Second Annual Report of Trustees of the 1066 Society Charity

This report covers the period from 2 April 2017 until April 2018.

Activities Supported

The key activities in 2017/18 were

- 1. The excavation during August 2017 which included a day dedicated to young archaeologists
- 2. Activities to conserve the collection of metal objects recovered in previous years.
- 3. Placing the Battle of Fulford Tapestry on display including one week in France.
- 4. A major effort was planning an annual festival however this work has had to be put on hold for now because there is extensive roadwork in the area.

As a part of a report prepared for Historic England it was estimated that the archaeological work has generated 3792 volunteer /hours during the three 2015 to 2017 seasons.

The charity has also sponsored the creation of reference collections for many other history and heritage societies. This project is due to be completed during 2019.

Planning for further archaeological work has continued with digs and further work planned.

Fund Raising

Fund raising has again underachieved, not least because it took second place for the Trustees compared with the need to organising the works listed above.

But fundraising did not prove to be important to pursue the purposes of the Charity because various private donors, almost unbidden, paid the costs directly for the activities being sponsored by the Charity so they do not appear as funds raised by the Charity (as set out later).

Because in 2015 and 2016 significant funds were raised from crowdfunding, two significant private donors, and The Battlefields Trust, this has provided a pool of reusable equipment which is held by the Community archaeologist when not in use for use by other groups. This pool has been reused in subsequent digs, reducing the need to raise funds in order to continue pursuing the aims of the Charity.

The Mick Aston Archaeology Fund has paid for the Carbon dating of the wood samples found and this again was a direct payment so is not recorded as funds raised by the Charity.

Furthermore there are residual funds in previous accounts used which are still supporting the Charity. However, it remains the plan to incorporate Fulford Battlefield Society and the Fulford Tapestry accounts into the Charity.

Fundraising will certainly become a higher priority for the Trustees in future years but so long as it the Charity is able to pursue a full plan with the volunteers, funds and facilities available, it will not be the top priority.

There is a full plan of activities extending to 2020. Starting in 2018 a major project started to make the results of all the work available to the public including a trail over the public paths that cover this 1066 battlesite. This will require extensive fundraising.

Charity Accounts

As explained in the report above, it has been possible to pursue an active programme in accordance with the aims of the Charity because on each occasion a private donor stepped forward to pay whatever costs arose. Therefore the activities, although promoted by the Charity, did not have the money passing through the Charity's accounts. (The possible tax benefit of donating via the charity or using the CAF was explained to the donors.)

This report has been approved by the Trustees of the 1066 Society Charity.