

YCCCART AGM
At Congresbury Methodist Hall on 24th April 2014

Present

Mary Campbell, Christine Lufflum, Philippa Cormack, Janet Dickson, Geoff Pearson, John Wilcox, Judith Sacks, 'Ferdì' Ferdinando, Brian Bradbury, Pete Wright, Chris Short, Brian Wills, Peter English, Ian Morton, Unsal Hassan, Anne Dimmock, Marianne Pitman, David Long, John Haynes, Robert Cleland, Janet Burge, Arthur Langley & Colin Campbell.

Apologies

Vince Russett, Mike Fox, Edward Renshaw, David Walker & Janet Sweeting

2013 AGM Minutes

Agreed.

Proposed: Unsal Hassan

Seconded: 'Ferdì'

Outstanding from 2013 Minutes

None.

Chairman's Report

In his resume´ of the past year Peter English began by thanking YCCCART members for their continued enthusiasm, support and expertise. Since the last A.G.M. YCCCART had attracted more new members who had, in various ways, enhanced the work of the group. He reminded the meeting of the many successful surveys carried out during the year noting especially the work at Wemberham Villa which has uncovered evidence of previously unknown buildings on the site. He praised the work of the Research team in identifying new Romano-British sites in the Yatton area and the FRED team for their developing expertise and innovative uses of the FRED equipment. Whilst acknowledging the importance of the surveying work undertaken by YCCCART, Peter felt that we should not lose sight of other, more traditional archaeological techniques such as field-walking and excavation; a project to investigate 1m² test pits has operated successfully in Yatton. On a cautionary note he reminded the meeting that there was increasing pressure on land in the local area due to more relaxed planning laws which could affect potential survey sites in the future.

Secretary's Report

Chris Short reiterated Peter English's comments about the importance of focusing upon other areas of archaeological research and mentioned the wealth of evidence which YCCCART now has regarding Congresbury's Roman kiln sites, adding that organizing this evidence should be a priority for the coming year.

As out-going Secretary Chris expressed his thanks to all those people who had supported him and the work of YCCCART over the years. He especially mentioned Vince Russett for his work on the reports, Unsal Hassan for the website, John Wilcox for maintaining a photographic record of YCCCART's work and Colin Campbell for monitoring environmental conditions on Cadbury Hill. He reminded the meeting that although we are primarily a group of interested amateurs YCCCART's members demonstrate such a wide range of skills and expertise that its work is always highly

professional. Chris closed by paying tribute to Brian Bradbury, one of the founder members of YCCCART, thanking him for all that he has done over the last ten years.

Treasurer's Report

A detailed breakdown of the current financial position was produced as per the file attached to these minutes. Pete Wright reported that finances were healthy and thanked the coffee fund for its continued support. As there has been no large or unexpected expenditure this financial year YCCCART ends the period 2013-14 with a small reserve. Pete Wright was thanked for his work as Treasurer. Thanks were also extended to Brian Wills who audited the accounts.

The Financial Statement was accepted unanimously.

Proposed: Judy Sacks

Seconded: Philippa Cormack

Brian Wills agreed to audit the accounts 2014-2015. Approved unanimously.

Election of Officers

It was agreed that the following be re-elected/ elected

Chairman: Peter English

Secretary: Janet Dickson

Treasurer: Pete Wright

President: Mary Campbell

Committee Members: Vince Russett, Philippa Cormack, Geoff Pearson, Ian Morton, John Wilcox, Arthur Langley, Christine Lufflum & Chris Short.

Due to other commitments Brian Bradbury and Colin Campbell resigned from the committee whilst Chris Short stepped down from the role of Secretary to focus upon research. Arthur Langley was unanimously elected to the committee.

Statement from Brian Bradbury

It was with regret that the meeting heard of Brian's intention to reduce his involvement with YCCCART during the coming year. After thanking everyone for their interest and support over the last ten years he reminded the group of the scale and range of YCCCART's involvement in local archaeology; from surveying churchyards and farms to clearing woodland, measuring 'humps and bumps' and even dowsing for a mine shaft. He extended his thanks to Mary Campbell for her hospitality and to Vince Russett for being instrumental in YCCCART's continued success.

Peter English and Chris Short expressed their gratitude to Brian for his many contributions to YCCCART, including applying for lottery funding and as a mark of appreciation presented him with a small gift. Peter also presented cards to Colin and Chris and flowers to Judy Sacks and Philippa Cormack, thanking them for all their hard work.

AOB

- **Health and Safety**

Pete Wright explained that YCCCART had been advised by its Insurance Company of the need to address Health and Safety issues and their recommendation of the creation of an H&S policy statement and the establishment of routine risk assessments. He then gave a brief presentation of the above documents highlighting particularly the risk assessments for the use of machinery. He strongly suggested that all members read all the H&S documents which are on the member's area on the website, emphasizing that H&S was the responsibility of everyone. Any inconsistencies should be reported to Arthur Langley, YCCCART's H&S Officer, Pete Wright, Deputy Officer or Janet Dickson, Secretary. All accidents, however trivial must be reported so that they can be recorded in the Accident Book held by the Secretary. It was agreed that risk assessments would be carried out before any surveying work was started and appended to the Day Report. Unsal and Arthur will investigate the easiest way to make the generic risk assessment form accessible online. John Wilcox raised the issue of working with other groups and the importance of drawing their attention to the site's risk assessment. Ferdi reminded the meeting of the need to have mobile phones available when working on site, it was agreed that a list of mobile phone numbers would be given to each team leader. Peter English thanked Pete for all the work he had done on putting together the Health and safety policy etc

- **CBA and summer events**

YCCCART will be represented at this year's CBA event in Clevedon - July 12th and at Congresbury and Yatton fetes, June 28th and August 9th respectively. Peter English asked for volunteers.

- **Printing the newsletters**

At a recent committee meeting, see minutes on website, the availability of YCCCART's newsletter to a wider audience was discussed. The current newsletter is only available online due to the high cost of colour printing. The meeting suggested investigating the following: printing short runs for the summer road shows, only printing in black and white, approaching the local Parish Councils for funding or finding a sponsor. The matter will be discussed further at the next committee meeting.

- **Support Community Archaeology awards**

Geoff Pearson presented the meeting with the suggestion that YCCCART's innovative use of FRED could make it eligible for consideration for a CBA best archaeological innovation award; it meets most of the criterion. There was general agreement that Geoff should discuss the matter further with Vince with a view of beginning to work towards an application for 2015.

- **Update on recent work**

Research team

Brian Bradbury mentioned the field walking carried out on the Kenn Moor and Kenn Pier sites and the distribution of pottery sherds found. He praised the help that Derek Lilly had given the group and the aerial photographs and Lidar evidence Vince had provided. He also drew attention to Steve Rippon's plans of pottery distribution and evidence of occupation ie nettles etc, suggesting that the RM15 and 601 machines should be employed on the site.

FRED- micro-archaeology

In a short presentation Geoff illustrated yet more ingenious uses of FRED with the investigation of some blocks of stone which were found in St Andrew's Churchyard and may be part of a lost sarcophagus.

Wemberham Villa- video

Arthur Langley presented some work he had carried out on the villa site by layering the RM15 and 601 results over natural features to identify any correlation between them. Chris Short suggested that the work done at Iwood, Collins 2 and 3, would benefit from a similar treatment.

Recent surveys

Chris Short giving a brief overview of other work carried out this year.

The St Andrew's RM 15 survey has uncovered more buildings in the paddock and an unidentified anomaly on a patch of land near Congresbury bridge.

Meaker's 601 survey shows more Roman kiln or waster sites which will provide Vince Russett with vital evidence should more planning applications be placed on fields adjacent to Brinsea Rd.

Early results at Tutton 5 also indicate possible Roman activity.

Following work done by the 601 team at Lympsham, LAGS intends to investigate the possibility of an Iron Age enclosure.

Chris closed by reminding everyone that all these reports and more are available on YCCCART's website and urged members to keep up to date by visiting it regularly.

Peter English closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.

YCCART Accounts 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014
Statement of Income and Expenditure

Balance at bank on 31 March 2013		£3541.37	
Cash in Hand on 31 March 2013		<u>128.08</u>	
		3669.45	
Receipts since 1 April 13			
Interest Reserve A/c	1.36		
Subscriptions 2013/14	255.00		
Subscriptions 2014/15	130.00		
Donations from Coffee Fund	133.84		
Donation – V Russett Talk	<u>45.00</u>	<u>565.20</u>	
		<u>£4234.65</u>	
Paid out since 1 April 13			
Miscellaneous Equipment	88.11		
Postage, printing, cartridges	19.10		
Insurance Towergate 2014/15	180.24		
Postage	0.50		
Photocopying	8.64		
Flowers for PC/JS at AGM	10.00		
Website fees	30.76		
Room Hire	<u>93.00</u>	430.35	
Bal at bank 31 Mar 14 Current A/c	137.97		
Reserve A/c	3406.52		
Cash in Hand	<u>259.81</u>	<u>3804.30</u>	
		<u>£4234.65</u>	

P E Wright, Hon Treasurer
2nd April 2014

Audited and Found Correct

B Wills, Hon Auditor
7th April 2014