



The Fane Road Archaeology Group (FRAG)

Third Annual General Meeting

Monday, 8th April, 2019

1. **Welcome:** Nick Coneybear (NJC) welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.
2. **Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting:** Approved and signed off.
3. **Chairman's Report:** NJC began by thanking the committee for their continued hard work and application throughout the year.
NJC reported another successful year with a varied programme of talks, events, including a walk around Roman Castor, and geophysics and metal detecting workshops.
FRAG also took part in the Portable Antiquities Scheme conference held in Peterborough with Helen Geek posing for a publicity photo at the FRAG stand. Unfortunately, the Fane Road dig scheduled for October 2108 had to be cancelled because of difficulties with Cadence regarding the pipeline. However, we are lucky to live in an area rich in archaeology with opportunities to dig being afforded by other local groups. These will continue to be publicised on the website and attention was drawn to the upcoming excavations at Collyweston and Nassington.
Once again FRAG ran a stall at the Itter Park fete. Despite being one of the hottest days of the year the event was well attended. However, more support from members is needed to man the stall in future.
Looking forward, another full programme of talks is in place. Plans are in hand to return to Fane Road in May and October and it is hoped FRAG will be present at the Heritage Festival and the Itter Park Fete. There is also the possibility of closer collaboration with both MidNAG and NVAT.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Sue Deoraj (SD) reported that the current balance (to the end of March) is £1,102. The account has been audited by Amanda Bettany.
Membership currently stands at 45.
The major outgoing continues to be for insurance. Website costs are approximately £6 per month. Costs for speakers vary, ranging from a bottle of wine to £60. The average cost is about £40.
5. **Field Officer's Report:**
This report was covered in the comprehensive talk on the Fane Road Villa excavations given by Phil Hill prior to the AGM.

Steve Critchley, who is standing down as Metal Detecting Officer, was thanked for his valued contribution. He will continue to advise and, with his support an event is already arranged for later in the month.

6. Election of FRAG Officers

Retiring Officer

Steve Critchley - Metal Detecting Officer

All other serving officers agreed to retain their positions and were returned unopposed. Proposed - Tony Campion, Seconded by Steve Critchley.

As there were no nominations for vacant posts these will remain on hold.

Following a plea for fresh blood to take the group forward Wendy Gamble offered to attend committee meetings but will not have a specific role. Proposer – Nick Coneybear, Seconded by Steve Bettany, unanimously agreed.

The current committee is therefore:

Position	Member
Chairman	Nick Coneybear
Vice Chairman	None
Secretary	Nick Coneybear
Assistant Secretary	Janice Gibson
Treasurer	Sue Deoraj
Field Officer	Phil Hill
Assistant Field Officer	Kevin Redgate
Metal Detecting Officer	None
Safeguarding Officer	Sue Deoraj
Assistant Safeguarding Officer	Janice Gibson
Minutes Secretary	Janice Gibson
Programme Organiser	None
Communications Officer	Rex Gibson
	Wendy Gamble
Auditor	Amanda Bettany

7. Proposed Update to Constitution

Proposed updates to the Constitution had previously been e-mailed to all members for their consideration.

NJC proposed that these amendments were accepted and Bob Richardson seconded the proposal. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

8. Programme for 2019-20

Events to December 2019 are already in place as outlined in the Chairman's report. Members are invited to suggest ideas for 2020.

9. AOB:

Heritage Festival and Itter Park Fete

There was general agreement that FRAG should take part in such events. However, the committee alone cannot provide enough manpower to man stalls. Additional support is needed for a few hours. Volunteers were sought.

A discussion then followed on publicity for the group to attract new members. We currently have postcards with details of FRAG. Tamsin Foster offered to take some of these to place locally, for example Sacrewell Mill.

Ideas for publicity at the Heritage Festival included posters, stickers and items to give away – possibly tesserae. However, the cost of producing these must be taken into account. It may be possible to obtain a grant for publicity materials through Nenescape or the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Members also suggested having a Twitter account or Facebook page. There is already a 'diggers of Fane Road' facebook page but it needs someone to maintain it.

10. Next Committee Meeting: Monday, 13th May 2019 at the Parkway Club, 20.30

Analysis of Feedback Forms – 2019 AGM

12 returns

Importance to you

	Talks	Walks	Digs and Training	Website and Newsletters
High	11	3	5	7
Medium	1	7	5	4
Low		2	2	1

How good they are: 5 = excellent 1 = poor

	Talks	Walks	Digs and Training	Website and Newsletters
5	9	5	3	9
4	3	3	2	2
3				1
2				
1				
N/A		4	7	

Favourite talk:

Civil War in Peterborough – Stuart Orme x2

Samian ware – Geoff Dannell x2 (also a comment that least interesting!)

December Quiz x2

Bronze Age Settlement in Welland Valley – Bob Hatton x2

Durobrivae – Stephen Upex (walk) x2

Pottery identification session x2 – Stephen Upex

Snettisham Hoard – Dr Jody Joy

Geophys training

A14 dig – Helen O’Hara

Many commented (verbally) that a list to refresh their memory would have been useful!

Suggestions:

Must Farm Update x2

Francis Pryor

More community excavations

Analytical techniques eg conservation of artefacts, carbon dating, isotope analysis

Neolithic period

Other suggestions or feedback:

Less about the Romans

Offers of help at events:

Sue Smith – Itter Park

Steve Yates

Daphne Mair

Vivienne and Dave Fleet – Heritage Event

Emma Crowson

Chris Stanley

Steven Ward

Brynmor Cross

Rosalind Brierley – Itter Park