**Nomination Statements**

**Chair –** Nomination from Samantha Partridge

Proposed by Beth Monroe and Seconded by Dan Monroe

I would be proud to work with the MDG Committee and serve as Chairman. In my working life I set direction and lead teams to deliver specific projects – the associated technical and interpersonal skills required to do this job, I feel, sets me in good stead to steer the ship for the Guild over the next year. The MDG Committee have done a fantastic job building the profile of the group and building an exciting programme of plays over the past couple of years. I am keen to build on this solid foundation that has ben put into place and support the rest of Committee to drive forward.

In summary, the areas that will be my focus as Chairman:-

Looking back at our roots and seeing what we can re-ignite. It worked well for ReAct so I would like to gather opinions on outdoor performances.

How can we collaborate and learn from other groups in Maidenhead and the surrounding areas – what do they do well that we can learn from and bring into the way we work as a group.

How can we work closely within our community to support charitable causes and other non-profit groups. I’d like to stretch the charity support we provide during Panto week and look to have a charity ‘sponsor’ each year. We help support them and in turn, I feel that not only would this be a good thing for our community, but by the community seeing the support we provide outside of our own group, in return they will support us – new members, new audiences etc.

**Secretary –** Nomination from Tessa Preston

Proposed by Kristina Perkins and Seconded by Jim Yates

The last year has been interesting and challenging as Secretary for MDG. I have used my computer skills, patience and powers of negotiation during the year and have enjoyed it very much. Secretarial skills are what I enjoy and am good at and, if re-elected, will continue to do the position to the best of my abilities.

MDG is a lovely group of people who are passionate about performing and all aspects of Theatre. I hope they continue to entertain for many more years to come.

**Treasurer –** Nomination from Carol Hennessy

Proposed by Jim Yates and Seconded by Maureen Bukht

I have been a member of the Guild for over 20 years and have spent long periods on the Committee, both as Secretary and Chair. Having recently stepped back from full time working (I refuse to say ‘retired’), I feel able once again to offer some time to MDG.

I am an ex-merchant banker (and am married to an ex-MDG Treasurer), I feel I have the necessary skills for the role.

**Skills Development Director –** Nomination from Julia Ashton

Proposed by Ros Joynes and Seconded by Louise Punter

I have been a Member of MDG for many years and have learnt my craft of acting and working with Members. I have learnt that team effort is paramount and we may all be focussed on our primary skill and, simply, scared to try the unknown. In the last year, I have taken on a Committee role as Publicity Officer and began to learn what is involved. I also Directed a successful Festival play for the first time. I have an all round understanding of production I would like to share my knowledge with others and bring in skilled colleagues to share their skills. As a group, we all have so much to give and learn!

**Facilities Director –** Nomination by Kristina Perkins

Proposed by Maureen Bukht and Seconded by Tess Preston

I have undertaken this role for the last two years and hope that our members are happy with our spaces, including the new additional unit at Waldeck house. Post Babbage House, which was very expensive to upkeep, we now have dedicated departments at Waldeck, which means that we can facilitate all our work under one roof with everything to hand.

I have good business skills which can be put to good use by making sure we have best value when looking after our facilities and enable improvements to provide us with everything we need to create Theatre. I can continue this for another year, if you think it is a decision you would like to make.

**Joint Artistic Directors –** Nominated by Beth Monroe and Hayley Smith

Proposed by Daniel Monroe and Seconded by Sam Partridge

We have really enjoyed taking on this role for the past 9 months and have a lot of ideas which we would like to make a reality in the coming year. As you are aware, we have brought back ReAct rehearsed reading and we would like to make this a regular occurrence as it’s a good opportunity for first time Directors to test the waters and has very little time restrictions. We would like to look into bringing back outdoor productions, which were so successful and much loved by the group and the public. Traditionally, this would have been Shakespeare, but we are open to exploring other avenues. On top of this, we would like to look into visiting other indoor venues to expand our list of performance spaces.

Exploring different genres in order to keep our programme fresh and challenging, and giving our members a chance to explore different types of Theatre, is important to us. We are very open to suggestions from the entire group and would like the programme to be a collaboration of ideas, hopefully bringing something to everyone.

**Publicity and Sales Director -**  Nominated by Melanie Short

Proposed by Maureen Bukht and Seconded by Kristina Perkins

Whilst I’m a new member (Panto – baddie, Festival – Vicky), I would be bringing many years of experience with me. I have been performing all my life, however whilst at Drama School we learned all disciplines across the theatre. I have worked FoH over the years inbetween acting roles. Every member should embrace at least two disciplines.

I was on the Richmond Shakespeare Society Committee for two years – personally implementing much needed security measures for their theatre and rehearsal rooms.

If nominated, I would look at opening up opportunities to get work by MDG seen across the area, increasing both membership and audiences. I would like to implement play reading evenings, skills days, workshops and members events, such as talks, music events, quizzes etc. Be active, be seen, as you would say to an actor, simply be…..