York Guild of Building

AGM April 2019

Clerks Report

We started off with Paul and Cherryls programme which was very varied and well thought out. The meetings were well organised but, as always, we’ve struggled with low attendance at some meetings. I helped to organise the printing of the directories, setting out the words and approaching the advertisers. We struggled with some of the advertisers and this coming year we may review the advertisers and charges.

This year we changed the web site address to yorkguildof building.co.uk and this has allowed us to start with a clean slate, however, we still have a few legacy issues. Peter Silk has done a lot of work ‘under the bonnet’ and this has created a better organised and simpler structure to allow easier modifications and changes to the web site in the future. Peter is always needing brief reports and photos of events for publishing on the web site.

Dave Thompson has continued his solid and robust work behind the scenes looking after membership records and creating the newsletter. He has decided to step down from the court this year after many years of diligent service. His role will be taken over by a familiar old face, Roger Silk. Thank you gentlemen.

Noel is stepping down from being Mace Bearer and Bernard has agreed to take over this role; thank you gentlemen.

Noel will continue to run the Craftsmanship Awards (but is always looking for help!), one of last years winners was somebody who I’m sure you’ll get to know a lot better this year, our own Master Elect, Mike Hammill. A big thank you to York Handmade Bricks and Houghtons of York for their help in sponsoring the awards.

Noels had a busy old year with also helping to organise the York Guild of Building Wagon in the Wagon Plays. It was good to see so many volunteers at Gorges house helping to spruce up the wagon and get it ready for the wagon plays. The Wagon Plays are a really worthwhile event and help to put York on the International stage. A friendly face that was always a pleasure to see at the plays was Jean Jesty; Master of the Scriveners, and it was really sad to hear of her passing away at Christmas.

We continue to sponsor the York Design Awards and this is now being run by our good friend Rebecca Thompson; a date for your diaries is the prize giving on the 24th June.

Thank you to Ted for his role behind the scenes offering quiet support and also organising golf events which are much appreciated by the Guild golfers.

It was good to see Alex step up to the plate and help organise the annual dinner at the Merchant Taylors Hall. I hope that he enjoyed keeping this tradition going and thanks you Alex for ensuring such a good turnout.

We always need help running the Court and if any members would like to join, please do not hesitate to contact me or Michael and I can assure you would be welcomed with open arms. Michael is very brave to volunteer to become Master today and I’m sure that you’ll all forgive him his inexperience of the Guild and give him your full support. Alex has agreed to become Master in 2021 which leaves us with a shortage of a master next year, perhaps we may be able to find ‘a Rose between two thorns...?

Thank you to everybody who helped run talks and events and those who turned up and supported guild events, be they organisers or the person who organised the catering (e.g. Cherryl at last years AGM) or the folk who help with the washing up – you’re all much appreciated!