



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date Period end date

From 1 January 2023 T O 31 December 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group

Other names charity is known by SWAAG

Registered charity number (if any) 1155775

Charity's principal address c/o Michael Keenan
School House, Silver Street
Reeth
Richmond
North Yorkshire

Postcode DL11 6SP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1 Rod Flint	Secretary		
2 Michael Keenan	Treasurer		
3 Michael Walton		Retired 14/11/2023	

4	Jane Harrison	Re-elected 14/11/2023
5	Barbara Colling	
6	Hilary Fawcett	
7	Anne Jowett	
8	Sheila Ickringill	Co-opted 17/10/2023 Re-elected 14/11/2023 Resigned 27/11/2023

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <i>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</i>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <i>(eg. trust, association, company)</i>	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods <i>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</i>	Elected by ballot at the AGM, with interim options to co-opt, as per the Constitution

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Organisational Structure: SWAAG is managed and controlled by the volunteer Trustees all of whom are elected from the membership. Specialist groups/committees reporting to the Trustees are formed as necessary

Health and Safety: SWAAG has Trustee-approved Health and Safety and Children and Young Peoples Safeguarding Policies in place. These are reviewed at least annually.

Financial risks: SWAAG has a Trustee-approved Financial Authority and Controls policy in place which is reviewed at least annually. Section E of this report provides a statement explaining the Trustees' reserves policy for SWAAG.

Data Protection and Privacy continue to be managed in accordance with GDPR recommendations.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

For the *public benefit* to advance the education of the public in general and more specifically the residents of, and visitors to, the County of North Yorkshire, particularly the area known as the Yorkshire Dales, in the subjects of archaeology, history, heritage, geology and the natural environment in order to promote a better understanding and management of the local heritage by, for example:

Providing training and experience of a broad range of archaeological and historical investigative techniques which may be applied to the study of the local heritage;

Undertaking research including local history, fieldwork and excavations into all aspects of the local heritage and publishing and making otherwise available the results of that research;

Providing lectures, guided walks, community projects, activities with local schools and organisations and exhibitions.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commissioners on public benefit and, in accordance with that, the activities undertaken by SWAAG in 2023 have included :

- Following on from the 2021 excavation of a Romano British site at Hagg Farm located near Reeth in Swaledale, SWAAG commissioned specialist analyses of the pottery, bone and environmental finds. In addition samples were sent for radio carbon dating. The resultant findings have been incorporated into an excavation report
- In September a 5 day geophysical and resistivity survey was undertaken of Grinton Mounds which is the site of 2 large glacial moraine mounds separated by a significant "saddle". The mounds appear to have been modified and fortified with features that have been interpreted as being from prehistoric to medieval. The survey results have been incorporated into a report
- Assistance to other archaeology groups has included undertaking a geophysical survey of a site at Gueswick Hills in Teesdale for Altogether Archaeology
- Regular monthly information and discussion meetings have continued via zoom and hybrid (where participants have the option of joining online or face to face) formats for SWAAG members and guests
- Talks by professionals, specialists and enthusiasts covering a wide range of history and archaeology related topics
- Guided walks encompassing areas, sites and features of archaeological interest have been arranged for SWAAG members and others
- Guided walks for members of the public as part of the Swaledale Festival of Music, Arts & Walking
- Transcriptions of the Healaugh and Muker Manor Court Books for the period 1686-1786 have continued and are available on the SWAAG website

The Trustees hold regular board meetings to review financial issues and to discuss activities, policies, progress and other matters

An AGM available to be attended by all SWAAG members either in person or online was held in November 2023

SWAAG publicizes its activities via Facebook and through it's website (www.swaag.org). The website also includes a wide range of archives, databases, newsletters, publications and other information

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Whilst excavations are supervised by professional archaeologists and training courses are led by specialists, all SWAAG activities are devised, managed, supervised and implemented by SWAAG volunteers

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

See activities listed above

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Trustees maintain under review the commercial risks to which the charity is exposed - e.g. possible rental of storage space, work required on the website; repairs to and replacement of equipment - as well as those "risks" that arise as a consequence of the research work that SWAAG undertakes - e.g. requirements for radio carbon dating, environmental sample analyses, finds conservation, archiving - and have reached the view that it would be prudent for SWAAG to strive to retain a level of reserves of some £5000. Cash over and above the reserves may be used to fund research projects. This policy is kept under review and formally reviewed at least annually.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The accounts for the financial year ending 31st December 2023 have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

The accounts have been independently examined by Pamela Myers and her report accompanies this report.

A summary of the charity's assets also accompanies this report.

As recommended by the Charity Commission, the accounts have been segregated into Unrestricted and Restricted cash flows. These funds are considered separately below.

Unrestricted Funds

Over the year the charity has generated a net surplus of £448.43 from turnover income of £2,120.24 compared to a net deficit of £176.61 in 2022 from turnover income of £1,985.31.

The comparative difference between the figures for 2022 and 2023 arises primarily because of a reduction in expenditure on projects.

With regard to income, membership subscriptions produced £1,637.50 and gift aid of £361.28. In addition we received income from donations, walks, book sales and interest totalling £108.96.

Expenditure totalling £1,659.31 was incurred. This included the costs of insurance, bank charges, CBA membership, projects, equipment, talks and website expenses.

There were no Year End Liabilities.

Restricted Funds

Expenditure totalling £1,710.16 was incurred in respect of professional archaeological support. That sum represented the balance of a grant from the Royal Archaeological Institute for post excavation work in connection with our 2021 dig at The Hagg in Fremington.

Income totalling £18.84 represents interest from a donated fund we hold for the establishment and support of an award for landscape archaeology which now stands at a total of £1,022.80 as at 31 December 2023.

Section F

Other optional information

SWAAG wishes to thank :

- The Royal Archaeological Institute for it's support in providing a grant to fund the post excavation analysis and work in respect of the Hagg 2021 excavation
- Tony Liddell of Vindomora Solutions and his staff for their guidance and support for the Hagg exploration programme since 2016
- The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority for it's advice and support
- All of the members and volunteers who generously gave their time and shared their expertise to make SWAAG activities possible

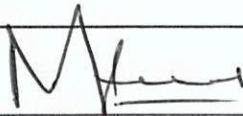
Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
---	--

Full name(s)

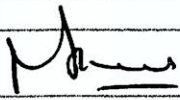
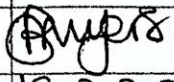
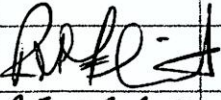
Michael Keenan	
----------------	--

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Treasurer	
-----------	--

Date

24 March 2024

SWALEDALE & ARKENGARTHDALE ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP					
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2023 TO 31st DECEMBER 2023					
	2023 Unrestricted	2023 Restricted	2023 Total	2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Income					
Membership Subscriptions	1,650.00		1,650.00	1,487.50	
Gift Aid	361.28		361.28	321.99	
Donations	43.00		43.00	50.00	
Walks	40.00		40.00	110.00	
Interest	14.47	18.84	33.31	12.34	
Book Sales	11.49		11.49	7.31	
Grant	0.00		0.00	4,615.00	
Total Income	2,120.24	18.84	2,139.08	6,604.14	
Expenditure					
Professional Archaeological Support	17.84	1,710.16	1,728.00	0.00	
Insurance	819.88		819.88	887.67	
Talks	270.51		270.51	287.68	
Website	179.69		179.69	156.90	
Governance	90.50		90.50	0.00	
Equipment	85.89		85.89	480.00	
Project Expenses	75.00		75.00	203.82	
Bank Charges	60.00		60.00	81.00	
CBA Membership	60.00		60.00	60.00	
Membership Subscription Refund	12.50		12.50		
Post Excavation Analysis	0.00		0.00	2,909.69	
Total Expenditure	1,671.81	1,710.16	3,381.97	5,066.76	
Excess Of Income Over Expenditure	448.43	-1691.32	-1242.89	1537.38	
1st January 2023 Opening Balance (Bank+Cash)	6,841.49	2,714.12	9,555.61	8,018.23	
31st December 2023 Closing Balance (Bank & Cash)	7289.92	1022.80	8,312.72	9,555.61	
Liabilities at 31st December 2023	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Debtors at 31st December 2023	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Signed:					
Michael Keenan, Treasurer					
Date	31 January 2024				
Independently Examined By					
Pamela Myers					
Date	19.2.2024				
Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf					
Rod Flint					
Date	25.03.2024				