

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

Minutes of the Site and Facilities Committee Meeting held on 29th September 2009 in the Board Room.

Present Dr. J.K. McGinley (in the Chair), Prof. Roger Stalley, President of the Students' Union (Mr. Conán O Broin), Interim Chief Operating Officer (Mr. Tony Mc Mahon)*, Dr. M. McCarron, Mr. Peter Connell, Bursar (Prof.M.O'Mahony)**, Director of Buildings (Mr. Paul Mangan).

Apologies Prof. Colm O'Morain, Treasurer (Mr. Ian Mathews), Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Prof. P. Prendergast).

In Attendance Deputy Director of Buildings (Mr. P. McDonnell), Dean of Students (Mr. G. Whyte), Executive Officer (Sally-Anne Mac Mahon).

*Present for minutes SF/09-10/03 to end.

** Present for minutes SF/09-10/03 to SF/09-10/06.

The Chair welcomed the incoming President of the Students' Union, Mr Conán O Broin.

1. Minutes

SF/09-10/01 – The minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2009 were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman.

It was noted that no comment was received from SFC members prior to the circulation to Board of a memorandum dated 29th June 2009 from the Director of Buildings regarding planning permission for the Luce Hall Development and proposed ramps in New Square. This memo was issued following the cancellation of the June meeting of SFC.

2. Matters Arising

Matters arising from the minutes were discussed and have been recorded below, (see Minutes SF/09-10/02 to SF/09-10/14 inclusive).

SF/09-10/02 – Additional Residential Accommodation

The Director of Buildings reported that the response to the tender notice for the provision of up to 1000 bed spaces in the EU Journal was satisfactory. He said that submissions are being assessed and a shortlist for tendering using the competitive dialogue process will be completed by mid October. Submissions for a site for residences were sought through a newspaper advertisement and these are being assessed in parallel, with the possibility of the accomplishment of an advantageous match between developer and site owner being considered. The Director of Buildings informed the Committee that the estimated cost of the project will be advised to the College before tenderers are required to incur significant design and other costs as part of the tender process. It was noted that the Interim Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer and Director of Accommodation and Catering are closely involved in the process at this time.

SF/09-10/03 – Foster Place Development

The Director of Buildings expressed his disappointment at the refusal by Dublin City Council of the College's planning application to develop Foster Place into improved and extended academic space as well as the remodelling of the banking hall as a restaurant/bar. He said that there had been no request for additional information and no request to the College to withdraw or suspend the application, in order to

address the concerns expressed by Dublin City Council for the first time in its decision to refuse. The Director of Buildings advised that it is not intended to appeal the decision and the matter will be revisited by the Director of Buildings Office along with the design team in order to devise a solution that will be acceptable. He said also that he has written to the Assistant City Manager seeking a meeting on the matter.

3. Section A

There were no Section A items.

4. Section B

SF/09-10/04 – Insurance Renewal 2009-2010

The Committee noted that the insurance premium for the coming year is fractionally less than last year and the Director of Buildings took the opportunity to forewarn the College that the premium is likely to rise next year as existing contracts expire and market forces apply.

The issue of un-insured risks was highlighted and in particular the fact that the College insurance does not cover medical malpractice. In relation to the purchasing of cyber liability along with more extensive cover for legal expenses in employment related claims, it was agreed that the Director of Buildings will convene a meeting of relevant parties to advise and advance these matters.

Further to a brief discussion it was agreed that the increase in the excess payable under the travel insurance scheme is warranted.

It was agreed that the advice of the College's Insurance Brokers and Ms. Patricia Gray, Administrative Officer, be accepted and the Insurance Renewal Proposal was approved by the Committee.

SF/09-10/05 – Biosciences Project Status Report

The Director of Buildings circulated a status report dated 20th September 2009 outlining the background to the project, the current funding situation and the progress on site to date. The Committee noted that this report will be circulated to Board. It was agreed that the Dean of Research will be invited to attend a meeting of SFC once the Building Project Team has finalised the design and services requirements.

SF/09-10/06 – Luce Hall Project Status Report

A memorandum outlining the current status of the project was circulated to the Committee for noting. The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that the planning application will be lodged by mid October and said that pre-planning meetings have been positive overall. The schedule of accommodation is yet to be finalised, and it was noted that the Students' Union is preparing a business plan to assist in determining the activities to be contained within the centre. It was noted that a brochure is to be prepared for the project in order to assist with fundraising. The President of the Students' Union advised that plans are being prepared for a referendum to approve a proposed levy for the project and he said that the levy must be introduced at an appropriate time and for a reasonable amount.

SF/09-10/07 – Capital Projects Update

The Committee noted the Capital Projects Update from the Director of Buildings dated 23rd September 2009. The Deputy Director of Buildings drew attention to the section relating to the delay in securing final approval from the Planners to the proposed material as per the planning permission for the Cobble Reduction Programme. This is being pursued by the College appointed architects for this project.

5. Section C

SF/09-10/08 – Biosciences Project Team

The Committee noted the minutes of the Biosciences Project Team meetings held on 19th June and 9th July 2009.

SF/09-10/09 – Long Room Hub Planning Committee

The Committee noted the minutes of the Long Room Hub Planning Committee meeting held on 9th July 2009.

SF/09-10/10 – Grounds & Gardens Advisory Committee

The Committee noted the minutes of the Grounds & Gardens Advisory Committee meeting on 12th June 2009. The Director of Buildings undertook to relay the Committee’s concerns regarding flooding at the area at Nassau Street where a tree was recently removed and is to be replaced.

6. Any Other Business

SF/09-10/11 - Phoenix House

The Deputy Director of Buildings informed the Committee that it will be at least 5 weeks before the design team are ready to go to tender. The design team advised that the building works on site will take 2 to 3 months. The Committee noted that it has been deemed that minimal alterations are required to bring the building up to standard and therefore planning permission need not be sought. However, at a minimum there will be extensive rewiring, fire stopping works and the removal of asbestos will be carried out. It was noted that a planning application to install a wheelchair ramp at the front of the building will be lodged in due course.

SF/09-10/12 - Development Control Plan

The Director of Buildings advised the Committee that there he is to complete the College Development Control Plan (DCP) within 4 months of the completion of the College Strategic Plan and said that the DCP will be circulated to SFC at its April meeting. He advised that the processes involve consultation with the Faculty Deans and Chief Operating Officer as to the scale, location and phasing of their space requirements.

7. Date of Next Meeting

SF/07-08/13– Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Site and Facilities Committee is scheduled for 11am on Tuesday 20th October 2009 and will be held in the Board Room, House 1.

Signed

Dated