

ANNUAL REPORT: YEAR TO APRIL 2018

ABOUT AINSLEY GOMMON ARCHITECTS

Ainsley Gommon is a leading Chartered Practice of Architects, Registered Landscape Architects and Urban Designers with a focus on community projects, housing, education, healthcare buildings, master-planning and regeneration. The practice promotes collaborative working across all its areas of activity. Sustainability and environmental responsibility are at the heart of all we do in the design, detailing, construction and operation of our buildings and landscape designs.

Ainsley Gommon operates across the United Kingdom from offices in England and Wales. We combine services to meet the demands of larger projects while calling on areas of design specialism such as conservation, landscaping and master-planning. We continue to grow our skill base which already includes the services of Client Advisor, Principal Designer, Accredited SAP and Energy Performance Assessor and RIBA Conservation Architect.

We work proactively with our clients, fellow consultants and contractors to produce buildings, landscapes, reports and studies of high quality and to deliver projects on time and within budget. We are customer focused and regularly benchmark ourselves using RIBA Benchmarking as well as being independently audited on the quality of our services on a wide range of projects.

We operate a fully transparent and inclusive management system that involves our staff in the running of the practice. Our Investors in People accreditation supports our long term commitment to our practice succession plan and staff development. Continuous improvement, training and personal development are fundamental to Ainsley Gommon, as we believe they are essential to the future well being of our business.

Our programme of continued investment in Information Technology and Building Information Modelling (BIM) ensures we support our clients and construction partners using the most up to date design and presentation tools. Our long term commitment to BIM will enhance our collaborative working methods and the services we provide.

Cover photo: In July 2017 we visited Sheffield for our annual away day to promote team building and design awareness. The day began at Park Hill flats, the Grade II* Listed iconic housing estate built in the 1950's. Continuing along the River Don to Little Kellham, a sustainable development of homes, creative spaces, shops and cafes. Then to Sheffield University Arts Tower, visiting the Sheffield School of Architecture Summer Exhibition. Our annual away day is part of the practice's ongoing programme of continued professional development.

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APRIL 2018

Annual Review: Year to April 2018

Achievements

- May 2017: Successful Renewal of Our Silver Investors In People Accreditation.
- May 2017: The restoration works at Birkenhead Priory was the winner in the Conservation Category of the 2017 RICS North West awards.
- June 2017: The Directors Simon Venables and Mark French were invited by Welsh Government to join the Technical Advisory Group to assist with their Innovative Housing Programme.
- Dec 2017: Kirsty Williams AM, Cabinet Secretary for Education officially opened Llandudno Junction's new area primary school, Ysgol Awel Y Mynydd.
- Feb 2018: Director, Paul Lester successfully passed his fourth and final exam to retain his Certified Membership (CMaPS) of the APS.
- Feb 2018: Birkenhead Sixth Form won the title 'Sixth Form College of the year 2018' as judges were captivated by the College's transformation in a relatively short amount of time.

People

- June 2017: Part 1 Architectural Assistants, Lauren Jakeman, Ethan Schofield and Mathew Reece joined Ainsley Gommon Architects.
- July 2017: Staff enjoyed a Team Building day out in Sheffield, visiting Kelham Island and Park Hill.
- Aug 2017: Associate Gethin Jones married Bethan in Llanilian-Yn-Rhos.
- Sep 2017: Staff wore denim for Jeans for Genes Day charity supporting children with life-altering genetic disorders.
- Sep 2017: Sarah Davies and David Parry from the Hawarden office signed up to Beginners Welsh Lessons at Coleg Cambria.
- Oct 2017: Staff wore pink for Wear It Pink charity to help raise money and awareness for Breast Cancer.
- Nov 2017: Birkenhead office staff had a T-shirt day supporting Alder Hey Children's Charity.
- Dec 2017: AGA staff fundraised for Cystic Fibrosis Trust with a Sponsored Christmas Jumper Day.

Projects: Over the last 12 months, we have worked on a wide range of projects. These are just some of those:

- 1 Our design for a new Maritime Knowledge Hub was submitted as part of a limited invited competition for Peel on their Wirral Waters site. The building contains spaces for a mixed use of public, education and maritime facilities, within the historic and new addition.
- 2 Opened by Welsh Government's Education Cabinet Secretary, Kirsty Williams, in November 2017, Ysgol Awel Y Mynydd is a new £8.8m school for 420 primary children. Built by Read Construction, the development provides nursery facilities, group rooms and terraces for different learning environments.
- 3 Pentre Canol Supported Living Village for Grwp Cynefin provides affordable extra care living apartments close to Denbigh. The scheme, which received Planning approval early 2017, emphasises the importance of neighbourhood living within a dementia friendly, communal environment.
- 4 The completed courtyard landscape design at the Williamson Art Gallery in Birkenhead provides a new outside 'Green Gallery' as an addition to the existing internal gallery spaces. The space is fully accessible and contains seasonal architectural planting.
- 5 The Laureates housing scheme consists of 211 new houses on a site in Cockermouth. We have worked with Lovell to design the site layout and houses, including external spaces, for this challenging site in Cumbria.
- 6 Planning permission was granted for an 800m² extension to Coleg Cambria's existing 'Centre of Engineering Excellence' building. It provides improved facilities for engineering students, a new workshop for apprentices and upgraded teacher training spaces.
- 7 Ysgol Llanfair in Ruthin is a brand new nursery, infants and junior's school for Denbighshire County Council. Working alongside Contractor Wynne Construction, modern methods of construction including Structurally Insulated Panels have been selected to ensure quality and efficiency.
- 8 The almost complete Mitre Street project in Burnley for Calico, provides a 30 bed residential scheme for the homeless. The building also contains facilities; training rooms, medical support and external amenity.
- 9 Redevelopment of Aberystwyth Town Football Club's Astroturf Pitch into affordable one and two bedroom apartments improves the riverside walk and football ground facilities. Commissioned by Tai Ceredigion, the 33 units attract investment, close to local amenities.

