

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

Minutes of the Site and Facilities Committee Meeting held on 8th May 2007 in the Boardroom

Present Bursar (Prof. D.C. Williams) in the Chair, Treasurer (Ms. Grace Dempsey), Dr. David Abrahamson, Prof. John Kelly, Prof. Roger Stalley, Students Union President (Mr. David Quinn), Director of Buildings (Mr. Paul Mangan).

Apologies Dr. J.K. McGinley, Vice Provost (Prof. Ruth Byrne), Prof. Colm O'Morain, Secretary (Mr. Michael Gleeson), Prof. Jagdish Vij

By invitation Dean of Students (Mr. Bruce Misstear).

In Attendance Deputy Director of Buildings (Mr. Pat McDonnell).
Ms. S. Mac Mahon (Executive Officer, Director of Buildings Office).

1. Minutes

SF/06-07/87 – The minutes of the meeting held on 10th April 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendment:

Minute – SF/06-07/77 – Building Management Groups (BMG)
In the third sentence the words 'in train' were changed to 'envisaged'.

Minute – SF/06-07/79 – Pavilion Lift
In the final sentence the word 'that' was changed to 'of'.

2. Matters Arising

A number of matters arising from the minutes were discussed and have been recorded below, (see Minutes **SF/06-07/88** to **SF/06-07/94**).

SF/06-07/88 – Capital Projects Report

The Director of Buildings reported that the Capital Projects Report noted by this Committee on 10th April 2007 was noted by the Finance Committee on 11th April 2007 and Board on 25th April 2007. As directed by SFC the Director of Buildings highlighted minute **SF/06-07/82** to Board and stressed that the lack of funding for projects where planning permission has been granted remains a source of concern. He also stressed to Board the continued requirement for funding for backlog maintenance which is not forthcoming at this time.

SF/06-07/ 89 – Panoz Institute

Referring to minute **SF/06-07/ 68** the Director of Buildings updated the Committee on developments in relation to the issue of compliance with proper work practices in the Panoz Institute. He said that he has written to the Chief Technician of the Genetics Department on this matter, pointing out a number of housekeeping issues. He further advised the Committee that the Buildings Officer has briefed the Chief Technician on his responsibility for keeping clear the floor drains.

The Deputy Director of Buildings advised the Committee that he has received a report from the architect and said that a meeting has taken place with the original builder to discuss addressing the issues with fire safety compliance. A further meeting is to be scheduled with the builders and sub contractors and it is expected that there will be minimal impact on the normal running of the School of Pharmacy in carrying out the necessary priority works.

SF/06-07/90 – Nassau Street Gate

The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that the Nassau Street Perimeter Gate will be accessible by perimeter key shortly.

SF/06-07/91 – Pavilion Lift

The Director of Buildings reported that the DUCAC Executive, at its most recent meeting, approved Option B as per the recommendation by SFC on 10th April 2007. It is now in order to proceed with the preparation of documentation for a Planning Application.

SF/06-07/ 92 – Storage Compound - Landscaping

The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that discussions on landscaping at the location of the College Storage Compound took place at Grounds and Gardens Advisory Committee and said that Dr. David Jeffrey has been commissioned to submit a proposal for landscaping of the surrounding area.

In response to a query the Director of Buildings clarified the reasons for the siting of an ESB transformer and substation beside the O'Reilly Institute.

SF/06-07/ 93 – Lloyd Accessibility Audit

In response to a query the Director of Buildings told the Committee that a revised Accessibility Audit for the Lloyd Institute will be circulated in due course. Revision is required to reflect the extent of compliance with Building Regulations at the time of design of the building. The Director of Buildings undertook to endeavour to prioritise the circulation of this audit.

SF/06-07/ 94 – Buttery Refurbishment

The Deputy Director of Buildings outlined the options examined by the architects in attempting to create an accessible entrance route at the east side and it was deemed that no other option was feasible. The Committee agreed that the architects should persist with the original plan to enhance the existing universally accessible entrance at the west side of the building. It was further agreed that this entrance be improved through upgrading the existing hand rails and doors.

3. Section A

No section A items were circulated.

4. Section B

SF/06-07/ 95 – Cobble Reduction Programme

The Deputy Director of Buildings reported the outcome of the Grounds and Gardens Advisory Committee discussion on Cobble Reduction in Front Square at its meeting on 19th April 2007 stating that the orthogonal option remains its preference, noting however that it is an advisory committee to SFC which is responsible for decisions in this area. After a brief discussion Site and Facilities Committee agreed to progress with Option A and the Director of Buildings undertook to ask the architects to clearly identify the optimal location for the central point in Front Square from which the diagonal routes will begin. The Committee noted that there is still no funding available for this project. At a later discussion it was agreed that funding for this project could be incorporated into an application to the Dublin City Council "Funding Dublin as a Capital Region" initiative.

SF/06-07/ 96 – Space Allocation Policy

The Committee noted a draft Space Allocation Policy dated 2nd May 2007 circulated by the Director of Buildings. It was agreed that a second draft will be circulated to the next meeting of the Committee in June for approval, incorporating comments / suggestions from members.

The following changes will be made to the proposal:

- 1) Throughout the document the word 'Department' will be preceded by the word 'Service' where appropriate.
- 2) On page 4 under item 4.6 the word 'Division' will be changed to 'Discipline'.

It was agreed that clarification is required in a number of sections of the draft and the Director of Buildings undertook to develop this document further.

SF/06-07/ 97 – Trinity Ball

A memorandum dated 30th April from the Senior Dean seeking permission to hold the Trinity Ball on 11th May was noted by the Committee. A site plan was also circulated. The Committee approved the holding of the Trinity Ball. The Committee noted the workload imposed on the Grounds Staff in preparing College for Trinity Monday events after the Ball and wished to extend its formal recognition of the service performed by Grounds & Gardens staff members in maintaining the College grounds during the recent period of intensive visitor use.

SF/06-07/ 98 – Funding Dublin as a Capital Region

The Director of Buildings circulated a memorandum and a copy of the Dublin City Council initiative "Funding Dublin as a Capital Region" seeking comment from SFC Committee members in relation to the broad thrust of the initiative and particularly in expanding how the College can contribute positively. He said that he is hoping to co-ordinate the aspects of the College's response that focus on the physical environment. The Committee noted that the College Secretary has undertaken responsibility for compiling the College's overall response to Dublin City Council, which is due before 18th May 2007.

The Director of Buildings discussed the fact that TCD has a valuable role to play in the provision of world class educational, cultural, recreational facilities and public spaces and could benefit from any capital or recurrent funding that might flow from this initiative. The Director of Buildings undertook to liaise with the Secretary in producing a co-ordinated response. It was agreed that it would be appropriate to seek funding for the proposed Cobble Reduction Programme from this initiative. He undertook also to raise these issues at a proposed meeting with the City Manager and council officials.

SF/06-07/99 – Westland Row Pedestrian Entrance

A memorandum from the Senior Lecturer, seeking reversal of the decision to close the Westland Row pedestrian entrance once the new entrance at the CRANN Institute and Trinity Sports Centre is operational, was noted by the Committee. The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that he has written to the Senior Lecturer pointing out the College decision, made in the late 1990's, to incorporate a new entrance into the redevelopment of the north east corner of College. The Committee agreed that it is not possible to reverse the decision to close this entrance but that the position would be reviewed in a year or so if necessary.

5. Section C

SF/06-07/ 100 – Grounds and Gardens Advisory Committee

The Deputy Director of Buildings reported verbally on the main discussions at the Grounds and Gardens Advisory Committee meeting held on 19th April 2007. He advised the Committee that it was agreed that, once the cost is determined and funding is approved, work will be carried out at the Berkley Podium to remove the pebbles and replace them with an alternative material or approach to prevent the use of this area by skateboarders and prevent further damage to the Pomodora Sfera sculpture.

The Deputy Director of Buildings reported that the issue of crowd control around College Park in the evenings was discussed at length at the meeting and it was noted that some measures have been implemented by DUCAC and Security to address the issue. It was agreed that Grounds and Gardens Advisory Committee will be asked to submit a report on this issue and a proposal to deal with crowd control to the next meeting of Site and Facilities Committee.

SF/06-07/ 101 – Building for Construction Innovation

The Treasurer sought discussion on the Director of Buildings' memorandum dated 2nd May 2007. The Director of Buildings advised the committee that a donation has been pledged for this proposed project and it was decided that it would be appropriate to determine the extent of this donation before progressing, at which time it is proposed to invite a number of architects to submit basic design proposals. A preliminary notice advertising the project has been published in the supplement to the EU Journal. The Director of Buildings outlined a proposal under consideration to demolish the extension of the Chemistry Building and build new facilities for Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering including a Construction Innovation centre. It was noted that a siting of the building will be a matter for this Committee in due course.

SF/06-07/102 – Provost's House Stables

The Committee noted a progress report from Building Projects Officer, Ms. Deirdre O'Shea dated 2nd May 2007.

SF/06-07/103 – An Post Site Development

The Committee noted a progress report from the Director of Buildings dated 2nd May 2007.

SF/06-07/104 – North East Corner Development

The Committee noted the minutes of the North East Corner Planning Committee held on 4th April 2007.

SF/06-07/105 – Luce Hall Refurbishment

The Committee noted the minutes of the meeting of the Luce Hall Planning Committee held on 27th April 2007.

SF/06-07/106 – Building Management Group Minutes

The Committee noted the minutes of the following Building Management Group meetings:

Arts Building Management Group – 22nd February 2007.

5 College Green – 22nd March 2007.

Trinity Centre, Saint James's Hospital – 31st January 2007.

SNIAM Building Management Committee – 15th March 2007.

6. Any Other Business

SF/06-07/107 – The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that there was a small fire at Trinity Hall, on Sunday 06th May, in which there was considerable damage to a kitchen. He was pleased to report that all emergency procedures and systems worked according to requirements and the incident was dealt with quickly by the fire services and College Staff.

7. Date of Next Meeting

SF/06-07/108 – Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Site and Facilities Committee will be held at 11am on Tuesday 5th June 2007 in the Boardroom.

Signed

Dated