

End of year report – 2019

(Delivered on the 16th December 2019)

I would like to welcome **Mayor John Saunders, Councillor Lisa Greasley, Vice Chairman Alex Kirby,** Committee members **Barry Butler, Alison Tordoff,** and **Helen Lawrie.** May I also welcome our **Chamber Members** and **honoured guests** who have taken the time to be tonight.

It's been a busy year for all - juggling a work life balance and yet my committee members have not only found the time to attend our monthly meetings, making valid contributions on matters relating to our little village of Windermere and Bowness - but have actively developed projects and attended meetings outside of the Chamber for the good of local people. I'd like to thank you all.

Can I give special thanks to our Secretary Mr Adrian Faulkner who sadly can't be with us tonight due to ill health. Adrian is instrumental in the running of the Chamber. On our behalf he attends Public meetings, Council meetings, endures hours of stimulating rail network meetings, digesting 200 page documents to extract the one or two paragraphs that are relevant to the members and the local population at large. He also buys the occasional pint for us from time to time - so he is indeed truly missed tonight.

I'd like to welcome two new members to the Committee this year who have put time and effort into the sculpture trail. Helen Lawrie and Alison Tordoff. Alison in particular is a fountain of brilliant ideas and has boundless enthusiasm for the Sculpture Trail Project, managing the Facebook page and even making the occasional post on it. Alison also has the unfortunate task of being my sounding board, receiving texts and emails of random ideas at all times of the day having to separating the good ones from those which can be safely put in a box for some point in the future.

It is no easy task to hold back the enthusiasm of such a creative collective and I would like to thank Mr Barry Butler for playing the role of Mother to the group and ensuring that what we put forward will be safe, legal and be able to with stand the abuse of a worse for wear hen party from The Wirral.

It's fantastic to see new faces here tonight at the Burnside Spa Suite and I look forwards to receiving your completed and returned membership application forms accompanied by the princely sum of £25 per annum to enable us to continue our work as the Chamber of Trade on behalf of Windermere and Bowness into 2020 and beyond.

Thank you



Scott Keenan
Chairman