

THE TRAMWAY MUSEUM SOCIETY

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

276v

Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 20th. August 1989.

Present: Messrs. Bond, Brooke, Hyde, Lardge, Musgrove and Soper.

Apologies received from Mr. Wright.

The Chairman welcomed the two new members to the Committee, Messrs. Musgrove and Soper.

Stone Workshop - David Lardge had produced a paper setting out the plans and requirements for converting the building into a shop, store and traffic office. The estimated cost of the conversion would be approx £75,000. He stressed that the conversion should be carried out in a manner which would result in minimum inconvenience on site. Should the project get Board's approval a start on clearing the building could be made in November with structural work commencing in February 1990. It was suggested that the track in the building should not be disturbed but that the floor should be raised by 6" and the pavement level outside the building should be lowered by about 2 feet. An access ramp for wheelchairs and prams would be constructed and the lowered pavement would be protected by ornamental railings. John Brooke disagreed with this, pointing out that this would complicate the natural drainage in the area and he proposed that the floor of the workshop should be raised to just above street level. Winstan Bond proposed that the cast iron and glass canopy, parts of which are already onsite, should be erected against wall facing the street. David Lardge was asked to prepare a timetable and budget estimate to be submitted, with his paper, for consideration by the Board at its next meeting. In view of the fact that resultant increase in the sales area was less than originally envisaged, DL was to discuss the conversion with Colin Scothern.

A discussion then ensued on alterations to the area outside the building and it was proposed that Richard Hartwell be asked about the possibility of removing the facing pointwork outside the shop and also the DHMD pointwork at present buried beneath tarmac to the north of the building, suggesting that this could possibly be excavated by MSC labour.

Ice cream 'pavilion' - It was proposed that foundation work for this new building be commenced in October. Winstan Bond pointed out that this would commit part of the winter budget but he agreed with the proposal. It was agreed that John Brooke should be Project Co-ordinator for all work connected with this building.

Red Lion - Jim Soper submitted a report on the proposed re-erection of the Red Lion hotel building. It was suggested that the building could be sited in front of the Members' Hut, the ground floor for possible use as a bar and VIP reception area, the upper floor for members' accommodation. The paper was to be further studied by the committee and Jim Soper was asked to draw up a report on how the project could be progressed.

Members' Forum - The various points raised were considered. The suggested audio-visual presentation would be possible given the resources but siting near the entrance hut was not recommended as it would cause congestion. It was not recommended that plaques should be fixed to the original buildings and features but information on these should be featured on a display, incorporating the original Clay Cross site map, in one of the exhibition buildings and also in small publication which could retail at about 20p. Information about the Sherwood Foresters' monument would be included. It was agreed that we would accept any displays featuring traditional crafts and industries within the Crich area should they be forthcoming.

(cont.)

JS Vehicle turning circle - Jim Soper was asked to produce a drawing for a proposed vehicle turning circle north of the bridge. Ideally the whole area up to the reserved track and vehicle access ramp should be completed with setts should volunteer labour be forthcoming.

Tea Rooms - It was agreed that we should take up Charles Forster's offer to instal leaded lights in windows in the east wall facing the grass banks.

JS. Blackpool 4 - After some discussion it was proposed that a survey be carried out to investigate the possibility of operating this car on a short length of tramway terminating on the bridge. Jim Soper agreed to produce a report and also drawings for a proposed small, secure building in which to house the car and an interpretive display in the 'Dingley Dell' area.

DL Other matters - David Lardge reported that, although work on the roof would not be completed, the bandstand would be ready for use on August Bank Holiday weekend. David Lardge was asked to draw up proposals for the safe storage of Museum artefacts at present stored in the open.

JS Jim Soper was asked to prepare drawings for copings for various unfinished pieces of stone-work. He pointed out that as various sizes and shapes of copings would be required it would be cheaper to have them fashioned in York stone than in reconstituted stone.

WGS
20.8.89.

Circulation: Committee members, President, Board, Min.Sec.