

**EMERGENCY ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING FUND**

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2003

Authors: Senior Archaeological Officer & Treasurer

**A. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1 To review the operation of the emergency recording fund.

**B. PROPOSED ACTION**

**2 The Committee is invited to:**

**a) NOTE the current status of the fund.**

**b) AGREE to the Secretary taking over the role of treasurer for the fund.**

**C. RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

3 Invoices have been issued for 2002/3 and should stand at £3241 when payments have been received. The meeting will be advised of the current balance.

**D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

6 There have been two significant unexpected discoveries in the period covered by this report but neither required a call on the fund. A Roman child burial was revealed during construction of a new access road at **Princes Risborough Upper School** and excavated with funding provided by the County Council as developer (the site had been the subject of an earlier negative evaluation). A small Roman cemetery was found during construction of a car park **near Magiovinium, Milton Keynes** and reburied for preservation in-situ (see MK Archaeological Officer's Report). Provision was made for an emergency "on call" arrangement in case of a major discovery arising from the metal detecting rally held at **Creslow** in August (see County Museum Officer's Report).

7 The rate of significant unexpected discoveries since the setting up of the fund in 2000 has been generally towards the lower end of predicted range (1 to 3 per year) with two cases (Ivinghoe sword and Wendover Roman cremation burial) in 2000; one case (Milton Keynes Bronze Age hoard) in 2001, none in 2002 and two so far in 2003. Only the Wendover burial gave rise to a call on the fund.

8 It was decided at the March 2003 meeting to suspend payments to the fund until there are further calls upon it.

9 In view of the change to the management of County Archaeological Service it is no longer appropriate for Mr David Pickard to continue as treasurer. As the

fund is held by Bucks County Council it is suggested that the Secretary assume this role.

E. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Previous Countywide Archaeological Committee and Historic Environment Forum Papers and Minutes

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