



**MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ADVISORY GROUP FOR  
THE GREATER YORK COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT  
THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2005, 1.30pm  
YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST'S OFFICES, CROMWELL HOUSE,  
OGLEFORTH, YORK**

**PRESENT** Catrina Appleby (CA), Timeline YP / SAAS  
Eliza Gore (EG), Community Archaeologist  
Rachel Jenkins (RJ), Dunnington Through the Ages  
Charles Jones (CJ), Fulford Battlefield Society  
Ted Kendall (TK), Poppleton Archaeology Group  
David Petts (DP), Heslington Archaeology Project  
Elizabeth Smith (ES), Friends of Hob Moor / Dringhouses LHG

**1. Receipt of Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Alan Powell (Strensall Archaeology Group).

**2. Minutes from the first meeting of the Advisory Group**

The minutes were agreed.

**3. Training workshops**

EG summarised the training workshops that have taken place so far and handed out feedback forms from the workshops for members of the Board to look at. Most of the feedback had been very positive and included suggestions for next year's programme of workshops.

EG distributed a list of workshop topics for next year's programme and asked for comments and ideas. There was some discussion about whether the workshops should continue to be called 'training workshops'. ES suggested the next series could be called 'Study days'. DP felt that the sessions should continue to be primarily skills-based, as this was the original intention. RJ suggested that some of the workshops be more linked to history and archaeological research in the region eg. make use of links between oral history and family history.

CA suggested that a couple of the workshops be focussed towards children as they have so far been very adult-based. Children might be interested in the technology workshop, looking at how objects were manufactured in the past.

DP suggested that we use the skills of people within the groups to run workshops, as Marjorie Harrison did a great job on the Palaeography one.

ES suggested the workshops focus on a particular place of local interest; for example use Knavesmire Wood for Ancient Woodlands workshop. DP suggested EG contacts the Elvington Air Museum, which has Nissen Huts, to ask if we can do a building recording workshop there.

### **ACTION POINTS**

- EG to put together a programme for the next series of workshops, to be discussed at next Timeline York Plus meeting.
- EG to contact Barabara Hickman from the Woodland History Group to discuss woodland workshop.
- EG to contact Elvington Air Museum.

## **4. New local groups**

A new group should be forming in New Earswick in the New Year. EG had given a talk to the Haxby local history group and hoped the Haxby group might also branch out into archaeology.

EG mentioned that The Friends of Skipwith Common are keen to do some earthwork surveys of the archaeological features on the common, and are looking for any help or advice from local groups.

## **5. Schools and inclusion of the general public**

### **Schools**

EG described how she wanted to get more children and young adults involved in the project. One approach will be to run free workshops on community archaeology at DIG! when it opens, for local schools. These could focus on topics such as 'What is old in my neighbourhood?' for Key Stages 1-2 and 'What is heritage?' for Key Stages 3-4.

Another approach is to work with schools that have already been involved in local archaeology projects, such as the After School Group in Dunnington. RJ mentioned that school groups visited their excavation in the summer and CJ outlined how local schools had been involved in Fulford Battlefield Society.

RJ suggested that one way to get children involved would be to build a round-house, perhaps at the Murton Farming Museum. Could EG run more workshops at local interest venues like the museum at Murton?

There was some discussion about the costs of supervising children. CA requested that groups are advised to include costs for supervising children when filling out grant applications, as this can be a huge expense.

TK said that some schools would love to have a visit from an archaeologist. Use existing contacts to get into schools (eg. Gill Kendall). CA suggested free-lance archaeologists could be contacted to see if they would be interested in doing this.

### **ACTION POINTS**

- EG to talk to Glenys Boyles about her programme for the After School Group in Dunnington.
- EG to contact the Yorkshire Museum of Farming at Murton to enquire about running workshops there.
- EG to contact Gill Kendall at Hob Moor Oaks school.

### **Inclusion of the general public**

EG outlined the target age groups she has to include for the Heritage Lottery Fund. The most difficult age group is 14-21 year olds.

DP said that you cannot force people to be interested in archaeology, but that you can target young people who are interested, such as 16-17 year olds wanting to study archaeology at university. ES recommended York College as a good place to start. CA suggested EG talks to secondary schools about whether students could do work experience in archaeology.

EG mentioned that she will be mentoring 14 year olds from local schools in the New Year.

RJ suggested EG contact scout and guide groups – find out if there is a badge in archaeology, and if not could we create one?

### **ACTION POINTS**

- EG to contact scout and guide groups
- EG to approach York College

## **6. Archive pro-formas**

EG handed out some fieldwalking recording sheets that she has designed. CA had used these for a recent fieldwalk in Acaster Malbis and found them very useful.

EG also handed out a simple Record Sheet detailing what activity local groups have been carrying out (type of activity / date carried out / location / what was found / where is archive kept?). EG suggested that it would be very useful for John Oxley if groups could submit these forms to him after they have carried out major activities.

## **7. Access to reference collections (eg. Aerial photography)**

EG mentioned that a York student has volunteered to help make the aerial photograph archive at YAT more user-friendly by creating a database and scanning particular photos. CA felt this would be very useful as she had found it difficult to search the archive for aerial photographs of Copmanthorpe. (Since this meeting Anthony Crawshaw has handed over his database of aerial photographs to YAT, removing the need for this work. The student will instead be working on slides of aerial photos from Peter Addyman's collection).

TK mentioned that he worked on interpreting aerial photographs when he was in the RAF. His skills could be very useful for the above project.

DP suggested that EG looks into getting Mapmaker – GIS software that can be used to plot aerial photograph data on maps. CJ requested that EG also tries to obtain British Geological Survey data, as this would be very useful for community groups.

### **ACTION POINTS**

- DP to send EG information about Mapmaker freeware.

## **8. Date for the meeting of the Project Board**

The Project Board will be meeting at YAT on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 12pm-2pm. All members of the Advisory Group are welcome to attend the meeting.

## **9. Any other business**

CA asked CJ when the Timeline York Plus website would be up and running properly. CJ said there had been some technical problems but that he hoped to sort it out soon. The website can be viewed at <http://www.timelineyp.org.uk>

RJ mentioned that Dunnington Through the ages are planning to do a 'Derwent Dig'. This will focus on looking for the Anglo-Saxon origins of the village by digging test pits all over and around the settlement. This will take place next year, probably every other weekend for 4-5 weeks. Anyone interested in helping with this event to contact RJ.

RJ also mentioned that they will be focussing on the deserted medieval villages (DMVs) in Derwent and hope to do some earthwork surveys and geophysical surveys of the DMVs at Scoreby and Grimston.

EG thanked everyone for coming. The meeting closed at 3pm.