

DIRECTOR'S BUILDING COMMITTEEMinutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th June, 1962.

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. D. C. Wall - Secretary

Also present: Mr. V. G. Birchall for items 3 and 4
Mr. J. N. Hull for item 2 (h)
Mr. T. D. Martin - W.E.G.
Mr. J. Raby - Finance
Mr. J. K. Thornton - S.W.O.

Apologies for absence were received from Col. N. Wilson.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th May, 1962

Amendments:- (i) Min. 2 (h) for the sentence commencing "It was stressed " substitute "and had been discussed by the Fire Precautions Sub-committee as an idea only and had been rejected by them".

NOTE: The Fire Precautions Sub-committee subsequently approved the scheme subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) that it was steam heated,
- (b) lined with asbestos,
- (c) had wire netting around the base to prevent the accumulation of refuse and
- (d) was for temporary use only and reviewed annually.

(ii) Min. 3 line 3 for "then" substitute "than".

Subject to these amendments the minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

(a) Proposed New Plutonium Store (Min. 2 (a))

Mr. Ferguson had nothing to report on the criticality alarm system but would report at the next meeting.

(b) Additional Storage and Transport Shed in Building 462 Area (Min. 2 (d))

Mr. Thornton stated that the tenders were in but the report was not yet completed. Because the work was to be done on a package deal he expected the costs to be about £8,000 excluding fees made up:-

	£
Building and civil	7,000
Mechanical and electrical	1,000
	8,000

JKT

Mr. Thornton was requested to circulate the report to members of the Committee as soon as it was completed.

(c) Improvements to Main Gate Car Park (Min. 2 (e))

Mr. Thornton reported that the tenders were in and being examined. The cost was estimated to be about £1,500. An I.T.P. had been issued and a report on tenders would be made at the next meeting.

(d) Allowance factors in estimates and area costs (Min. 2 (f))

The revised paper would be presented at the next meeting.

(e) Sub-standard Accommodation - Review of Demolition Programme (Min. 4)

Mr. Martin stated that because of a 40% decrease in the staff of electrical contractors on site the accommodation asked for and approved was no longer urgently required.

It was reported that the possibility of storing the equipment manuals in the Library had not yet been examined. If the necessary accommodation was not available in the Library and there-use of Building 60/T was not approved (the Committee considering it undesirable to retain sub-standard accommodation in use) it would be necessary to look elsewhere.

NNF

It was agreed that Mr. Ferguson would report back at the next meeting.

(f) Siting of Contractors' Area (Min. 5)

It was reported that Chivers were co-operating and tidying up their site.

Mr. Dixon stated that he would be meeting other contractors to obtain their co-operation in the exercise also.

(g) Variable Energy Cyclotron Project, Building 540 (Min. 6)

Mr. Bown reported that consideration had been given to constructing a regional store in conjunction with the cyclotron building; only one site was available to the west of the change rooms and this provided a floor area well down on that required.

Mr. Ferguson was now looking at other possible sites e.g. attached to the Analytical Chemistry Building. Mr. Thornton requested that S.W.O. be informed as early as possible if it was decided to use the latter site as the design of the Analytical Chemistry Building would have to allow for the store.

Mr. Bown referred to a suggestion made by Mr. Viney at the R.G.M.B. meeting that the possibility of erecting the cyclotron buildings capable of supporting another storey of laboratory accommodation should be considered. Mr. Bown pointed out that while it would be useful to know the order of costs involved it was unlikely that funds would be available for this additional work, no formal request had been made for this possibility to be examined and it should not be taken at this stage as a basis for planning.

GWD

Mr. Dixon agreed to clear this point with Mr. Viney.

In answer to Mr. Fishenden, Mr. Thornton stated that provision was being made in the plans for car parking around the building.

(h) Extension to the Reactor School (Min. 7)

The Committee considered a paper setting out the results of discussions between Mr. Fishenden, Reactor School personnel and S.W.O.

During discussion the following points were made:-

- (i) although the cost of all the phases was not available, Mr. Hull estimated it to be in excess of £40,000;
- (ii) there was considerable merit in having a multi-phase scheme with each phase complete in itself. The school's programme was developing continuously; the nature of the courses affected the programme considerably and as time passed it would be possible to make a better assessment of the demand on the school; the £40,000 approved at Stage I need not be regarded as an inflexible upper limit;
- (iii) Mr. Fishenden considered the proposal was a satisfactory one; it included the erection of a study in the courtyard, a new entrance hall, a laboratory and rooms for a sodium rig and an organic moderator heat transfer rig. He had one reservation to make however on the study, which it was intended to make into a lecture room in the next phase of the school's expansion. This could not be justified absolutely on Reactor School needs since it would not often be used to its full

capacity because of the gradually falling numbers of students attending the long courses. It had, however, been agreed at a working party meeting under the chairmanship of the Director on the 26th September, 1961 that "if it could be provided at slight additional cost it would be a useful site amenity". The Conference room in the proposed extension to Building 220 would seat 120 and there was a need on site for a conference room seating 60.

- (iv) the Fire Committee should examine the proposal;
- (v) work on the Reactor School could only be done when courses were not being held. It was imperative that building should begin as soon as possible.
- (vi) it might not be possible to complete all of phase I by August and the remainder might have to be delayed until Christmas or next summer.

GWD

The Chairman stated that something had to be done for the Reactor School as quickly as possible. It was, therefore, agreed that, subject to clearance by the Fire Committee an I.T.P. for £20,000 should be issued to S.W.O. and that Mr. Dixon should report back to the Chairman before commencing the work.

3. Road Improvements near Contractors Entrance to A.E.R.E. Site - BC(62)34

Mr. Birchall presented a paper seeking approval for the expenditure of £8,500, excluding fees, on making permanent the road layout marked with straw bales at the east end of Fermi Avenue and tidying up the road from the A.34 to the Library Gate.

Mr. Fishenden suggested that the scheme should be considered in the light of the development of the A.34, which in turn was affected by the South Wales Motorway. He suggested that rubber posts should be used to define the roadway.

Mr. Bown asked whether there was any possibility that long term development would involve putting the main entrance to the site on the south side.

After further discussion the Chairman said that he would consult the Director and while recommending that the proposals be approved would report that the Committee was divided regarding the advisability of spending £8,500 on this area while its longer term development was in doubt. He would also mention the possibility of using rubber posts.

4. Review of Car Parks on A.E.R.E. Main Site - BC(62)35

The Committee considered a paper setting out the results of a review of parking facilities on the site. The number of spaces available was 1180 and on the two days of the review, 1st and 2nd May the total number of vehicles parked was 924 and 904 respectively.

The Committee agreed that

- (i) there was no justification for constructing additional car parks on the site;
- (ii) existing parking space should cater for the new Canteen.

The Committee did not comment on recommendations (a), (b) and (c) in BC(62)35 as these were administrative matters.

5. Development of Electricity Supply System - New Substation to feed area South of Becquerel Avenue - BC(62)22

Mr. Martin presented a paper seeking approval for the provision of a new substation to feed the proposed new buildings between Becquerel and Fermi Avenues at an estimated cost of £23,500 excluding fees.

The development of the road layout in the area needed to be watched carefully.

The Committee recommended that stage II approval be given to the proposal at a cost not exceeding £23,500, but asked that Mr. Martin consider other uses for the cycle shelter area, and on behalf of the Director, the Chairman authorised the remission of the proposal to the R.G.M.B. for stage III approval.

TDM

6. Directors Building Committee Approvals - BC(62)33

The Committee considered and agreed the proposed form of wording for Building Committee approvals.

DCW It was suggested, however, that an additional one be added to cover those cases on which the Director's technical advice was needed.

7. Proposed Contractors' Area for the Building Section Term Contractors - BC(62)36

On behalf of the Director and on the Committee's recommendation, the Chairman gave siting approval for the contractors' area, described as area 'A' on the plan tabled at the meeting.

In addition the Committee requested that the contractors' area behind building 351 should be cleaned up being a valuable site for future development.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8. Solid State Physics Building 521.2

Mr. Fishenden reported that Dr. Lomer was concerned about the programme for the new building for his division. He had accepted with reluctance the decision that his building should be attached to building 521.1 and considered that his requirement should have at least equal priority with the Research Reactors scheme.

Mr. Thornton said the building was due to start in May 1962 and be completed in February 1963 but so far no start had been made. Chivers had, however, not said that the completion date would not be met and under the contract should use a labour force distinct from that employed on 521.1.

GWD It was agreed that Mr. Dixon would, as a matter of urgency, discuss the scheme's programme with Chivers and report back to the Chairman.

9. Building Programme

In answer to the Chairman, Mr. Dixon reported that S.W.O. were meeting the programme as laid down in the five year building programme; £500,000 would be spent in the current financial year and A.E.R.E. was providing all the planning information required by S.W.O. to enable this target to be achieved.

10. Extension to Building 220

The Chairman reported that the Harwell Council had asked that the scheme should be re-examined and that preference should be given to extensions physically connected with building 220.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10th July, 1962 at 11.00 a.m. in the Conference Room, Cockcroft Hall.

D. C. Wall
Secretary

Finance Branch,
Building 329.
Ext. 2783.

20th June, 1962.