“And did those feet in ancient time”  
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PAST

Few people could have foreseen, as William Blake did, that the Cottage Industries – when products and services had personalities and were ingrained into the community economy – would be swept into mass extinct by the centralisation, standardisation and timeclock discipline of the industrial revolution.

PRESENT

Many citizens struggle to find the quality time and space they crave between long and expensive commutes, childcare and long working hours. It is common to feel isolated and desperate for visions that put human happiness front and centre.

As we stand on the verge of we have the luxury of history to learn from and the curse of chaos to work with.

FUTURE

Growing voices for strong communities and decentralisation demand something both traditional and inclusive.

- The construction industry can offer citizen support for sustainability in the elements of modern life; such as childcare, office spaces and leisure pursuits.
- Drawing from society’s debate, our industry should be designing these elemental spaces.
- This can be blended with a new social contract with the government, industry and society to identify and provide a new, less oppressive version of how we rest, work and play.
- The right mixed-use spaces that will support flourishing families and build local economies so that communities can grow while decentralise the country from London’s heavy gravity.

The construction industry can lead us to the landscape against which we will live.

Engineers have the power to start painting this new vision for our society.