

**CBA – Regional Group East  
combining former Groups East Anglia and Mid-Anglia**

**Minutes of the inaugural meeting 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011 held at The Cathedral lecture room,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk**

*Present:* Mike Heyworth (MH), Andrew Rogerson (AR), Aileen Connor (AC), Lynn Farrag (LF), Colin Pendleton (CP), Bob Carr (BC), Andrew Francis (AF), Mike Coles (MC), Tim Harper (TH), David Buckley (DB), Jane Carr (JC), David Stocker (DS), Stephen Jaggard (SJ), James Albone (JA), Helen Paterson (HP), Ralph Leak (RL), Cathy Wright (CW), Ray Wright (RW), Alison Tinniswood (AT), and ?

*1) Apologies for absence:* Adrian Cole (AGC), Peter Clayton, Peter Huggins

*2) Welcome to members of CBA East, and update:* AR opened the meeting and reported that CBA East Anglia had voted to dissolve the Group at its AGM, held that morning. He gave a summary of the joint meeting held on 13/11/10 at which it was agreed to merge the two Groups and described the stages by which this has been achieved, including the holding of a Special General Meeting by Mid Anglia on 16/4/11, and the submission of a revised Constitution to the Charities Commission. Issues to address include the transfer of assets from CBA EA to the new Group, increasing membership (targeting areas with low take up [CP], publicising events.

AR welcomed Mike Heyworth to the meeting.

MH gave members a brief account of the CBA from its foundation in the 1940s, in wartime. He summarized the aims of the CBA, and the challenges it currently faces, including the loss of its grant from the British Academy. Increasing membership was the key, currently c10000, the aim was to double this in 4 years. Community archaeology also important. Regional Groups shouldn't replicate work of local groups, but add something different. York hopes to provide more direct support (training etc.) to volunteers. He warned that the Localism Bill would have an impact; groups must get involved.

*3) Appointment of temporary chairperson and recorder in order to elect officers*

AR asked Mike Heyworth to act as temporary Chairperson for Item 3. AT was appointed temporary recorder.

*4) Nominations - Officers to stand for election:*

Chairman : Andrew Rogerson with Aileen Connor as deputy

Secretary : Alison Tinniswood

Treasurer : Stephen Jaggard and Adrian Cole in rotation

Newsletter & Publicity Secretary : Andrew Francis

Events Secretary : Lynn Farrag

MH asked if anyone else wished to stand. None did. Those nominated were elected unanimously.

MH asked AR to take the remainder of the meeting

*5) Nominations - Committee members for election:*

James Albone, Bob Carr, Jane Carr, Mike Coles, Tim Harper, Ralph Leak, Colin Pendleton, Cathy Wright, Ray Wright.

AR asked if anyone else wished to stand. Those nominated were elected unanimously.

It was agreed to co-opt DB onto the Committee

6) *Proposal to adopt the Constitution of the new Group*: AT reported that members of the old Mid Anglia Group had passed a Special Resolution to adopt the new Constitution at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April. The amendments were checked by Peter Olver at York, and by the Charities Commission.

AR proposed a motion to adopt the new Constitution, and this was CARRIED.

7) *Finance – merging of assets*: It was agreed that AGC should be Treasurer for the first year, since CBA EA assets would be transferred to the old Mid Anglia account, which at 31/3/11 held £6,932.05 (accounts prepared by AGC were circulated). Of this, £500 was committed to the Cambridgeshire Jigsaw project (HLF project to provide local societies with access to training, equipment and advice)

SJ reported that the CBA EA accounts stood at c£5400, expenditure and income roughly equal for past 3 years. He would close the account when assets transferred. Would need to sort out signatories with AGC, so they should meet to do all this.

It was agreed any unclaimed grant monies would not be paid once CBA EA account was closed. AR will advise Michael de Bootman to re-apply to the new Group for a grant towards his excavations.

8) *Newsletter and Publicity*: AF – Newsletter was largely replaced by the website, which he wants to develop further. It's a cost-effective way of reaching the members. decrease in subventions, and no other income. However, a cut-down version should go to members on paper, though postage is an issue. He will update the website with regard to the new group, and add Norfolk/Suffolk material. Will also have to build new database of members, once York have merged the address lists (Sue N).

CBA Briefing will use CBA East next month.

All should publicise the new group – at meetings etc.

9) *Future events and location of meetings*:

LF – wants suggestions, and also views on how frequent and how to get regional 'spread'. Will work with AF to get on website.

TH suggested introductory events in the two 'regions'. JC suggested Thetford Priory and the Castle Museum. Agreed as front runner. AR – can we approach someone to do talk on Grimes Graves? CP can contact Barry Bishop. Approach Wetlands Society re survey of medieval warrens (talk and site visit?). AC – Cambridgeshire possibilities include Stonea Camp, Devil's Dyke again (CP noted could combine with something on Norfolk dykes). HP suggested Burwell Castle. MH : feedback at York is that some longer walks would be popular. TH suggested linking with Ramblers Association.

10) *Any other business*: MC asked MH if York intended to roll out the training programmes to the regions, MH confirmed 'Yes'. Lottery money would fund one year trainee positions around the UK, is also some EH money for teaching/training. Aim is to cover particular themes, e.g. geophysics. DB noted Essex should be able to provide some places, such as Colchester and the new Museum in Chelmsford.

AF asked if he could still claim some costs for time spent working on website, etc. This was agreed.

Mileage: it was agreed that the mileage rate, if claimed, should be 45p in line with HMRC.

11) *Date of next meeting*: To be arranged

**N.B. THE FIRST AGM WILL BE HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2012 (venue to be agreed)**

AR thanked all for coming, and declared the meeting closed.