

Mr P Bowles

RLBC/H.52

Rutherford Laboratory Building Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in No.4 Conference Room, Building R.1 on Monday,
1st April, 1963

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|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| <u>Present:</u> | Mr. P. Bowles | Chairman |
| | Mr. G. W. Dixon | |
| | Mr. J. C. Louth | |
| | Mr. A. Miller | |
| | Mr. M. Snowden | |
| | Dr. J. M. Valentine | |
| | Mr. G. N. Venn | |
| <u>In Attendance:</u> | Mr. K. H. Choate | |
| | Mr. A. H. Fryer | |
| | Mr. J. A. Goode | |
| | Mr. H. Hadley | |
| | Mr. G. H. Harbert | |
| | Mr. D. A. Harrison | |
| | Mr. J. A. Nott | |
| | Mr. G. E. Simmonds | |
| | Dr. G. H. Stafford | |
| | Mr. W. W. Woodall | |
| | Mr. E. W. Young | Secretary |

1. The minutes of the previous meeting RLBC/51

These were accepted subject to the following corrections:

- (a) "Present" - add Mr. A. Miller.
- (b) Minute 1 "Minutes of the previous meeting RLBC/H.50"
The corrected entry beginning "Mr. Harbert advised"
should read as follows:- "Mr. Harbert wished to record
that since at a previous meeting it was agreed to provide
services for R.33 from the mains to R.25 instead of
providing new mains for R.33, there will be no scope in
the future for extensions of these services to either
building".
- (c) Minute 2 "Lecture Theatre" line 2 after "acoustic" delete
"resistance" and substitute "treatment".
- (d) Minute 3 "Cooling Water Plant for R.25" lines 2 and 3
delete from "following ... to ... use" and substitute
"... after test the system will be lagged and then the
plant will be ready for use".
- (e) Minute 9 "Minor Works Orders to 28.2.63 (P.104)" para.(2)
penultimate line, delete "Mr. Woodall" and substitute
"Mr. Simmonds".

2. New Items

To meet the needs of several officers in attendance to keep other appointments, the chairman agreed to deal next with new projects which were offered for consideration.

- (1) Proposed Link Road from NLEROD Experimental Hall to Parasitic Area and Tunnel 8 (P.108). Mr. Venn presented this scheme and tabled Sketch SWO.1123 showing the proposed work.

Since the scheme involves the demolition of certain temporary toilet

Mr. Louth

facilities and contractors huts, after some discussion the chairman asked Mr. Louth to look into the whole question of the temporary accommodation and possible future toilet requirements in this area.

The Chairman was concerned about the cost of the scheme and took the meeting through each breakdown item to see if any economies might be possible.

Dr. Stafford said that future extension of the experimental area would call for considerable re-siting of drains and some re-shaping of the mound in the area affected by this scheme. Mr. Choate agreed this and also that a great deal of the drainage and excavation work required in this scheme could be carried out in such a way as to effect handsome economies in the future extension scheme.

Mr. Choate said that where possible the sides of any cuttings would be angled so as to obviate the need for expensive retaining walls and that all possible savings would be effected in the choice of materials.

Dr. Stafford
Mr. Venn
Mr. Louth
Mr. Choate

The chairman called for early action to reconsider the scheme in the light of possible changes in design of drains and provision of toilet facilities, and for the scheme to be related as far as possible to the requirements of any future scheme to extend the experimental area, so that all possible economy may be achieved in the present scheme, and that as much as possible of the work now involved may be related to future needs.

He decided to call an early meeting of the members involved to further this action.

- (2) Heavy Plant Store. Mr. Goode presented this paper and explained that the scheme is designed to meet the needs of storage space for heavy equipment currently on order and to be provisioned later for the experimental area.

Dr. Valentine summarised the overall requirements of storage space and explained that there is a possibility of obtaining a lease of a stores shed at Didcot. If this was achieved the proposal would be to move part of the equipment currently stored in R.24 to Didcot, and use the space thus released for a metal cutting shop and a Receipts Despatch and Issues Section of the Stores Organisation. The extent to which this is possible would depend on the availability of outside storage, but it is apparent that the Plant Store as called for in the new scheme would certainly not satisfy all our requirements.

The chairman then examined the design of the store in some detail, and general discussion took place on the questions of the desirable crane loading, hook height, overhead clearance, floor area, etc. Mr. Harbert said that the dimensions and proportions of the Plant Store as set out in the sketch appeared to be approaching the ideal but some members of the committee were not entirely satisfied that there was a need to provide for such heavy equipment as the designed facilities could handle.

Mr. Louth
Mr. Goode

The scheme was approved in principle but the chairman asked that further consideration be given to the crane loading, hook height, space heating and services, and mentioned that the minimum provision should apply in the last two.

- (3) Low Background Laboratory for Radiation Protection, P.107
This scheme was introduced by Mr. Snowden who explained that it forms a part of a future project to convert a spur of Building R.20 to a Radiation Protection Laboratory.

The scheme was discussed at length and approval was given for it to go to project estimate stage in time for consideration at the next meeting.

3. Lecture Theatre (Agenda Item 2). Work is proceeding on this project.

Mr. Nott 4. Cooling Water Plant for R.25 (Agenda Item 3). Mr. Nott reported that this building is not yet handed over, but should be ready for handover by the end of April. The chairman asked Mr. Nott to progress this action.

Mr. Harbert 5. D.C. Power Supplies for R.25 (Agenda Item 4). Mr. Hadley spoke about this scheme and said that the requirement had been confirmed. The chairman said that the scheme will involve implementation of the provisions of Paper P.77. Mr. Harbert was requested to bring up to date the estimates made in that scheme. The Chairman stated his intention of convening a quorum of interested parties to examine the scheme before the next meeting.

Mr. Bowles

6. Electronics Laboratory and Office Block R.33 (Agenda Item 5). Mr. Choate asked if it is now in order to fence off the piece of land for which we have requested transfer from A.E.R.E. Dr. Valentine reported that we have not yet had formal agreement for the transfer and suggested that no fencing be carried out yet. This was agreed.

Mr. Woodall Mr. Goode and Mr. Woodall have discussed with Mr. Hancock the layout of the proposed light laboratories on the ground floor of the new building and have agreed a revised AR.12. The chairman asked to see a sketch of the proposed layout when ready.

Mr. Goode Mr. Miller asked Mr. Choate for an estimate of the proportion of the total cost of the project which would be expended in the current financial year. Mr. Choate replied that if work commenced on 1st September as was hoped expenditure would be about 25% of the whole. Mr. Harrison asked if the changes in lay-out on the ground floor would delay the completion of the project and Mr. Choate replied that it should not.

Mr. Dixon 7. Steam Meter Chamber (Agenda Item 6). The chairman said that the question of the siting of this meter chamber has been referred to A.E.R.E. as has also the question of cost of the meters and their installation. Mr. Dixon said that he is to attend the next meeting of the A.E.R.E. Building Committee and hopes to clear these points. The chairman asked him to consider whether or not the chamber should be constructed below ground level. Mr. Dixon thought that provided due care was paid to the external appearance of the building it would be quite acceptable above ground.

8. Mercury Maintenance Block (Agenda Item 7). The chairman reported that this project had been further considered by interested parties since the previous meeting. Mr. Harbert said that he had witnessed the stripping of a rectifier to assist in assessment of space requirements and other facilities set out in RIBC/P.103. It was apparent that both rectifiers and vacuum pumps would take up considerable space in their handling and servicing with all necessary safety measures.

Mr. Louth mentioned that Brown Boveri were unable to advise of any servicing facilities of this kind in this country and that Edwards High Vacuum do not appear to have facilities of the level required in the new regulations.

The chairman said that we must be quite sure that in approving this scheme we are not overlooking a cheaper way of obtaining the service, and that further checks are to be made by the sponsors.

Mr. Harbert said that consideration had been given to a watering down of the project, perhaps by the use of fume cupboards but this had been ruled out of court when he had watched the stripping of the rectifier. However, other investigations were being made and he hoped to have something to report in two weeks or so.

Mr. Choate 9. Experimental Area Extension (Agenda Item 8). Mr. Choate said he is still waiting for further details from Design Group and for price quotation from British Oxygen Co. He will check again with both parties.

Mr. Walker

10. (1) Minor Works Orders to 28.2.55 (P.104).

- (a) Referring to Item 9 of the previous Minutes, Mr. Choate and Mr. Harrison said that they had checked on the use of "Opponel RA" and were satisfied that this course is necessary.

Mr. Simmonds

- (b) Mr. Simmonds is not yet ready to provide the data on Minor Works Orders.

(2) Minor Works Orders to 29.3.63 (P.106).

In considering this schedule the following items gave rise to discussion.

M.W.O. No.1182. Mr. Nott explained that this "pipe" was in fact a duct which had failed. The work involved some excavation, removal of felt and concrete, repair of the duct and making good.

M.W.O. No.2075. The surplus materials involved are to be sold.

M.W.O. No.2071. Mr. Hadley explained that the cooling equipment involved had proved to be inadequate. The chairman gave instructions that the original installation is to be checked against the design and specifications to ascertain if any error was made. Mr. Herbert asked for the pump specifications to be passed to him to enable him to check - Mr. Hadley promised to do this.

Mr. Herbert
Mr. Hadley

11. Matters Arising

The Chairman asked for a report on the scheme for treatment of the water cooling towers (Building R.11). Mr. Dixon and Mr. Choate briefly mentioned investigations in progress to find suitable materials, and said that this has not yet been resolved.

12. The progress schedules were then examined and certain items gave rise to special comment.

- (1) Item 30, R.2 Extension. Mr. Nott gave revised completion dates showing the 5-storey section as being dated 31st January, 1964. Mr. Louth and Dr. Valentine expressed concern and explained why early availability of this block is of vital importance in view of the imminent commissioning of MLROD. The Chairman agreed, and said that the forecast delay does not appear to be fully justified by the bad weather shut-down in January and February.

He asked for an early meeting with Mr. Nott to go through the programme for this building with the object of ascertaining whether some responsibility for delay rests with the Contractors.

- (2) Item 56, R.18 Extension. The Chairman called for close attention by all concerned in this project, and said that Mr. Sheldon is to be fully integrated into the team of those responsible for progress on the building and furnishings.

Mr. Hadley
Mr. Sheldon

13. The next meeting is to be held on Monday, 6th May, at 9.00 a.m. in No.4 Conference Room, Building R.1.

E. V. Young
Secretary

Distribution: See list attached