Friends of the Chalk Tower – East Riding, Yorkshire

Our project has been brought together by a group of 14 people (Friends) living on or near the Flamborough Outerhead in the East Riding of Yorkshire. We look at this fabulous Chalk Tower every day; built by Sir John Clayton between 1669 and 1674, it is the oldest surviving lighthouse in England and now a Grade II* listed building. Our aim is also to raise awareness of the Chalk Tower and gather ideas from the public about what they would like to see inside the Tower should they be able to gain access. We have held two successful events last year, one as part of the CBA Festival of Archaeology 2016. Lots of people expressed an interest in joining our group and we are delighted to report that we now have 91 Friends! At these events, ideas were gathered on ‘key’ tags about what people would like to see if they could get inside the Tower. These were many and varied ranging from ‘a view at the top’ to ‘mermaids singing’!

We are pleased to report significant progress with our project to improve interpretation of the Tower and the possibility of opening it to the public in the future. We will shortly be installing an interpretation board at the site funded by East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) and will be able to open the ground floor to the general public during the summer. The Mick Aston Fund has undoubtedly helped to make all this possible as it has enabled us to actively promote our aims, hold events, leaflet local residents and supporters etc. This in turn has helped build our relationship with the ERYC to show that we are a proactive and dedicated group who they can work with and entrust this important scheduled ancient monument to. We would like to thank the CBA for their support, advice and encouragement during this on-going project.

Jane Lowery
Secretary – Friends of the Chalk Tower Flamborough