

Director's Building Committee

MIRNS

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 9th October, 1962Present:- Mr. R. M. Fishenden - Chairman

Mr. J. E. Bown

Mr. D. J. Crabb

Mr. G. W. Dixon

Mr. N. N. Ferguson

Dr. J. E. Johnston

Mr. A. Cook - Secretary

Also present:

Mr. J. Holl (for item 5)

Mr. P. I. Kent (for item 4)

Mr. T. D. Martin - W.E.G.

Mr. C. G. Shaw - S.W.O.

Mr. S. J. Snowden (for item 3)

Mr. J. Williams (for item 3)

Col. N. Wilson - S.W.O.

11/13

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Le Cren and Mr. Thornton.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

(a) Dr. Stubbs had submitted an amendment to item 7, which should read:
"The alterations were explained, and the cost was said to be about £25,000 for the new building, plus £10,000 for the internal modifications mentioned in the Harwell Council Paper (HC(62)37)" (Para. (1) Sentence (2)).

(b) Item 3, final paragraph. Mr. Martin said that £300 was not an accurate figure for the cost of the road widening.

2. Matters Arising

(a) Road Improvements near the Contractor's Entrance to A.E.R.E. site (Min. 2(b)).

Mr. Fishenden reported that the Director had recommended widening of the road, and dividing it to make a dual carriageway. The kerbing could be dispensed with where the road was level with the adjoining ground but additional expenditure might be incurred in providing lighting which would be necessary with dual carriageway. Mr. Ferguson asked for an immediate allowance of £100 for marking out of the road by S.W.O. This was agreed and Mr. Ferguson agreed to report back at the next meeting with regised proposals incorporating the points raised by the Director.

(b) Proposed Contractors Area for Term Contractors (Min. 2(c)).

Mr. Dixon said that he would present a paper at the next meeting covering all requirements by contractors (including those for W.E.G.) for space on site.

(c) Road widening and car parking outside the Reactor School (Min. 3)

Mr. Fishenden said that the Director had not approved the building of a car park in view of the present financial climate. It was agreed that Mr. Martin should check the costs of road widening, and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

(d) Cost per square and cubic foot of various types of buildings (Min. 5(a))

Mr. Dixon said that, because of the difficulty of comparing like with like, he was not happy about comparisons being made with his figures, but it was agreed to defer discussion until the next committee meeting, when Mr. Le Cren would be present.

(e) Extension to Building 220, Offices and Conference Room (Min. 7)

Mr. Fishenden said that the plans for the extension to building 220 had been approved by the Harwell Council, and would now go to the R.G.M.B. Modifications to Building 393 - BC(62)48

3. Mr. Snowden presented a paper seeking approval for the expenditure of £3,520 on the conversion of 1500 sq. ft. in building 393, which would relieve the present overcrowding in an area which was causing concern to the Divisional Safety Committee through high voltage equipment etc.

During discussion the following points were made:-

(i) Mr. Martin confirmed that the amount of £3,520 was a firm estimate;

- (ii) the scheme appeared to be an economical one;
- (iii) as small quantities of radioactive materials would be used in the area the scheme should be examined by Health Physics and Medical Division.

The Committee recommended that approval be given to the proposal at a cost not exceeding £3,520 subject to clearance by Health Physics and Medical Division. On behalf of the Director, the Chairman authorised an I.T.P. to be issued as soon as this clearance had been given.

- Building to house radioactive cobalt sources for non-destructive testing
4. Mr. Kent presented a paper seeking approval for the expenditure of £4,300 on the construction of a concrete building to house radioactive cobalt sources for non-destructive testing by gamma radiography to replace the existing building S.36 which was due for demolition in January, 1963.

During discussion the following points were made:-

- (i) No suitable existing building was available
- (ii) the cost of moving and reusing the concrete blocks from the existing building would be as much as erecting a new building: there would be no appreciable saving in erecting the blocks inside an existing building;
- (iii) the floor area of the proposed new building was within 5% of that of the existing building;
- (iv) the token estimate of £4,300 could now be regarded as firm.

The Committee recommended that approval be given to the proposal at a cost not exceeding £4,300 and on behalf of the Director, the Chairman authorised an I.T.P. to be issued.

5. Provision of cycle and motor-cycle shed, Building 220-BC(62)51

Mr. Holl presented a paper seeking siting approval for:-

- (i) the erection of a cycle and motor-cycle shelter at the North of building 220 on the East side of the approach road and
- (ii) the removal of the watchkeeper's hut from the East to the West side of the approach road.

He stated that if the proposal was agreed, a Divisional circular would be issued to prohibit the parking of cycles at the entrance of building 220.

On behalf of the Director and on the Committee's recommendation, the Chairman gave siting approval to the proposal.

6. Provision of Additional Lock-up garages on Main Housing Estate at Wantage BC(62)49

Mr. Ferguson presented a paper seeking approval for the erection of 38 garages on the main housing estate at Wantage at an estimated cost of £7,600; the increase of £400 on the cost given in the paper was to enable the provision of lighting and power points in certain of the garages. The work was to be carried out by W.E.G. as the proposal was in fact the aggregate of a number of smaller schemes as follows:-

	<u>Total cost</u>	<u>Cost each</u>
6 garages in a block	£ 672	£112
8 garages in a block	£1,440	£180
4 garages in a block	£ 826	£206
12 garages in pairs	£2,760	£230
8 garages in pairs	£1,880	£235
	<u>£7,578</u>	

The rent would be 8/6d. per week calculated on the agreed formula.

During discussion the following points were made:-

- (i) economy might be achieved by the use of prefabricated garages although in certain situations planning permission might prove difficult;
- (ii) certain of the garages were expensive because of the long access drives and forecourts that were necessary and the sloping sites involved additional excavation;
- (iii) the present specification provided for concrete drives on hardcore foundation and it was possible that there were cheaper and equally durable alternatives;
- (iv) as an amenity scheme London Office approval would be necessary.

The Committee agreed that the possibility of economies by the use of prefabricated garages and other means should be investigated by Mr. Martin and S.W.O. and that a revised paper should be submitted to the next meeting incorporating their findings and giving a firm's estimate together with explanations of the factors causing the high costs.

7. Any Other Business

- (a) Mr. Dixon said that in response to a query by the Chairman no details of progress on building 521.2 were available, but that he would report the position to the Chairman.
- (b) Proposed retention of Romney Building in New Contractors Area, West of fuel storage area (Min. 6 of 10th July, 1962)

Mr. Martin said that he wished to retain the Romney building, to be renovated at a cost of approximately £120, for concrete casting and joinery jobs by contractors on site.

After some discussion, it was recommended that the hut should be renovated and retained, and Mr. Ferguson was asked to consult with the Grounds Committee about the possibility of trees being planted in this area.

- (c) Division of Responsibility between S.W.O. and W.E.G.

Arising out of a point raised by the Chairman on item 4, there was some discussion of the division of responsibility between S.W.O. and W.E.G. for new building work on site. It was explained that schemes of up to £1,000 were the responsibility of W.E.G., above £50,000 they were the responsibility of S.W.O. and between £1,000 and £50,000 the responsibility was settled by mutual agreement on the basis of the circumstances relating to each scheme. Mr. Dixon confirmed that the operation of these arrangements was entirely satisfactory so far as S.W.O. was concerned.

The next meeting will be held on 6th November, 1962 at 11. a.m. in the Conference Room of the Cockcroft Hall.

A. Cook
Secretary.

Finance Branch,
Building 329.
Ext. 2783.

16th October, 1962.