shortly, and will send on details when they are available.</p> <p>RHJ advised some progress has been made with the climate change aspects; she and KO will have a think about objectives for climate change, heritage crime and diversity for the new delivery plan.</p> <p>10. Committee membership: SD suggested that someone from a marine and maritime archaeology background sit on the committee. Have potential candidates. After discussion, the group agreed to have such a person on the committee. RHJ advised the position for Community and Voluntary Engagement remains vacant but Archaeology Scotland will be advertising for us</p> <p>Date of next meeting: 10:30 for 11:00, Thursday 24 October in Longmore House.</p>	<p>Action 16: All SSAC members to start thinking about content for the impact report.</p> <p>Action 17: KO to draft up new delivery plan by end of July.</p> <p>Action 18: KGe to circulate ClfA diversity recommendations to the SSAC when they become available.</p> <p>Action 19: All SSAC members to advise KJG, by email, if they have anything specific they want to add into the delivery plan</p> <p>Action 20: KO to draw up draft Aim 3 actions for heritage crime, climate change, and diversity and send to BM</p> <p>Action 21: SD to contact the interested parties for the marine and maritime archaeology who may wish to join the SSAC</p>
<p>Mike Elliot Archaeology Strategy Team</p>	<p>Date 30 May 2019</p>

