

**Minutes of the second meeting of the HMS VICTORY (1744) Advisory Group, held on 15 Feb 2012 at Navy Command HQ, Leach Building, Portsmouth**

Present:

Advisory Group members

Mr Simon Routh – MOD (Chairman)  
Prof Dominic Tweddle – DG NMRN  
Mr Ian Oxley – English Heritage  
[REDACTED] – English Heritage

Secretary

[REDACTED] – MOD

1. Apologies were received from [REDACTED] (DCMS).
2. The AG met to review the outcomes of its first meeting held on 1 Feb and to agree how it would conduct its business in the future. The Group's conclusions fell into two categories, first those concerning the management and capacity of the Group itself and second the Group's relationship with the Maritime Heritage Foundation.:
3. Management of the AG's proceedings

Discussion concentrated on the capacity and transparency of the AG. The Group:

- reaffirmed its decision to make the minutes of its meetings available on the relevant area of the MOD website;
- agreed that there was a need to be able to co-opt as necessary a supporting panel of experts, to assist the AG in its deliberations;
- agreed that future AG meetings would generally be held at venues in Portsmouth, where it was easier to make appropriate logistic and administrative arrangements.

English Heritage tabled a list of weblinks for maritime and core archaeological advice available on the internet, for the benefit of AG members (as attached).

**Actions:**

1. **AG members to propose candidates for supporting panel to Secretary, who would then approach individuals** (*Post meeting note: action complete*)

4. Relationship with the Maritime Heritage Foundation (MHF) The Group agreed to encourage and assist the Foundation to develop its own archaeological expertise, so that the Group could focus on its 'peer review' role. The Chairman undertook to write to the Chairman, MHF explaining the AG's views.

**Actions:**

**2. Chairman to write to Chairman MHF on development of relationship**

5. The AG also discussed the presentation made at the 1 February meeting on the North Norfolk wreck. The Group agreed that the needs of this site were more pressing than that of VICTORY 1744 and that in consequence efforts should focus first on establishing processes for the management of the site; considerations of an appropriate governance structure could be addressed at a later stage. The Group agreed to invite the finders of the Ower bank wreck to participate in a working discussion.

English Heritage offered to provide advice to the finders on the production of a Heritage Partnership Agreement and an approach consistent with that used in relation to wrecks within 12nm. (Post meeting note: EH officers have already made contact to this end)

**Actions:**

**3. Secretary to arrange for working discussion** (*Post meeting note: action complete*)