

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE COMPUTER LABORATORY
BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes from the 2nd meeting of the Computer Laboratory Buildings and Environment
Committee held on Tuesday 30 May 2017 at 14:00 in Room SW00

Present: Professor Ian Leslie (Chairman) (IML)
Dr Piete Brooks (PB)
Mr Ian Burton-Palmer (IBP)
Ms Claire Chapman (Secretary) (CLC)
Mr Martin McDonnell (MJM)
Mrs Caroline Stewart (CS)
Dr Graham Titmus (GT)

1. Apologies for Absence

Mr Brian Jones (BDJ)

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2017 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Reducing Energy Consumption

i. **Migration of SE18 and order for racks in GN09 (GT)**

The racks have been ordered and will be delivered at the end of June. They should be fully installed by July.

ii. **Reducing energy consumption of the corridor lights (IML and BDJ)**

The paper written by IML titled 'Corridor Lighting in the Gates Building: An Overview' had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed a phased upgrade will move all corridor lighting to 24volts, starting in the GN corridor by the end of July. It was agreed we should use green cable to differentiate from other cables running in the ceiling void; this would also indicate our environment friendly aims! It was noted that there would be significant cost in doing the whole building but that we would need to make some investment in order to save energy in the longer term, and to show other departments what can be done. It was agreed we should hold off augmenting the solar panels for a while as they are becoming more efficient.

Action: MJM, IBP, BDJ

iii. **How to avoid the alcove light sensors activating when people walk past (MJM)**

The viable solutions are to reinstall light switches or to shield the sensors in new offices. Both these solutions can be done in-house, at no cost. MJM will test the first option and report back at the next meeting.

Action: MJM

- iv. **Report of unused equipment in SE18 (GT)**

There are 3.5 - 4 racks to move. AWM has yet to decide whether to dispose of or keep his equipment. GT will follow this up. The racks will be moved during the summer and the power will be turned off in December. GT will announce the official 'shut off' as being 15 November. Further work will need to be done in SE18 before it can be used for office space.

Action: GT

5. **Passive Cooling**

- i. **Turning off all but one of the air conditioning units in SE18 (IBP)**

Only one air conditioning unit is currently being used during the week, with no disruption to the service so far.

- ii. **Quotes for crane hire (IBP)**

Two quotes have been received from Cambridge Crane Hire:

1) 1 crane operator and crane @ £440.00 + VAT per day

2) 1 crane operator, lift operator and crane @ £880 + VAT per day (*preferred option from supplier for safety reasons*)

The crane will need to stand in the main entrance of the CAPE building for stability purposes and to avoid road closure.

It was decided to leave the chillers in their current place for the moment, if they are difficult to remove.

IML requested two further quotes from other crane suppliers and to request a site visit for them to assess our requirements. It was suggested that the Michaelmas Term would be the preferred time frame to carry out the work, ideally at the end of term (2nd-5th December).

Action: IBP

- iii. **Meeting with Fire Officer regarding replacing just 4 vents in the stairwells and balconies in the Atrium (MJM)**

Andrew Kerley attended the site last week and we are awaiting a visit from Colt Roof Vents for their assessment. IML said that EM has overall fire responsibility and if the vents are in bad repair, they will replace them. IML questioned who the University Fire Officer is and to request a meeting with them to look at the vents. IBP said that Jim Gorman is the Head of Fire Safety/Principal Maintenance Technician in EM, but his anticipated response will be to refer it to a consultant for assessment. It was agreed that IML, MJM, and PB should meet with Jim Gorman in July.

We shall investigate the best way to install vents in the stairwells.

Action: MJM, PB, IML

- iv. **Proposal to merge SW00 with SN01 alcove – fire risk assessment (MJM)**

MJM reported that he had completed a fire risk assessment and the merge would not breach any fire blocks. The benefits would be to gain space by increasing the room to 30-50% capacity and to have fresh air, allow passive cooling and turn off the air conditioning. The Committee agreed we should go ahead with the renovation in due course.

Action: IBP and MJM

6. Building Matters

i. Two ventilation holes in SE17 during SE18 refurbishment (IBP and BDJ)

This will be investigated when doing the SE18 refurbishment.

ii. Monitoring of the new 200A 'new UPS DB in Server Room GN13' B02L feed to the UPS (PB)

IBP reported that he had ordered 200A current transformers (CT). The maximum current will be 60A so we might want to get alternative ones. The Electrician will be asked to assess and advise the time for each phase. A time frame of under 30 minutes is required so as not to interrupt the UPS. If this is a problem, we shall investigate split core CTs instead. IBP will raise an EM ticket for the Electrician to visit.

Action: IBP

7. AV Matters (Brian Jones report)

i. Wi-Fi connected projector - Rainbow Group report (BDJ)

A trial has been made in SS03 using Wi-Fi and it works with Macs, Windows and phones after downloading software. A cable is needed for Linux users. A request to upgrade the projector in FW26 has been added (previous planned upgrades were in FW11, GS15 and SN08). Two projectors of the same type as in SS03 have been ordered.

ii. Lecture theatre lights

A comment that the lecture theatre lights setting 2 is too dim has been received. As these are programmable, the Dynalite settings have to be understood to make the change. Both Dynalite and Creston have changed software versions at least once since their installation. An alternative solution would be to contact Absolute AV to make a change to the Creston software.

Action: BDJ

iii. Temperature control fan on back wall in LT1– EM approval and fire safety report (IBP and MJM)

Andrew Kerley from EM has granted permission and there is no fire risk. He suggested that we install a metal vent, but we are hoping to cut the existing wood, and not add any metalwork. It was agreed we should proceed with the installation.

Action: IBP and MJM

iv. How to improve acoustics in the Atrium – fabric trial and wall tiles (MJM and GT)

A Snowsound Acoustics brochure had been circulated by GT prior to the meeting. Approximately 200 wall tiles would be needed at a cost of £10,000. It was agreed we should try wall hangings first and see how well they work.

Action: GT

8. Energy and Environmental Website

IBP reported changes are required to the website

<http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/local/wgb/ecobuilding.html> as it is now out of date giving incorrect information. GT will ask Lucija Dacic to update the page.

Action: GT

9. Any Other Business

i. SW00 door to open outwards rather than inwards (IBP and MJM)

Briars have been asked to quote for this work due to the Maglock mechanism. It was questioned if the room still needs to be lockable. In the past, it was lockable due to the plasma screen. GT said that the cost of a replacement screen is now negligible and therefore doesn't warrant spending much to make it lockable. IBP stated that even if we reverse the door Briars would need to disconnect the lock.

IML requested two quotes:

- 1) Keep Maglock and reverse the door
- 2) Remove Maglock to allow MJM to reverse the door.

Action: IBP

ii. Increase lighting in Room SW02

Lise Gough has asked if the lighting in SW02 can be increased. IML and BDJ will experiment over the summer and report back at the next meeting.

Action: IML/BDJ

iii. Energy devolution costs

EM have now confirmed agreement to devolve the electricity costs. The budget will be passed on in August. Costs will be charged against the budget and reimbursed quarterly. The cost is estimated to be £160,000 per year. This does not include the café but includes our racks in the WCDC.

iv. Refurbishment of common room kitchen and kitchenettes x 9

IBP asked that committee members consider which kitchens and kitchenettes are most in need of refurbishment. He was thinking of doing 6 in the first phase. Suggestions should be sent to CLC to collate for the next meeting.

Action: All committee members

10. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be a date in August as selected by a Doodle Poll.