

Minutes of the meeting of

THE SCOTTISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS ALLOCATION PANEL

10:45am, Thursday, August 2nd 2018 Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF

Present: Dr Evelyn Silber (Chair), Neil Curtis, Jacob O’Sullivan, Richard Welander, Dr Mary Macleod Rivett, Dr Stuart Allan

In attendance: Emily Freeman (TTU), Ella Paul (TTU), Robert Sandeman (Solicitor to the QLTR), Joe Traynor (MGS). Ella Paul took the minutes.

1. Apologies

Apologies from Paul MacDonald & Peter Yeomans.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes have been circulated with no corrections/updates needed.

3. Chair Remarks

ES welcomed EP & SA to their first meeting.

- Scotland’s Archaeology Strategy

JO gave feedback on the Archaeology Strategy Museums meeting and suggested that a timescale for the working group would be finalised in the coming weeks. ES made the suggestion that a TTU member should be included in discussions.

- New SAFAP Panel Member

ES confirmed the new SAFAP panel member to be Mark Hall and proposed to extend an invitation to the December 2018 meeting.

- TTU Developments & Staffing

SA provided a timeframe for the introduction of permanent TTU staff by March 2019. ES suggested that the discussion on streamlining of procedures needs revisiting once the permanent staff members are in place.

RS confirmed that a draft of an Exceptional Circumstances policy is currently circulating.

- 2017-18 Annual Report

ES has put together a draft of the 2017-18 Annual Report.
ES & EF have been working together in the last few months to approve loans of unallocated TTU material.

4. Stuart Allan – NMS

SA was very pleased to be in attendance of his first SAFAP meeting and reiterated the welcome to EP. Thanks were given to EF for her work in seeing this meeting come to fruition despite staffing shortages. SA stressed NMS' commitment to the stewardship of the TTU.

5. TTU Report

EF gave an overview on the recent progress of the TTU.

The unit is not yet up to date with cases being put to the panel, although improvements have been, and continue to be, made with this. EF has been working to ready the current cases while EP has been auditing the remainder of the TTU backlog.

The outreach programme has started, with recent visits to Mintlaw and Kelvingrove. The next events will be held in Elgin.

6. AOCB

RW raised the issue of the number of excavation assemblages remaining in storage with commercial units awaiting allocation to museums, despite being museum ready. EF requested that cases be re-submitted to the TTU to be dealt with. This raised a wider procedural discussion on archaeological assemblages and streamlining possibilities. MMR also raised the question of historical assemblages in university collections that have not gone through the TTU, both in and outwith Scotland. ES stated it was helpful to raise these issues but they need to be returned to once permanent TTU staff are in place. RW noted that this issue fits well within Scotland's Archaeology Strategy and perhaps conversations should also be continued there.

7. New Cases

In those instances where a case involved an institution to which a member of SAFAP belonged or had otherwise raised a possible conflict of interest, that individual was absent from the room for the discussion of allocation or determining the ex gratia award. This was Stuart Allan for all cases relating to NMS.

Cases marked with an * indicate that the relevant museum accepted the material in a 'last resort' capacity, where a local museum did not apply to be allocated the material.

Chance Finds: 49

Excavation Assemblages: 2

Cases with competing applications: 1

Cases with no applications (subsequently disclaimed) – 0

- Cases to Note

TT005/18: The valuation was discussed. Comparanda sent in by the finder and TTU was considered, with the ex gratia award raised to £200.

TT041/18: The valuation was discussed. Comparanda sent in by the finder and TTU was considered, with the decision that the original ex gratia award of £30 was fair.

TT008/18: The pin for this brooch was recently found and sent in. It was noted that it is unusual to have both parts and therefore the ex gratia award was raised to £60.

TT020/18: This case had competing applications from Perth Museum & Art Gallery and National Museums Scotland. The panel agreed that both cases were equally strong and therefore decided in favour of Perth Museum & Art Gallery based on the policy preference for local museums.

- Cases for museums with no Standing Profile (Standard application form submitted)

TT No.	Description	Ex Gratia	Museum	Local Authority
TT 034/18	Middle Bronze Age spearhead	£75	South Ayrshire Museums Service	South Ayrshire

- Cases for museums with Standing Profile (Simplified application form submitted)

TT No.	Description	Ex Gratia	Museum	Local Authority
TT 013/18	Post-Medieval stone brooch mould	£45	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	Aberdeenshire
TT 029/18	Post-Medieval fob seal	£30	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	Aberdeenshire
TT 026/18	Early Bronze Age flat axehead	£150	ANGUSAlive	Angus
TT 027/18	Early Bronze Age flat axehead	£50	ANGUSAlive	Angus
TT 025/18	Early Bronze Age flat axehead	£170	National Museums Scotland	Clackmannanshire
TT 005/18	Assemblage of Roman material	£200	Dumfries Museum	Dumfries & Galloway
TT 011/18	Medieval vesical seal matrix	£850	Stewartry Museum	Dumfries & Galloway
TT 012/18	Iron Age dumbbell fastener	£25	Stewartry Museum	Dumfries & Galloway
TT 028/18	Two Middle-Late Bronze Age axeheads	£450	Dumfries Museum	Dumfries & Galloway
TT 031/18	Bronze Age stone axe hammer	£250	Dumfries Museum	Dumfries & Galloway

TT 041/18	Roman denarius	£30	Dumfries Museum	Dumfries & Galloway
TT 047/18	Five Roman denarii	£90	Dumfries Museum	Dumfries & Galloway
TT 017/18	Early Bronze Age flat axehead	£50	East Lothian Council Museums Service	East Lothian
TT 021/18	Medieval cruciform harness pendant	£50	East Lothian Council Museums Service	East Lothian
TT 022/18	Medieval enamelled mount	£180	East Lothian Council Museums Service	East Lothian
TT 046/18	Post-Medieval intaglio pendant	£15	East Lothian Council Museums Service	East Lothian
TT 001/18	16 th Century dress hook	£10	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 016/18	Medieval seal matrix	£300	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 019/18	Post-Medieval gold guinea, George III	£220	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 023/18	Medieval cruciform harness pendant	£75	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 037/18	Medieval Edwardian penny hoard	£1040	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 040/18	Medieval assemblage	£45	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 042/18	Medieval groat and half-groat hoard	£2120	Fife Cultural Trust	Fife
TT 008/18	Medieval annular brooch	£60	Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	Highland
TT 009/18	Post-Medieval leash swivel ring	£20	Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	Highland
TT 014/18	Late Bronze Age socketed axehead	£50	Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	Highland
TT 045/18	Early Medieval sword pommel	£250	Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	Highland
TT 049/18	Neolithic – Bronze Age flint arrowhead	£20	Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	Highland
TT 003/18	Two Medieval mounts	£160	National Museums Scotland	Midlothian
TT 010/18	Medieval shield-shaped mount	£350	National Museums	Midlothian

			Scotland	
TT 032/18	Iron Age tankard handle	£500	Elgin Museum	Moray
TT 033/18	Iron Age/Early Medieval pinhead	£20	Elgin Museum	Moray
TT 020/18	Roman crossbow brooch	£50	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 024/18	Romano-British brooch	£25	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 030/18	Medieval Papal bulla	£250	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 035/18	Early Medieval enamelled mount	£50	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 038/18	Medieval copper-alloy pin	£40	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 039/18	Medieval groat and half-groat hoard	£3450	National Museums Scotland	Perth & Kinross
TT 044/18	Medieval harness pendant	£45	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 050/18	Romano-British brooch and denarius	£50	Perth Museum & Art Gallery	Perth & Kinross
TT 006/18	Medieval – Post-Medieval assemblage	£45	National Museums Scotland*	Scottish Borders
TT 007/18	Medieval – Post-Medieval assemblage	£60	National Museums Scotland*	Scottish Borders
TT 036/18	French Medieval gold coin	£400	National Museums Scotland*	Scottish Borders
TT 048/18	Romano-British headstud brooch	£25	National Museums Scotland*	Scottish Borders
TT 043/18	Medieval seal matrix	£160	Biggar & Upper Clydesdale Museum	South Lanarkshire
TT 002/18	Medieval Heraldic Mount	£100	National Museums Scotland	Stirling
TT 004/18	Middle Bronze age flanged axehead	£40	National Museums Scotland	Stirling
TT 018/18	Medieval seal matrix	£200	National Museums Scotland	Stirling

- Excavation assemblages

TT No.	Description	Museum	Local Authority
TT 051/18	Prehistoric excavation assemblage, Inverness	Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	Highland
TT 052/18	Iron Age to Post-Medieval assemblage, Whiteness	Shetland Museum & Archives	Shetland

ES closed the meeting at 14:10.

Next meeting which combines the annual review meeting with David Harvie (QLTR), probably morning, and a Panel meeting, probably afternoon, on Wednesday, 5 December 2018, start time tbc.