

Mr P Bowles

RLBC/M 51

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE

Rutherford Laboratory Building Committee

11/13

Minutes of the Meeting held in No.4 Conference Room Building R.1. on Monday 4th March, 1963.

Present: Mr. P. Bowles Chairman  
Mr. K. Choate  
Mr. A. L. Guthbert  
Mr. G. W. Dixon  
Mr. A. H. Fryer  
Mr. J. A. Goode  
Mr. G. M. Harbert  
Mr. D. A. Harrison  
Mr. J. C. Louth  
Mr. J. A. Nott  
Mr. G. E. Simmonds  
Mr. M. Snowden  
Dr. J. J. Valentine  
Mr. W. W. Woodall  
Mr. E. W. Young Secretary

1. Minutes of the previous meeting - RLBC/M50

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 4th February were accepted, subject to the following correction:-  
Minute 6 para. 2. delete this paragraph and substitute  
"Mr. Harbert advised that services for R.33 must be provided independent of these installed for R.25, since any scope for increase in the latter must be reserved for R.25.

2. Lectures Theatre

Mr. Harbert reported that the drawings had been amended to include the acoustic resistance. The vent duct drawings are in process of being amended and in the meantime excavation has been commenced on site. Because of loss of time in recent severe weather the completion date is amended to 31.12.63.

3. Cooling Water Plant for R.25

Mr. Nott said that after some minor hitches the demineralised water system is being filled for test today - following this the lagging will be ready for use. Mr. Goode was asked to guard against frost damage to the system in the intervening period.

4. D.C. Power Supplies for R.25

Mr. Harbert reported on noise level tests carried out to ascertain the relative merits of using rotary machines or static rectifiers in this scheme. The tests show that there is no serious nuisance to be expected from this source and it will be acceptable to house the plant in a brick building. The suggested site is near the corner formed by the east wall of R.25 Heavy Laboratory and the south wall of R.25 office block link building.

The chairman will consider this siting with a quorum of members before the next meeting.

5. Electronics Laboratory and Office Block R.33

Mr. Choate told the meeting that tenders for this project are due in on April 9th. Mr. Woodall explained the need for some changes in the lay-out and fitment of the ground floor which is now required to be set out as light laboratories.

Mr. Choate

The question of transfer of land from AERE to the Institute, to provide for this building with its services and access roads has not yet been resolved AERE is prepared to transfer only the minimum required for this project and Mr. Choate agreed to produce a plan on these lines for consideration by that establishment.

Mr. Woodall  
Mr. Choate

Mr. Woodall was asked to agree with Mr. Choate an amended AR 12 to provide for the laboratory suites and other requirements arising out of the changed function of the ground floor. An electronics specialist should be co-opted to assist in this.

6. Steam Meter Chamber

Mr. Bowles

The Committee is not yet satisfied that the proposed siting of this chamber is the best possible. The Chairman mentioned that it may be expedient to arrange for ATLAS Laboratory Supplies to be metered here in addition to Rutherford Laboratory consumption. He further suggested that AERE, as the supplier might be expected to pay the cost of meters and their installation. It was felt that these questions can only be resolved by consultation with AERE and the Chairman will pursue the matter with that body.

7. Mercury Maintenance Block

Mr. Louth produced a paper RLBC/P103 and explained that this scheme is intended to meet the safety requirements, shortly to become obligatory in law, associated with maintenance work on mercury plant.

The committee discussed the scheme at length, both as to its siting and the facilities it purports to provide.

Mr. Bowles decided that before financial approval is sought we must be satisfied that there is no cheaper way of acquiring these maintenance facilities for example it may be possible to arrange a contract with a firm already engaged in this work. Mr. Cuthbert suggested a possible liaison with AERE and Culham Laboratory and other similar possibilities were offered for consideration.

It was ultimately agreed that the Chairman, Mr. Louth and other selected members will meet at the earliest possible date to examine all aspects of the project and endeavour to formulate firm proposals in time for the next meeting.

8. Experimental Area Extension

Mr. Choate reported that he is waiting for further information from Design Group regarding the requirements of the refrigeration plant room. Negotiations with the British Oxygen Company are still in progress and it is anticipated that the results of this will be available at the next meeting.

9. Minor Works Orders to 28.2.63. (P104)

- The schedule of minor works orders for February was then examined.
- (1) The chairman questioned the costing of Sanction 790 M.W. 2068 for "Relining with 'Opponel RA' of the concrete trade waste sump" Mr. Nott explained that this was a treatment to render the surface of the concrete impervious to liquids, but the work included some preparation and filling-in before the Opponel R.A. could be applied.

Mr. Choate  
Mr. Harrison

The Chairman asked Mr. Choate and Mr. Harrison to investigate and to establish that this expense is justified.

- (2) The total expenditure for the year ended 28.2.63. on minor works orders was considered by the committee and the chairman asked for figures or graphs to be prepared showing the trend in this form of expenditure since the laboratory was set up, both in the case of minor works orders by S.W.O. and by our own staff. Mr. Woodall undertook to arrange this.

Mr. Woodall

10. Matters Arising

(1) The chairman asked for a statement of overtime worked during the past month and gave instructions that hereafter such a statement is to be prepared at two-monthly intervals, in order that a close control may be exercised on this factor of building costs.

(2) The chairman then displayed a drawing showing a proposed treatment for the water cooling towers Building R.11 to improve its appearance. The meeting agreed that it is an attractive scheme if it proves to be feasible from the point of view of materials and available time to carry it out in shut down periods (since it could not be done when the plant is operating due to the surfaces to be treated being water soaked). Mr. Dixon was asked to develop the scheme.

Mr. Dixon

11. Progress on Existing Schemas

The question of priorities on the various projects came up for discussion. It was agreed that to avoid errors in allocation Mr. Cuthbert must be given clear details of our requirements in this respect, particularly when a new allocation will have the effect of changing the current order of priorities.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in No.4 Conference Room Building R.1., on Monday 1st April at 9.00 a.m.

E. W. YOUNG  
Secretary

Building R.20,  
Rutherford Laboratory

7th March, 1963