

Minutes of the Development Committee held on 9th. September 1984

Present: A.W.Bond, J.B.Brooke, W.G.S. Hyde, M.C.Wright.

Finance - Winstan Bond's report on the workshop budget showed that £3500 had been allocated for purchase of materials for tramcar restoration only and that salaries for the workshop staff employed on restoration work totalled £12,900, of which Tony Bacon spent £2000 worth of time in supervising restoration work carried on away from the Museum premises. It followed therefore that approximately £14,000 (inc. £3500 for materials) was available for re-allocation from the workshop budget.

Tramcar availability - Malcolm Wright reported that work due to be carried out on cars R2, 45, 60, 812 and 602 (the last cars in the present restoration programme) was mainly labour intensive and should not require much input from the joiner or the painter.

Tramcar storage - John Brooke reported on the possibility that the redundant Aglite HQ building might be available from Derby which could be suitable for the framework for the proposed epots VII and VIII.

Buildings - John Brooke reported that the approximate cost of building a hoarding along the J.Soper building line in front of the main workshop, using sheathing ply would be £2000. This was to incorporate provision for moving the ice cream hut to this site and to incorporate a hot potato sales point, both to be clad with a suitable replica vintage facade. Further work was required in establishing the building line and possibly removing the old track and pointwork which led to the old depot A before this hoarding could be erected.

It was further suggested that the Red Lion and the sewer vent pipe be re-sited in Town End square.

In order to establish the effectiveness of this type of screening it was decided to proceed this coming winter with the erection of a hoarding, incorporating a viewing window between the corner of the Assembly Rooms, along the front of the Bellis & Morcom engine. Mr Soper to be asked to produce a drawing for this proposed screen by the end of September for presentation to the Board at the October meeting.

John Brooke to obtain costings for mathematical tiles and also to produce estimates for making use of the proposed Derby station building as a new catering area. This latter to be progressed when it is known that planning approval has been obtained for the building at Town End.

Development work timetable - Malcolm Wright undertook to produce this.

Development north of the bridge - It was suggested that there should be a new sales point at the visitor exit to the car park, possibly to replace one of the existing shops, as visitors tended to look for souvenirs after they had visited the Museum. Malcolm Wright to discuss this with Colin Scothern along with the subject of visitor circulation.

Looking ahead there is the possibility of developing the car park area as a town centre incorporating the Grand Union junction as an independent development with outside finance. This is a long term development but in the meantime the committee endorsed the proposed siting of the Grand Union as a display in the area proposed by Jim Soper. This and developments at Wakebridge and Glory Mine to be the subject of future discussions.

Next meeting - Sunday 30th. September at 11.0 am, John Shawcross to be invited to attend to discuss use of workshop facilities.