

Project Brief	
<p><i>The Project Brief is the first thing to do. It should be completed before any activity of any sort takes place. This is because the Brief is the document that subject to authorisation triggers the development of the Business Case.</i></p>	
Project Name	Changing our Perception of Roman Britain through Cawood
Project Manager	Mrs Margaret Brearley (Chair)
Document Author (if different from Project Manager)	
Organisation Name	Cawood Castle Garth Group



Benefit

Why would the community benefit from this project? Is there clear evidence of need for this project- detail any consultation, statistics or reports that back up for project brief.

- The community would benefit from this unique opportunity to experience an archaeological excavation in our CEF area.
- The site has not been identified from aerial photographs but has not been excavated before.
- The potential for finding early artefacts of great significance is huge from the evidence we have already.
- Metal Detectorists have found Roman coins on the field we are interested in.
- It will give community volunteers an opportunity not experienced here before. As a local history group, we have introduced the community to historical information over the last 2 years in workshops looking at the Iron Age and Romans. This practical project will be putting theory into practice.
- There will be training in techniques used by experienced archaeologists who will oversee the work.
- NYCC has details of potential sites on its Historic Environment Register (HER) for the county but no opportunity to examine these.
- English Heritage photographed the county in the 1980's and from these aerial photographs the results were marked on maps showing potential early settlements. It was from one of these maps that we found this site.
- We have been working with NYCC HER who have been very supportive and allowed us the use of information on sites and finds in the district.
- Our rural landscape has seen very little Roman research yet nearby York had a garrison of 50,000 soldiers who would need feeding.
- The site that we are interested in is on higher ground and could potentially have been occupied since the Stone Age.
- Potentially this could add to the knowledge of Roman Britain and change the history books.
- It would raise the profile of the Eastern CEF area by finding new history which would benefit the community and our sense of identity.
- It could also give a sense of pride and ownership in the community. It would help to illustrate history lessons in the local schools and give the children a chance to experience the past.

Details of the Project

Please list the details of your project

- During the summer of 2019 we would like to investigate an Iron Age and Romano British site near Cawood by holding an archaeological dig.
- From our research we found maps of the area produced by Historic England in 2006 which show clear crop marks on the ground, showing evidence of earlier habitation. Crop marks can reveal evidence below ground of early structures and ditches. The difference in height of the crop indicates the presence of archaeology.
- Our local history group can help add to the local and regional history which otherwise is not available through lack of funding and time for the NYCC.
- We have found evidence of an area on the edge of Cawood village which looks very exciting. There are extensive crop marks here of round houses and field boundaries which could indicate early habitation going back thousands of years.
- We did some brief field walking last summer and very easily found pottery indicating the Iron Age and Roman settlement possibilities.
- This site looks very similar to one found at North Duffield where excavations have taken place recently and they found Iron Age round houses and Roman farms.
- The long hot summer of 2018 showed extensive crop marks across the county and was perfect for us to fly a drone. These aerial results from the drone flight matched the earlier ones from 2006 done by English heritage. It showed such good results that streets crossing the site could be identified and possibly as many as 7 round houses on the site.
- We have permission from the farmer, when the current crop has been removed, to start our excavations around mid July. The field will be fallow until early 2020. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to have such a length of time to work on the site as farmers usually want a quick turnaround for their crops.
- With the help of community volunteers, three local Primary schools, Selby High School, a Home School group of children, residents who might be experiencing loneliness and isolation and young students from the local Universities, we plan to do an investigation of the site.
- We will be using non-invasive Geophysical surveying Earth Resistance and Magnetometry surveying to build a picture of what is below ground.
- Much of Cawood is recorded as beginnings in the medieval period. Our last dig in 2015 an Anglo Scandinavian farm just near the school. This discovery has given ownership by the village to the Viking era.
- The finds from the site will be washed and identified later in the village by residents who could not go to the dig. This will include refreshments and be a social occasion for everyone and a chance to discover treasure for themselves. Washing and looking at finds can be very exciting when you see something that has not been seen by anyone for 2000 years or more. These will later be identified by pottery experts to accurately date the site.
- We also plan to take some finds to Selby Abbey for the 950th Anniversary for everyone to see and experience. A small dig will be set up using a tray of sand with buried artefacts for children to discover.
- Other research has found Roman artefacts in this area, including silver Roman coins found by metal Detectorists.
- From the NYCC Archaeology data and the Portable Antiquities Scheme information, many other Roman and Iron Age finds have been recorded locally using this information we would like to build a picture of Roman Cawood which has not been done before. This could add Cawood to the information that has been found on Roman Britain and could be very significant in the future.
- Our project will also include a series of activities aimed at providing educational opportunities for the younger members of our community.
- We will also offer social interaction for older, more isolated village inhabitants. It will encourage and develop further the community spirit amongst the many villagers who are keen to know more about where they live. We hope this event will be a unique event and be fun and informative for everyone.
- We would like to invite the CVS Friendship Friday group to visit us at the dig and later at the finds washing
- A report will be produced which will be available on line for all to see.
- There will be an open day for everyone to experience a live dig.
- A web page will be built to keep everyone updated on our progress.
- We already have a Facebook page blog which informs everyone on what we have achieved so far ...Community Heritage-Digging Roman Cawood.

Project Objectives

What will the project deliver, or what changes will it bring about and how are these linked to the CEF's Community development plan (CDP) for the area?

- Our project will deliver a unique opportunity for residents of Eastern CEF area to experience an archaeological dig which is a very rare event in this area.
- Our project will offer a range of activities not normally seen here. It will add to the many other opportunities in the district thus ensuring a vibrant range of activities.
- We will offer experiences not usually available such as discovering finds in the ground which is like discovering treasure This really excites the young people as seen in our previous events.
- The use of a metal detector can be very exciting for children when they find a metal object such as a coin. The children will take this experience back to their schools and share with friends.
- We will offer visits to school to show them in more detail how to explore their environment We can offer visits by our archaeologist to Care homes for the older residents to experience looking at early artefacts.
- We hope to discover early settlement of the area possible from the Iron Age (and possibly earlier) to the Romans through identification of pottery finds.
- Coins too can be dated if we discover them.
- Our dig will take the local history back into prehistory, if we can show early occupation of the site.
- Depending on what is found in the trenches we could discover ways that the early settlers lived. Did they make glass here ? Did they smelt iron here? Did they grow cereals or raise cattle, sheep and pigs?
- Was the site occupied over centuries or for short period of time?
- How did the settlers travel? Did they have track ways or was it on the local rivers and waterways?
- We are very excited to be able to look at this site and if we are given the grant, we hope to make a difference in understanding this area historically.

Benefits

Outline any key financial or non-financial benefits the project will deliver and how this will impact the community.

The benefits from this project are :

- This will be an exceptional opportunity for bringing people together in this area.
- We will be able to redefine history in our area.
- We will add to the knowledge of Roman Britain in the hinterland of the fortress at York.
- We may find significant finds that will help understand the country's history.
- Hopefully we will find the remains of houses or farms which will show how people lived over 2000 years ago. This could help understand more about life here at the time the Romans invaded our island.
- The community can be proud and claim ownership of the new history we find.
- It could encourage new visitors to the district and thus increase spending locally.
- Children will learn about their local history and discover that these could be their earliest ancestors.
- Older residents will have the opportunity to mix with younger children which will benefit both age groups.
- Finding significant archaeology could protect it in the future if the use of the site changes.
- We will help to give Home Schooling groups a diverse experience for the children.

Project Approach / Delivery Options

Outline any initial ideas for how the project might be delivered including external delivery, consultants, governance arrangements etc.

- We believe our project compliments the following priorities of the Eastern CEF development plan-
- Support our villages to provide a vibrant range of activities,
- Encourage involvement and volunteering in our community
- Encourage information sharing between communities, activities and organisations
Address issues of loneliness and isolation and Increase activities for young people
Engage more people within the Eastern CEF AreaOur project will be reported on our social media sites and web pages
- We will advertise within the district, including the CVS newsletter and web page
Newspapers will be contacted to invite the residents to visit our dig on our open days
- At the end of the project a report will be written by the consultant archaeologists and will be available on the web pages
- The report will be deposited at the NYCC Archives using Oasis .
- Any finds of significance will be reported to Portable Antiquities Scheme who will write a report recording the information. Other finds will be kept within the local area perhaps on display in Selby Council Offices
- Presentations will be made to the local community, schools and regional archaeology groups such as Timeline York Plus
- We will invite CEF meeting to hear our results later in the year

Project Timescales (Milestones)

Outline the overall timescale for project completion and include delivery phases together with milestone dates and funding deadlines, if appropriate. Your knowledge may be based on assumptions at this stage.

- Our time scale depends on when the farmer / landowner will allow us access to the site. This depends on when the crop has finished and been harvested but probably starting in mid-July.
- We are hoping that we can work from mid July 2019 to February 2020.
- We will open the dig first weeks in August for 2 weeks.
- Preparation of the trenches will be the end of the previous week using a digger.
- Trenches will be filled in around the 19th August.
- Finds washing and social interaction during August and September.
- Visits to schools and Residential homes for the Elderly during September.
- Depending on what we find and availability of volunteers we can do more research into the month of September.
- A geophysical survey of the site during October when the ground is firmer.
- A report on the dig will be written and published by the end of the year 2019.

Project Resources (people and money)

These will be indicative at this early stage. However, on the basis of what you expect the project to look like, indicate your estimates together with the assumptions made in making the calculations.

- **Costs –**

We estimate the project will cost £6020

We need expert help with running the dig, experts to understand what we will find, specialist equipment to find the archaeology, safety equipment for the volunteers and mechanical help to remove the soil from trenches to make it easier for volunteers:

Dr Jon Kenny Community Archaeologist

for overseeing the dig, training volunteers, visits to schools, retirement homes, Friendship Friday visits, presentations and finds identification on site. £2500

Paul Durdin Archaeologist and surveying expert and report writing. Relief archaeologist. £1500

Web site page with CVS £200

Health and Safety equipment £100

Equipment such as finds bags, trays etc £50

Geophysical surveying equipment hire £500

Venue hire for presentations etc £300

Digger hire for excavations of trenches £400

Leaflets £50

Finds analysis £420

- **People**

- We already have 44 volunteers indicating they want to help from the village and district.
- There are 3 Primary schools nearby we will invite and work with on site or in school and 1 high school.
- A group of older residents we already know from our Oral history afternoon teas last year.
- 2 qualified Archaeologists.
- Many experienced volunteers who know how to excavate trenches and have worked with us before.
- University Archaeology course students.
- Cawood Castle Garth Group.
- Home Educators group with children.
- Possible groups for those with mental health issues will be invited to help.

Funding

Where do you expect the money to come from, e.g. revenue or capital budgets, external grants, all from CEF funding or a combination? Please state if you don't know at this stage where the money is coming from. Please include any quotes you have received.

£1020 from our Cawood Castle Garth funds and £5000 from CEF

Our group income is slow to come in and is hard won, coming from:

Sales from our booklets or our new book "Cawood Men Go to War".

I do family history research for people whose families once lived in the village and sometimes they send a donation to our group but very rarely does this happen.

We sometimes receive donations when we stage an event for refreshments so any money that we have is worked hard for by the members of the group.

We are good at making cakes for refreshment sales.

Risks / Issues

Identify what you consider to be the main risks at this stage. Also indicate any issues you may be aware of that the project will resolve.

Main Risks are:

Bad weather which could delay the project- the ground could become waterlogged making impossible to work on. We have plenty of time available to wait for the land to recover.

No volunteers. We have already got 44 potential volunteers wanting to help not including older residents from the village, and school children's participation so this should not be a risk.

We do not find anything in the ground. We have already got evidence that archaeology exists from field walking and aerial photography.

Health and safety. We have a qualified First aider and first aid resources will be available. Washing facilities will be provided.

Safety equipment is available when digging, pads for knees, gloves, hard hat if machinery is on site.

Notice to be displayed of where to find hospital and doctors.

Shelter will be provided by using a large tent.

Theft overnight. No equipment or important finds will be left on site.

Toilets will be advised in the village or we are hoping from a nearby farm if they have outside facilities.

Links and Dependencies

Does this project link to any others in the area or services already available? Is its success dependent on the completion of other projects, funding from elsewhere, interest from volunteers etc?

This project will link to a similar one ongoing now in North Duffield. Here they have found similar crop marks and the two sites could be connected.

We will share our information found with other history groups through our involvement with Timeline York Plus. This is a group of over 30 local history groups around the Greater York area who meet to exchange their latest discoveries.

It will add to the local knowledge.

There is no other funding for this project.

As mentioned above we have 44 volunteers who are interested in helping with the project and no doubt some of these will use this experience to enhance their education through work experience in the summer holidays.

We have had over 216,600 views to our website www.cawoodheritage.org.uk which helps us to see there is interest in our area.

We have 3 Facebook pages which are very popular. There are people all around the world who read our website and Facebook pages and show great interest in what we do in Cawood.

Our presentations will show other groups what we have discovered.

Visits with an archaeologist to residential homes for the elderly are planned to show finds.

Inviting everyone to the afternoon tea/washing finds event will allow children the opportunity to mix with members of the community who they otherwise might not see. Both age groups have a lot to offer to each other. This will lay the foundation of respect for those older than themselves which can only be beneficial for everyone.