



**MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE PROJECT BOARD FOR  
THE GREATER YORK COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT  
TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2005, 12pm  
YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST'S OFFICES, CROMWELL HOUSE,  
OGLEFORTH, YORK**

**PRESENT** Catrina Appleby (CA), Community Representative  
Eliza Gore (EG), Community Archaeologist  
Richard Hall (RH), York Archaeological Trust (YAT)  
Cllr Janet Hopton (JH), City of York Council (CoYC)  
John Oxley (JO), City of York Archaeologist  
Steve Roskams (SR), York Archaeological Forum (YAF)

**1. Receipt of Apologies for Absence**

All members of the Project Board were present.

**2. Minutes of the first Project Board meeting**

The minutes were agreed.

**3. Training workshops for next year**

EG had handed out a list of suggested topics for next year's programme of workshops. The suggestions had been taken from the feedback forms gathered from this year's participants in the workshops and they included:

1. Exercises in aerial photograph interpretation
2. Investigating ancient woodland – Knavesmire Wood
3. How objects were manufactured in the past – metalworking, weaving etc
4. Use of computers in archaeology
5. Oral history and family history
6. Soil survey
7. How to store, archive and display material
8. Recent/new discoveries in the York area – local excavations and research results
9. Site visits to excavations
10. Monastic houses in and around York

11. Costume and fashion
12. Food and drink through the ages

Workshops to be repeated:

- Identifying Finds
- Reading old documents (Palaeography in practice – York City Archives)
- Using archives and old maps
- Recording Historic buildings – ROC building on Knavesmire or Nissen Huts at Elvington Museum (2-3 smaller sessions?)
- Interpreting landscapes (Hob Moor)

JH felt that we need to choose the most relevant topics and those that will stimulate more people to come to the workshops. JO agreed that the workshops should build the capacity in the community to do archaeological fieldwork. All agreed that computing in archaeology was an important aspect to cover and JO mentioned that there may be additional workshops on using HANER next year. SR suggested that the local groups could be invited to run some couple of the workshops, using local expertise and encouraging local interest.

Action points:

- EG to finalise programme and launch it in the New Year

#### **4. Reaching the younger audience**

EG suggested three key ideas that she has been developing to get children involved. These included running free workshops for schools, assisting with after-school clubs and mentoring placements. JH suggested we start by writing to the Headteachers, offering these activities and highlighting that they are free. JO suggested we contact the Head of St. Oswald's School in Fulford to find out whether recent development and archaeological work there had involved the children and how successful it was. Use doors that are already open and get some good projects going – other schools will follow. SR suggested that the local archaeology groups could offer work experience places to local children. JH suggested EG contacts Askham Bryan College to see if the project could be tied into any of their land management courses.

Action points:

- EG to develop ideas raised in Advisory Group and Project Board

#### **5. Building the bigger picture – receiving and disseminating results**

EG asked JO what how much information he had been receiving from local groups about their activities. JO said there had been a lot of informal contact with local groups and that he felt more formal deposition of results would be

facilitated by the arrival of HANER in 2006, which would offer a digital home for digital data.

JH suggested EG writes an Annual Report for the City of York Councillors to keep the project fresh in their minds. The Community Archaeologist could also offer to talk to the Scrutiny Board about the project.

JH suggested EG collates the programmes of events and talks being run by all the local groups and makes this more widely available. This would help groups to reach a wider audience and would help to Community Archaeologist to see what topics are being covered by local groups. SR suggested this could be a digital calendar of events and that perhaps an Archaeological Information Systems MSc student could assist with this. CA felt this could be tied into the Timeline website.

Action points:

- EG to write Annual Report about project
- EG to collate information about the events different groups are running in 2006

## **6. Any other business**

SR mentioned that the structure of the York Archaeological Forum meetings will be changing and that two of the meetings in 2006 will be held on a Saturday. The first of these will include a presentation on archaeological work in the community and SR asked EG for ideas. EG suggested this could be based in Derwent and could look at the multi-period landscape that is being uncovered there by Dunnington Through the Ages, Heslington Archaeology Group, Stamford Bridge Archaeology Group and other groups beyond. JO suggested that this could be hosted at a local school.

RH asked if everyone was happy with the way the project is developing. There was a general feeling that the project has made a good start and that we need to focus on reaching new audiences and encouraging children to get involved.

## **7. Date for the next meeting of the Project Board**

The next meeting of the Project Board will be in May 2006; exact date to be confirmed.

RH thanked everyone for coming. The meeting closed at 13.30pm.

