

# RICHARD III SOCIETY

Patron: HRH Prince Richard, The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO



## APPENDIX 2

Founder: Dr S Saxon Barton  
Communications Manager  
Amanda Geary  
22 Camelot Avenue  
Sherwood  
Nottingham NG5 1DW  
Tel: 0115 9706878/07769 800622  
Email: [comms@richardiii.net](mailto:comms@richardiii.net)  
Website [www.richardiii.net](http://www.richardiii.net)

## PRESS RELEASE

### **An open letter to the Planning Committee of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council**

The battle of Bosworth was one of the most significant events in English history. It is remarkable for the fact that it featured the final cavalry charge of the last English king to die in battle. This event led to the end of over three hundred years of Plantagenet rule, and the beginning of the Tudor era.

Despite being a Society with a research focus firmly on events of the past, we are in no way opposed to technological progress. It was indeed more recent advances in genetics and DNA fingerprinting which allowed King Richard himself to be identified once his remains were located beneath the Social Services car park in Leicester in 2012. However, we are concerned that something as historically and culturally important as the battlefield, which has a direct relevance to the king now buried in Leicester Cathedral, will be adversely impacted by this development. We appreciate the need to test this new technology but by its nature, and bearing in mind the speed of future technological advances, it is likely to become quickly obsolete, whereas the damage done to the battlefield will be irreparable. We are therefore concerned that the battlefield will be lost for a project which may be important in the short term, but is unlikely to have a significant lasting value across centuries to come. This being the case, surely an alternative site can be found, where our heritage will not be destroyed?

# RICHARD III SOCIETY

Patron: HRH Prince Richard, The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO



We appeal to the Councillors on the Planning Committee of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council to listen, not just to us, but to many of the local residents who have recently commented publicly and signed a petition against this development along with other groups who feel as we do and whose work supports important local tourism in the area. Amongst those are the Battlefields Trust, the Richard III Loyal Supporters, the Henry Tudor Society, and the many, many other experts in their fields who hold such strong opinions on this issue they have sent us the statements of support that are included with this letter.

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council are the custodians of this unique and historically important place. We implore you to make the right decision and protect the battlefield for future generations. Our trust is in you to ensure that the site can be enjoyed in years to come, as it has been over its long and revealing history.

## **Richard III Society**

### **About the Richard III Society**

With a worldwide membership and local branches, the Society is actively engaged in original research through its own initiatives and through collaboration with other institutions, bodies and scholars. Through the Richard III and Yorkist History Trust, a charitable body established by the Society, we publish important academic works and make research grants. The Society publishes an annual journal *The Ricardian* with original articles on fifteenth century history and a quarterly members magazine *The Ricardian Bulletin* [www.richardiii.net](http://www.richardiii.net)