



HEIRNET

FISH-HEIRNET

Minutes of the Autumn Strategic Meeting

26th Nov 2013 11.00 – 16.00

Present: Gillian Grayson, (EH & FISH Convenor), Dan Miles, EH & FISH Co-ordinator), Julian Richards (ADS), Holly Wright (ADS), David Thomas (RCAHMW), Leanne McCafferty (RCAHMS), Sarah Howard (CBA), Louise Ennis (CBA), Phil Carlisle (EH), Keith May (EH), Graham Tait (Devon HER), Edmund Lee (EH), Susan Hamilton (RCAHMS), Peter McKeague (RCAHMS), Mark Gillick (RCAHMS), Kirsty Lingstadt (RCAHMS), Shona Nicol (Scottish Government), Andrew Nicholson (Scottish SMR Forum's Technical Working Group), Stephanie Leith (Scottish SMR Forum), Stefan Sagrott (National Trust for Scotland), Stuart Jeffrey (Glasgow School of Art), Jeff Sanders (Society of Antiquaries of Scotland), Alison Dalgity (Getty Conservation Institute), David Myers (Getty Conservation Institute), Ceri Binding (Univ of South Wales), Doug Tudhope (Univ of South Wales), Rebecca Jones (Historic Scotland)

1. Welcome and Apologies

GG introduced the meeting and the agenda for the day.

Apologies were received from Victoria Bryant (Worcestershire CC), Paul Cripps, Dan Pett (BM), Isabel Holroyd, Sally Carter (NMW), Suzy Blake (Staffs CC).

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Two typos were corrected from the last minutes: JI to JR and PING to PIN. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Actions from the Last FISH-HEIRNET Meeting

See actions grid at back of minutes for open actions.

Action 5.2 There was a brief discussion on the role of the HEIRNET Register and a follow up action on GG to continue this.

Action 5.4 Ed Lee spoke about how he has begun to look into Commons Licenses and the development of Government's open license. This theme should be included in the TACOS Workshop.

Actions 5.1, 5.2, 5.4 – 8.4, 12.1 and 12.2 all closed.

4. Matters Arising

No matters arising

[All presentations are available on the FISH website](#)

5. Presentation on SENESCHAL – Doug Tudhope and Ceri Binding (University of South Wales).

DT and CB gave a PowerPoint presentation on the SENESHCAL project discussing the main aims and objectives of the project and the products produced already. They also discussed potential future uses of the products from the project, eg for OASIS management, validation in the FISH TOOLKIT.

Discussion

JR spoke about the implementation of the SENESCHAL widgets into internal ADS collection management system, into OASIS and subsequent versions of OASIS.

JR asked about the sustainability of the URIs.

PC answered that the FISHTWG would act as the defacto owners of the data.gov site and EH was paying for the URIs.

GT asked about vocabulary mapping which could help solve some HER issues.

PC replied that this was in this project period. This would lead to eventually the creation of a unified thesaurus of cultural heritage and the first step was to get parity for the different thesauri through a mapping exercise. PC is to do this before the Spring FISHTWG meeting and GT volunteered to help.

KM concluded using a domain for the URIs that was not organisational centric, nor had UK in it was advised by government.

5.1 Action on PC to complete the task of vocabulary mapping and to speak to GT about it.

6. Presentation on UK heritage data interoperability with European projects and services – Julian Richards (ADS)

JR gave a presentation on a range of recent European data projects – legacy and current projects and described ADS's involvement in these. These include Research Infrastructure projects eg DARIAH, ARIADNE, ARENA2, and data aggregator projects eg EUROPEANA, CARARE, LoCloud. Most future European funding will come to DARIAH – and therefore the potential for project funding is through this Research Infrastructure funding stream.

ADS is the UK content provider to LoCloud - facilitating the aggregation of UK organisations data.

6.1 Action on DM to put up links for European projects (eg DARIAH) on the FISH website

Discussion

GG asked about opportunities to learn from these European projects. JR said that ADS is involved and there was potential for FISH-HEIRNET to look for/identify European funding for projects. However, first FISH-HEIRNET needs to identify what it wants to achieve – its agenda etc and then to engage with the European agenda.

GG responded that this was one of the aims of TACOS.

The conversation moved onto the identification of specific special interest groups that members of FISH-HEIRNET were on or could be potentially engaged in.

EL brought up potential issues of the European funding structure which was for short term projects rather than developing long term solutions.

7. Presentation on INSPIRE – Shona Nicol (The Scottish Government)

Shona Nicol gave a presentation on INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe) covering what it means to public sector organisations and how the Scottish Government were looking into how they were engaging and complying with it. This included making sure that new spatial datasets were INSPIRE compliant (compliant with Gemini 2.1 metadata) and that they had created the Scottish Metadata catalogue.

Discussion

JR asked whether there was a plan that MEDIN would harvest Scottish data – at the moment no.

GG asked about the relationship between INSPIRE and MIDAS Heritage.

EL and PM said that this worked through the Gemini metadata, but PC brought up an issue that the geospatial MIDAS heritage elements need to be updated to meet the Gemini standard.

GG and PC also spoke about the relationship between CIDOC and geospatial data. It is dealt with at a very entry data level – and is being revised with gaps filled.

8. INSPIRE 2 – Peter McKeague (RCAHMS)

PM gave a presentation on INSPIRE and Cultural Heritage. He discussed where HER data currently sits in the Cultural Heritage Application schema (currently in Annex III Buildings), issues associated with this and a proposed extension, Spain – the Cultural Heritage Application Schema proposed as an extension of the Protected Sites Full Application Schema.

Discussion

There was a discussion on the Newcastle project investigating Hadrian's Wall events, and a similar project on the Antonine Wall.

GT said that work is needed on English HERs to see what is applicable for INSPIRE.

EL made an observation of the potential for relaunching the Heirnet Register using the GEMINI metadata standard – discovery level metadata.

- 8.1 Action on GG and EL** to explore the use of GEMINI for the HEIRNET register.

9. Defining Scotland's Places – Mike Middleton (RCAHMS)

Mike Middleton gave a recorded presentation due to illness on Defining Scotland's Places, the aim of which is to make available public sector data on Historic Environment data in Scotland. It currently provides access for 34 different public bodies managing data from 2 different data sets. He also spoke about his work on the Historic Environment Polygonisation Standards in Scotland.

Discussion

All – it became apparent that MM's work on a geospatial standard has revealed the insufficiency in the current coverage in MIDAS Heritage. Is there the potential to reuse the Scottish Standard for MIDAS Heritage.

- 9.1 Action on PC and GT** to speak to MM about his work.

10. Scotland's Historic Environment Data (SHED) Strategy - Susan Hamilton (RCAHMS)

SH introduced SHED – Scotland's Historic Environment Data Strategy which is designed to fit under the overarching Scottish general historic environment strategy.

It is being created as a pragmatic strategy and has a 10year timescale with three main workstreams - development of Pastmap to publish historic environment data, looking at data standards, and the third to identify potential funding streams. The key is the collaborative approach taken and partnerships between stakeholders - there is not one lead organisation. The strategy is having a soft launch in January and main launch at the IfA conference in Glasgow.

Discussion

GG asked about how the approach came about and SH explained that it was the result of an initial report commissioned by Historic Scotland.

KM enquired about the management of SHED and SH replied that there was a project board to manage the three work streams.

GT said that there was a lot the historic environment sector in England could learn from the Scottish approach, eg the need to look at access to historic environment data across England.

11. The ARCHES Project – Alison Dalgity (GCI) and David Myers (GCI)

DMyers spoke about the background to the ARCHES project and how it came about through World Monuments Fund projects. The project originates in the creation of a national inventory system for Jordan (MEGA Middle Eastern Geodatabase for Antiquities). ARCHES has developed a web based open sources system based on the CIDOC CRM and CDS. A Google community has been created to coordinate its development and help those implementing the software.

Discussion

GG and PC spoke about the usefulness for EH to engage in a project that was implementing the core data standards.

Various questions were on what was built into the system – eg whether a validation system was implemented, and what the system could be used for – eg small scale recording projects.

GG spoke of the potential for open source software, but of the issues of support for maintaining and developing it. DT said the Welsh Trust System is open source,

JR asked whether the system could deal with moveable heritage as well as immovable.

PC and LD – there was potential for this, but LD said that it was not trying to be a collections system but to fill the gap as most inventory systems don't communicate with museum catalogues.

12. Developing an Information Access Strategy to support understanding the Historic Environment – Keith May (EH)

EL introduced the role of the English Heritage Capacity Building Team and the context to an emerging EH Information Access Strategy.

KM spoke about the 8 principles that lie at the heart of the strategy.

Discussion

There was a discussion between the different approaches made by SH for SHED and KM on the EH IAS. The IAS is currently an internal EH driven strategy whilst SHED was driven from the start by the historic environment community and built on sectoral/community workshops which brought to the table new perspectives.

GG and KM said that EH would be keen to learn from the SHED approach and that the IAS would be engaging with the sector.

13. TACOS – Sarah Howard (CBA)

EL gave an introduction to the TACOS seminar/workshop and report providing a context that in a period of reduced resources that a common agenda

should be agreed so that we can identify the problems which have been solved and solutions can be shared, identify the known gaps, and coordinate the resources to focus on these. TACOS was a step towards creating a collaborative strategy.

SH gave a presentation highlighting the four main themes for the event - Users and re-users of data, Skills Development for the sector, Development and implementation of new technologies for sharing and managing information and Building a Sector-wide Agenda/Strategy.

13.1 Action on SH to circulate information on TACOS

14. BIAB and Recording WW1 Heritage – Sarah Howard & Louis Ennis (CBA)

SH gave a BIAB update and spoke about how BIAB is working on a new strategy and future vision which is needed to move forward. Various directions include linking into various systems eg HERs, OASIS, introducing an automated ingestor of journals, moving BIAB on to a new platform, aligning BIAB with skosified thesauri, etc

LE spoke about the CBA First World War toolkit for recording sites. Recording guidelines have been produced and an online form and app are now being created. These resources will be going live in early 2014

14.1 Action on DM to forward WW1 information on to FISH-HEIRNET.

15. AOB

GT and PC brought up various issues regarding MIDAS Heritage. These will be posted on FISH Forum and addressed at the Spring meeting.

Dan Pett sent in an update – The BM has £5k of funding for some visualisation work on its database via the AHRC – to be completed by Christmas 2013. DP is working with Andy Bevan from UCL on crowdsourcing and crowdfunding archaeological data and creating 3D images (AHRC £318k)
DP has sorted out the PAS database to integrate with Seneschal URIs and the OS. A triple store is in the offing.

Appendix 1 Open Actions

No	Joint FISH/HEIRNET Meeting: 11 ^h November 2011	Owner	Notes
11.5.1	Action to look at previous discussion on this matter relating to licensing	KN	Open – SJ to contact KN
No	FISH-HEIRNET Strategic Autumn Meeting: 1 st Nov 2012	Owner	Notes

5.2	Action on all to think about the future of the Register.	all	Open
5.3	Action to update the HEIRNET web pages	MH	Open
10.1	Action to look at integrating the FISH and HEIRNET email lists.	DM	Open
No	FISH-HEIRNET Strategic Autumn Meeting: 26th Nov 2013	Owner	Notes
5.1	Action to complete the task of vocabulary mapping and to speak to GT about it.	PC	Open
6.1	Action to put up links for European projects (eg DARIAH) on the FISH website	DM	Open
8.2	Action to explore the use of GEMINI for the HEIRNET register.	GG & EL	Open
9.1	Action to speak to MM about his work	PC & GT	Open
13.1	Action to circulate information on TACOS	SH	Open
14.1	Action to forward WW1 information on to FISH-HEIRNET.	DM	Open