

## Research Framework Meeting

18<sup>th</sup> March 2010

RCAHMW, Aberystwyth

Present: Peter Wakelin, Fiona Gale, Jeff Davies, Kate Geary, Andrew Marvell, David Browne, Astrid Caseldine, Ken Murphy, Steve Burrow, Emily Bateman, Ian Brooks, Jenny Hall, Gwilym Hughes

1) Apologies: David Gwyn, Peter Claughton, Bill Britnell, Elizabeth Walker, Emma Plunkett Dillon, Sian Rees, John Latham, Stephen Hughes, Stephen Briggs, David Maynard, Nancy Edwards

2) Notes from the last meeting: Approved after removal of a partial sentence

3) Review process including feedback from Chairs

*Palaeoenvironmental, Astrid Caseldine.* Astrid has contacted the Trust directors over unpublished work and had varying levels of response. She thought that it may be worth visiting GGAT given the volume of unpublished work carried out in that area. She has responded to a request from Nancy Edwards for palaeoenvironmental data for the Early Medieval period. She isn't proposing to hold a seminar or workshop as many of the specialists in the field live outside Wales and email dialogues seem more appropriate. The hardest part she is finding is discovering how the Research Framework is being used. EB suggested using the scoping report that GAT had written for DC and that she would make it available. **Action:** EB to distribute copies of scoping report as appropriate

*Palaeolithic and Mesolithic (250,000BC – 4000BC), Elizabeth Walker.* Elizabeth Walker had apologized for not being able to attend the meeting but reported that since the last meeting she has sent an email to each of the Trust directors. She has now had some responses from the group and from two of the Trusts, (CPAT and GAT). She is going to follow up on those who haven't responded next week and allow people time to respond before putting together a first draft document in May

*Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (4000BC – 1500BC) Steven Burrow.* The workshop prior to the Bronze Age conference is set for 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The attendees and structure still to be confirmed.

*Later Bronze Age and Iron Age (1500BC - AD43), Fiona Gale.* Fiona has contacted 10 people and has heard back from 6, some of them quite detailed. These will be drawn into a draft before the workshop on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The workshop prior to the Bronze Age conference is set for 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The attendees and structure still to be confirmed.

## A Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales - Minutes

*Roman (AD43 – AD410), Jeff Davies.* Jeff has had no further responses but has gone through Arch in Wales, Britannia etc. He felt that creating a list of what was known and sending this around asking what was missing was a fast and effective method of achieving the task. He hopes to have the list available soon.

*Early Medieval (AD410 – AD1100), Nancy Edwards.* Nancy Edwards had apologized for not being able to attend the meeting but reported that she had collected material from all 4 Trusts and Astrid. A wider consultation was held at the Early Medieval Archaeology Research Group meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> and new material added to the list. They are ready to write up when they have received clarification of the structure of the document

*Medieval (AD1100 – AD1539), David Austin.* **Action:** GH to contact David to update him on today's discussions and discuss further action.

*Post Medieval Wales (AD1539 – AD1750), David Gwyn.* David Gwyn had apologized for not being able to attend the meeting but reported that so far he had made little progress but was hoping to be able to start very soon once work commitments completed.

*Industrial and Modern Wales (AD1750 – Present), Stephen Hughes.* Stephen Hughes had apologized for not being able to attend the meeting but reported David Gwyn, Judith Alfrey and himself were working on their allocated areas. They would liaise with Jonathan Berry over military sites. All 82 members of the Welsh Industrial Archaeology Panel will be circulated and discussion of the review will form a large part of the agenda of the Welsh Archaeology Industrial Panel meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup> at Aberdulais.

*Maritime, Sian Rees.* **Action:** GH to contact Sian to update her on today's discussions and discuss further action.

*Infrastructure, Emily Bateman.* Emily said she would try to draw something together to start the discussion on this theme, incorporating methodology, historiography and theory. **Action:** EB to draw up something for discussion

An email from Peter Claughton offering to undertake a review of extractive industries in Wales was discussed and proposed that he was invited to contribute to the relevant existing themes. **Action:** JH to email Peter Claughton

4) Format of review papers: The deadline for draft papers to be placed on the website was extended to the end of May. Nancy Edwards had asked for clarification of the structure of the review documents. **Action:** GH & JH to draw up guidelines for format of draft review based on the 5 questions in the brief given to chairs.

## A Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales - Minutes

5) Conference: The IfA has given IfA Wales/Cymru £500 to cover speakers expenses and allow bursaries to be available for the conference.

An email from Stephen Briggs had been received and was discussed under the Conference item on the agenda. After consideration it was agreed by a majority of people present that they preferred the model of short plenary sessions with parallel workshops for fuller discussion. A draft of a conference timetable drawn up according to discussion at the previous meeting was circulated. **Action:** JH to redraft two versions of timetable, one as presented with revisions, one having a block of plenary papers followed directly by the relevant workshops. The format of the final plenary session on the afternoon of the 17th was discussed. It was suggested that this created an opportunity to discuss items included loosely under the Infrastructure theme, e.g. methodology, historiography, theory and cross cutting themes etc but still a little more work to do on how this will actually look and work. One suggestion was that the coordinators of the periods/themes could form a panel which was then questioned by the audience. It was suggested that the Heritage Minister was invited to say a few words on the Wednesday evening followed by a key note speaker. **Action:** FG to contact both the proposed keynote speaker and Heritage Minister to invite them to speak.

A flyer for the conference was proposed and a discussion about how it would be achieved. There was a possibility of including it in the conference pack for the IfA conference in April, and with the next CBA newsletter. Logos need to be included on it **Action:** JH to follow up on these points. The conference is to be advertised in other places such as CBA Briefing. **Action:** EB to Ask Gary Robinson on progress. The flyer can also be sent out by email.

JH reported that a piece about the review of the Research Framework had been put in the CBA Wales newsletter and The Archaeologist.

5) Updating website. JH reported on updates to the website. All present were encouraged to use the website and feedback forum.

6) Date of next meeting: Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup>

Conference sub group – Teleconference at 2pm Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

7) AOB. There was no other business.

N.B. Since the meeting, Cadw have agreed to design and print the conference flyers and the RC have agreed to grant aid the update of the website.