

Report of the Livery Committee

To be presented on 24th June 2019

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Liverymen of the several Companies of the City of London in Common Hall assembled.

A copy of this report is to be issued to all Liverymen who attend Common Hall and only a summary will, therefore, be presented at the meeting so as not to delay the proceedings.

The Livery Committee – Strategic Direction

The Committee was established by Common Hall in 1864, to *‘consider the best means and take such measures as they deem advisable for securing the Guildhall from the intrusion of strangers at the meetings in Common Hall’* for the election of the Sheriffs and Lord Mayor. 155 years later, we are as committed as ever to overseeing the arrangements for Common Hall.

However, we do much more than that. We have recently taken the opportunity to review and discuss a new strategy to help direct our work. As a committee, we have identified clear objectives to help the livery to continue to thrive, with its significance and impact widely understood and supported across the City of London, London, the UK and beyond.

As well as continuing to deliver Common Hall successfully, our strategy re-asserts our commitment to the livery as a whole. Whilst always respecting the autonomy of individual companies we will assist the livery to maintain best practice and encourage collaboration when there is the opportunity to do so. We will work hard to ensure that the positive work of livery companies and guilds, including those outside London, in their trade, professions, educational, community support programmes and charitable activities is widely known, understood and communicated, including to influencers, opinion formers and policy makers.

Through our strategy we hope to inspire current and future generations of the livery, so that they can know, as we do, just how significant and positive the contributions made by the livery are to society. We are now in the course of developing a business plan in support of our objectives.

The Committee also arranges and oversees the running of a series of courses administered by the City of London Corporation. These courses are designed to enable liverymen to learn more not only about the Livery but also about how the City of London Corporation works and the range of its activities. More information regarding these courses can be found at the following website: <http://www.liverycommitteecourses.org/>

The membership of the Livery Committee, as appointed by Common Hall, is appended to this report for your information.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

Previously, your Committee has suggested to the nominating bodies that those they nominate should have a broad knowledge of Livery affairs and a good understanding of the workings of the City Corporation and, particularly, how the City Corporation interfaces with Livery Companies. To aid and clarify this process, we have recently approved a form of 'job description' for membership of the Committee. Whilst not seeking to exclude any candidate, should a need for a specific skill be identified, nominating bodies will be advised accordingly.

We **recommend**, in accordance with the terms of the report agreed by Common Hall on 24 June 2002 and 24 June 2005, that the following persons be appointed as members of the Livery Committee, each for a three-year term:-

Nominated by the several Livery Companies, through the Fellowship of Clerks

For re-appointment for a final three-year term:-

Fiona Adler – Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders

Andrew Marsden – Worshipful Company of Marketors

Nominated by the Court of Common Council

Appointed for a three-year term:

Shravan Joshi – Worshipful Company of Fuellers

For re-appointment for a final three-year term

Christopher Hayward – Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers

Judith Pleasance – Worshipful Company of Clockmakers

Co-option

Appointed under the Committee's powers of co-option for a term of two years:

Tim Gregson MBE – Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Carpenters

As her term of office has come to an end, we would like to place on record our appreciation to Wendy Mead OBE, CC, for her service to the Committee over the past 6 years.

THE LIVERY COMMITTEE 2018/19

Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

At the meeting on 12 September 2018, Vicky Russell (Citizen and Arbitrator) was elected as Chairman, taking over from Deputy Richard Regan OBE (Citizen and Cutler). Deputy Philip Woodhouse (Citizen and Grocer) was elected Deputy Chairman.

Committee Activities

Your Livery Committee and its various Working Groups have, over the past 12 months, looked at a range of issues and some of the Committee's work is discussed in more detail below:

Common Hall

Your Committee has been working closely with candidates, agents, and the City Corporation to make the necessary preparations for the 2019 Shrieval election.

As you will appreciate, this ancient ceremony is governed by historic legislation, which limits what can be done from a procedural perspective. Whilst many Liverymen will of course wish for a result to be established at Common Hall itself, there is a legal right

for a poll to be demanded. If this occurs, the poll must take place on Monday 8 July 2019. However, your Committee has asked each of the candidates to agree that they will accept the result on the day of Common Hall, provided that the result is clear – i.e., a margin of difference for the winning candidates of more than 10% of those voting.

In 2018, to increase the speed and accuracy of the count, we introduced coloured cards. Coloured cards will again be issued to each of you today, one coloured card for each candidate, and labelled accordingly. When the Common Serjeant asks you to vote, he will ask you to hold the relevant card in your hand clearly in the air, whilst the count is undertaken. Members of City Corporation staff have been assigned to each block of voters and will count as quickly as possible and pass the numbers to be tallied on a central count sheet. As ever, you are to vote for only two candidates. This counting procedure – an enhanced version of that which worked successfully in 2011 – is intended to speed up the process, whilst also increasing accuracy.

Livery Committee Website

For several years, a website with information concerning the various livery companies and the City has been maintained by former Livery Committee Chairman and Sheriff, Nigel Pullman. Whilst not a reflection on Nigel's excellent and extremely informative site, the Committee has now decided to establish its own website. It aims to be a useful source of information about the livery and the City generally and the activities of the Committee. Tenders have been sought for the design of the proposed site and our objective is to have the new facility operational later this year. We wish to take this opportunity to thank those companies that have helped to fund this project and will keep you informed as matters progress.

Ironbridge Weekend

This year's event for Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff at Ironbridge was held over the weekend of 7 – 9 June. The Livery Committee decided to host a session on the Friday afternoon for those attending, including their consorts. It was quite a challenge to find a topic that would engage all the audience for two hours and ensure an element of interaction. The event was attended by the Lord Mayor and, with his help, we engaged Nick Turner to facilitate what was an interesting and insightful session. Nick is a futurologist and Managing Partner of a company called Stratforma. He is an adviser, strategist and futures thinker, and his expertise includes 'facilitating the creation of robust strategies today, in light of an uncertain tomorrow'.

The aim of the session was for the 200 delegates to think about the future direction of their respective companies and the livery generally in a collaborative and collegiate way. Nick very kindly agreed to waive his fee, and we are extremely grateful for his significant time and commitment to the livery. Hosting this event went some way with our stated objective to support the livery through greater connection and collaboration.

Livery Liaison

The Committee has carried out a full review of its Liaison Scheme. The Scheme provides for each appointed Member of the Livery Committee to establish a direct link with the Companies and/or Guilds assigned to him or her, to communicate information on the Committee's behalf and make the Committee aware of the views of the assigned Companies on matters of topical interest or debate. It is a direct conduit and enables Companies to access independent advice and help. Our members contact their assigned Companies throughout the year and we strongly recommend that you

take advantage of the Scheme if you have any matter with which you feel the Committee can assist your Company.

Please contact Simon Murrells if you do not know who your designated committee member is.

Briefings and Courses

The Committee organises several courses throughout the year.

City Briefings, aimed at giving some insight into the work of the Committee and the City Corporation, are held in Guildhall. They are popular and well-received. Dates for 2019 and 2020 are as follows:

- Monday 21 October 2019
 - Tuesday 19 November 2019
 - Tuesday 11 February 2020
 - Wednesday 20 May 2020
 - Tuesday 15 September 2020
 - Monday 9 November 2020
- Each at 5:30pm

The Wardens and Court Assistants City Course is scheduled for Wednesday 25 September 2019 and we strongly encourage those taking up office in the next few years to sign up via the <http://www.liverycommitteecourses.org> website.

A half-day Livery After Dinner Speaking course intended for a similar audience is arranged for 11 February 2020, and an annual Briefing for Clerks is also scheduled to take place next year. All are administered by the Corporation's Communications Department. We are continually considering improvements and how we might make these even more useful for Liverymen and Clerks. All suggestions will be welcome.

We would ask that Clerks and Liverymen continue to promote attendance at these events as widely as possible. Spouses and partners are always welcome and separate courses will be arranged if this is felt appropriate.

Livery Committee Briefing Newsletter

The regular *Livery Briefing* newsletter, published by Guildhall on behalf of the Livery Committee, is intended for all Liverymen and is emailed via the Clerk to each Livery Company. We encourage all Clerks to circulate the Briefing which can also be accessed in the "Library" at <http://www.liverycompanies.info/>.

Pan-Livery Initiative

Several Committee members, including the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, are members of the Pan Livery Steering Group. Earlier in the year, on the Steering Group's behalf, your Committee distributed a range of findings and data arising out of surveys undertaken over previous months. This included the latest information about the extent of the livery's philanthropy, currently in excess of £67million a year, together with an estimated 75,000 hours of pro bono work on charitable activities. A further strand of work concerns communication.

All of which we submit to the judgement of Common Hall.

DATED this 12th day of June 2019.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

Vicky Russell
Chairman, Livery Committee

Livery Committee Membership

Two Aldermen, nominated by the Court of Aldermen:-

William Russell (Haberdasher)
Sir Alan Yarrow (Fishmonger)

Six Common Councilmen, nominated by the Court of Common Council:-

Christopher Hayward (Pattenmaker)
Shavran Joshi (Fueller)
Judith Pleasance (Clockmaker)
Deputy Richard Regan, O.B.E. (Cutler)
Ian Seaton (Girdler)
Deputy Philip Woodhouse (Grocer) *Deputy Chairman*

Six Liverymen, one nominated by the Great XII Clerks' Association, one nominated by the Association of Clerks, and four nominated by the Fellowship of Clerks:-

Great XII Nominee

Robin Booth (Clothworker)

Association of Clerks Nominee

Julia Sibley, M.B.E. (Innholder)

Fellowship of Clerks Nominees:

Fiona Adler (Tobacco Pipe-Maker)
David Cole-Adams (Tyler & Bricklayer)
Andrew Marsden (Marketer)
Victoria Russell (Arbitrator) *Chairman*

Six Livery Company Clerks, two nominated by each Association:-

Great XII Nominees

Rob Abernethy, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Mercers
Major General Andrew Kennett, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Skinners

Association of Clerks Nominees

Christopher Twyman, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers
Russell Vaizey, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Dyers

Fellowship of Clerks Nominees

David Barrett, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards
Colonel Robert Murfin, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers

Co-opted Member

Tim Gregson, Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Carpenters

N.B. – Appointments to the Committee are for terms of three years. Members shall serve for a maximum of two terms.