

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

Minutes of the Site and Facilities Committee Meeting held on 26th May 2009 in the Board Room.

Present Dr. J.K. McGinley, Prof. Roger Stalley, Acting Treasurer (Mr. Ian Mathews), President of the Students' Union (Mr. Cathal Reilly), Interim Chief Operating Officer (Mr. Tony Mc Mahon), Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Prof. P. Prendergast), Mr. Peter Connell, Director of Buildings (Mr. Paul Mangan).

Apologies Prof. Colm O'Morain, Dean of Students (Mr. G. Whyte), Bursar (Prof.M.O'Mahony), Dr. M. McCarron.

In Attendance Deputy Director of Buildings (Mr. Pat McDonnell).

1. Minutes

SF/08-09/80 – The minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2009 were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman. The minutes were amended to show that Dr McGinley was in the Chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st March, 2009 were formally approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as the Committee was inquorate at the last meeting. The Committee noted that in approving the minutes it ratified any decisions taken at the meeting

2. Matters Arising

Matters arising from the minutes were discussed and have been recorded below, (see Minutes **SF/08-09/81 and SF/08-09/83**).

SF/08-09/81– Biosciences Development

The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that from now on the Biosciences Project Team will be Chaired by the Dean of Research. He also stated that the College budget for the project was confirmed with the Provost to be €75m excluding the additional costs associated with relocating the Bio-Resources Unit.

SF/08-09/82 – Additional Residential Accommodation

The Director of Buildings reported that it is intended to post a tender notice for the provision of up to 1000 bed spaces in the EU Journal in the next 2 weeks. He said that the selection of the successful bidder will be through a competitive dialogue process whereby the number of bidders will be worked down from about 8 candidates to the last 2. He explained that a number of options may be proposed ranging from 'ready to go' completed buildings, partly built, conversion projects, and/or a site. He stated that while it was intended that the project would be self funded, College may have to subsidise any shortfall. It was noted any funding implications for College will have to be approved by this Committee and the Finance Committee.

SF/08-09/83 – Rugby Pitch Redevelopment

The Director of Buildings informed the Committee that no clarification had been received regarding this proposal.

3. Section A

There were no Section A items.

4. Section B

SF/08-09/84 – Long Room Hub

The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that tenders were received on 19th May and the draft tender report from the quantity surveyor indicates that the project is within budget and that certain priority items which were to be omitted based on the pre-tender cost review could now be included.

This project is to be funded from an allocation from PRTLI 4 – of which €4.48m is for the building contract. An additional €150,000 has been pledged via the Trinity Foundation. He advised that the design team was completing the tender checking process having regard to the works that are now proposed for inclusion and would submit a final report in due course. Pending the final report he advised that the design team has recommended that the contract be awarded to the lowest tenderer. In response to a query, the Director of Buildings explained that the site will be accessed via Front Square. As there will be minimum excavation work large deliveries will mainly consist of steel and these will be co-ordinated. The majority of site traffic will be small vehicles.

The Director of Buildings advised that the Director of the Long Room Hub proposes to seek additional funding from Executive Officers to allow the inclusion of some additional iconic features and that this request would be advanced in the coming months as a separate item.

The SFC accepted the recommendation that the lowest tenderer be appointed and asked that the Planning Committee be reminded that there is a fixed budget for the project and changes to the contracted works should be minimal and should only be introduced in exceptional circumstances.

The Committee noted the minutes of the Long Room Hub Planning Committee meeting of 20th May.

Post Meeting Note: The Director of Buildings advised that the fire escape routes from the 1937 Reading Room and the Edmund Burke Theatre will be maintained and that fire tender access to Fellows Square will be replaced temporarily by the provision of a fire hydrant in Fellows Square.

SF/08-09/85 - New Square Refurbishment

Ms. Deirdre O'Shea, Building Projects Officer submitted a paper 20th May 2009 on renovation works to Houses 33 -37 which are necessary to achieve compliance in the areas of Fire Safety and the Housing Acts and to approve standards and amenities. The works will result in a reduction of 13 rooms, from 69 to 56, due to reconfiguration to accommodate showers, toilets, and fire lobbies. Cost estimates for the works are of the order of €70k per bed space which is less than previous similar works in Front Square. The works are funded by the Residential Development Account and have been approved by the Finance Committee. The renovation works are exempt from planning permission but a planning application will be submitted shortly for access ramps. The Committee approved this development.

SF/08-09/86 – Pavilion Refurbishment

A progress update on the project dated 19th May 2009 was received from Mr. M. Murray, Architectural Services Officer.

The Committee noted the status of the project and gave approval to go to tender. Work is expected to commence on site on July 1st. The project will be funded from a combination of funding from DUCAC and from funding for accessibility projects. The Committee noted that any additional funding loans from College will have to be approved by the Finance Committee.

SF/08-09/87 – Grounds & Gardens Advisory Committee Annual Report

The Committee noted the annual report from the Grounds & Gardens Advisory Committee and commended the members for their work throughout the year. Members noted the valuable specialist advice that is available from this group and supported its retention in any new committee structure.

SF/08-09/88 – Insurance Brokerage Services

A memorandum 15th May 2009 was received outlining that the current Insurance Brokerage Services contract with Messrs Willis, which ends on 21st May 2009, has an option for a further 2 years at a reduction of 8%.

Ms. P. Gray, Director of Buildings Office recommended that this option be accepted. The Committee approved this decision.

SF/08-09/89 – Dental Hospital Development

The Committee was briefed on plans by the Dental Hospital to renovate its South Leinster Street/ Lincoln Place buildings to provide additional offices, teaching and library space. The College is represented by Mr. J. Doyle, Director of Buildings Office on the Project Team. The Committee noted the development, and approved the site compound proposed.

SF/08-09/90 – Luce Hall Redevelopment Planning Committee

The Director of Buildings presented a paper dated 21st May 2009 on terms of reference and proposed membership of the Planning Committee. He requested that the committee meet as soon as possible to agree occupancy and layout in order that a planning permission application could be submitted at the earliest possible date. The membership and terms of reference were agreed.

5. Section C

There were no items under Section C.

6. Any Other Business

SF/08-09/91 – Third level Capital Funds – Minister O’Keefe’s announcement

The Director of Buildings explained that €2.9m in additional funding will be available for backlog maintenance, health & safety projects, and accessibility projects. The Director of Buildings is drawing up a list which will be presented to Executive Officers. In this context, the Chairman asked that the Berkeley Library heating be considered for inclusion in the proposed works.

SF/08-09/92 – Art Gallery Outdoor Exhibition

The Director of Buildings presented photographs of a proposal on behalf of the Douglas Hyde Gallery for an outdoor exhibition at Pearse Street (ivy & flowers) and a colour palette on the Tennis Court fences. The Director of Buildings proposed that the arrangements for this exhibition should be addressed between the proposers and the Facilities Officer on behalf of the Director of Buildings Area. The Committee agreed that this and similar requests can be approved by the Director of Buildings Area as an implementation rather than a policy issue.

SF/08-09/93 – Recent Property Transactions

The Director of Building informed the Committee that the sale of Cumberland St. store is expected to be completed on June 5th. Also, the purchase of Phoenix House will be completed in early June. The Estates strategy group have allocated space in Phoenix House to the Counselling Service, Global Health, Post Graduates in Arts, History & Humanities leaving the top floor currently leased to the OPW and a floor yet to be allocated. He said that further requests for space from academic and support areas, together a proposal to use space to facilitate the decanting of activities from Foster place are being assessed. The Committee approved this strategy

7. Date of Next Meeting

SF/07-08/93 – Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Site and Facilities Committee is scheduled for 11am on Tuesday 23rd June 2009 and will be held in the Board Room, House 1.

Signed

Dated