

11/13

Sub-File

ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENTBUILDING COMMITTEEMinutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 13th June, 1961

Members present: Mr. T. B. Le Cren (Chairman)
Mr. J. E. Bown
Mr. G. W. Dixon
Mr. N. N. Ferguson
Mr. R. M. Fishenden
Dr. J. E. M. Johnston
Mr. J. Raby
Mr. D. C. Wall - Secretary

Also present were: Mr. K. Bloomfield for item 2(a)
Mr. T. D. Martin - General Engineering Services
Dr. J. Thewlis for item 4
Mr. J. K. Thornton - S.W.O.
Col. N. Wilson - S.W.O.

1. Minutes of the last meeting - BC(61)24

Minute 3(iii). The following should be added "The Committee queried the cost of redecoration but it was explained that the terrapins had not been redecorated for a very long time and this was now necessary".

Subject to this amendment the minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

2(a) Solid State Physics Division Building in the Reactor Area (Min. 2)

The Chairman reported that the R.G.M.B. had approved the scheme subject to the clearance of certain points. One point concerned allowances, provision for which had been made in both the Architects and Engineers estimates in addition to provision for C.V.C.2. The Chairman accepted the Southern Works Organisation's contention that allowances of 10% on Architects and Engineers were reasonable. The allowances on the Solid State Building would accordingly be reduced from £5,500 to £4,400 making a total approval of £52,400 inclusive of furnishing and fittings but exclusive of fees.

There was considerable discussion of the various stages of estimating for this building and it was agreed that (i) in order to prevent misunderstandings in future it was desirable that written estimates should be obtained from S.W.O. where they were to be used in R.G.M.B. or other papers and (ii) copies of Harwell Council and R.G.M.B. papers relating to Building work to be undertaken by S.W.O. would be sent to S.W.O. so that they might be aware of the estimates quoted and have an opportunity of commenting on them.

2(b) Building 451.7 for Heavy Water Storage and Reconcentration Plant (Min. 5)

The Chairman reported that the Director and the Chief Engineer had agreed that the scheme should go ahead subject to detailed consideration by Mr. Fishenden's Working Party.

Mr. Fishenden said he understood that Mr. Wood wished to take advantage of the move to improve the efficiency of the plant at a cost (including its transfer) of approximately £2,500. The Committee agreed that since this was work which would have been necessary fairly soon, irrespective of any transfer, it could be approved separately by the Chief Engineer. Mr. Ferguson questioned the need for a new building, if the case was based on the size of the area occupied by the plant and drum storage and on the convenience of having the plant on the Reactor Site, but Mr. Bown explained that long term planning to make the best use of space and facilities, rather than the immediate expediency,

was the kernel of the case.

It was agreed that the scheme should be considered by Mr. Fishenden's Working Party in conjunction with the proposals for Building 401.1 (item 4). Unless the detailed examination raised major matters of principle, the Chairman agreed to recommend the proposals to the Director.

2(c) Additional Temporary Accommodation, Reactor Area (Min. 3)

Mr. Thornton reported that existing terrapins already fouled the proposed drains. The drains had, therefore, been replanned (without additional expense) so that existing and proposed terrapins would not be disturbed.

2(d) Temporary Laboratory for Reactor School (Min. 6)

Mr. Fishenden reported that it had been decided to meet the security requirement by a wall.

3. Source Exposure Building BC(61)25

Dr. Johnston presented a paper seeking siting approval for the Source Exposure building (previously considered by the Committee in November 1960 BC(60)52). After discussion the Committee agreed that the siting of the Source Exposure Building could vitally affect other buildings (principally for the Metallurgy Division) which might be required in the area, and could not be considered in isolation. Mr. Dixon was asked to prepare in liaison with the interested parties a sketch plan of possible building and road development involved, for the next Directorate meeting.

4. Proposed Conversion of Building 401 for Engineering and Metallurgy Division BC(61)27

Mr. Bown and Dr. Thewlis presented a paper seeking approval for the adaptation of Building 401 for the use of Engineering and Metallurgy Divisions for which the token estimate of cost was £11,000. An additional £2,000 was also sought for the adaptation of Building 9.3 to meet the needs of the Production Group.

After discussion the scheme was referred to Mr. Fishenden's Working Party for detailed examination. It was agreed that, unless the detailed examination revealed unexpected problems, the Chairman would recommend the proposals to the Director and if the scheme was approved, an I.T.P. could be issued, on the understanding that building work would not start until a firm estimate had been received by the Finance Branch.

Any Other Business

Mr. Fishenden asked whether there was sufficient liaison between the Committee and the N.I.R.N.S. Building Committee on matters of common interest such as fences, roads, services etc.

The Chairman was asked to write to the National Institute suggesting an exchange of minutes.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 11.00 a.m. on the 11th July, 1961, in the Conference Room, Cockcroft Hall.

D. C. WALL
Secretary

Finance Branch,
Building 329.

16th June, 1961
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