



**STANDING GROUP FOR THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF  
EDUCATION BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON  
22 SEPTEMBER 2005, IN LEICESTER**

Present: Clare Medland, Shirley Turner, Keith Armstead, Geoff Black, Greg Durkin  
Bob Dutton, Graham Olway, Norrie Porter, Tony Blackman,  
Doug Elliott, Mark Dolling Chris Borderick, Gareth Simmons, Chris Gilbert  
Staffordshire Guests – Andrew George, Richard Steele, Anne Stansby

Apologies: Penny Pennington, Janice Beck, Digby Molden,  
Robert Brophy, Ged Mitchell, Tony Palmer, Ray Baker

Circulation: As above

	ACTION
<p>Introductions and welcomes to Staffordshire</p> <p>Thanks to Graham and West Sussex for May Conference. CD – photos of conference issued.</p> <p>Thanks again to Bob for hosting Standing Group Meetings in Leicester</p> <p>1. <b><u>Notes of meeting held on 11.05.05</u></b> Agreed</p> <p>2. <b><u>Matters Arising</u></b> None</p> <p>3. <b><u>Schools Capital Strategy Consultative Group</u></b></p> <p><u>LSC</u> 16-19 Capital Pot Consultation Paper (also see item 9) Varied Distribution only 50% of LEAs present had received documentation from LSC. Timescales for responses (as always) – very short</p> <p>Three year funding certainty – Treasury propose to make all allocations in November. This will have an impact on current TCF timetables - is it realistic? Suggestion that TCF should be considered separately in order that appropriate time given to develop bids and assess bids. LEAs supporting this.</p> <p>Next meeting October.</p>	
<p>4. <b><u>RIBA Schools Client Forum</u></b></p>	

Met in July – Jo Richardson Community School, Dagenham (PFI) (11-16) – worth visiting – brand new school with inspirational Head Teacher. Brief – based on needs of children – 900-1000 pupils, community use/extended use. No walk in cupboards/storage anywhere, wide open circulation, U shape classroom layouts in all rooms (including specialists)

Presentation by Ty Goddard (School Works) – promoting best practice in design with BRE and British Council of School Environments – watch this space.

Presentation by Judith Smythe – OPM – Director of Children's Services

Minutes on EBD OG website

Are we represented on SCALA? Ged Mitchell attends

“All in All its not just another Brick in the Wall” Conference - Nottingham. Cross-section of professionals to share/discuss good/bad practice/issues. Thought provoking programme – outcomes to be posted on RIBA website but Shirley will circulate to Standing Group. Blue Amber – brought in to manage/organise – very good – enforced Integration!

Next Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2005

#### 5. VA Working Group

- Concerns about lack of spend on LCVAP nationally
- TCF – VA school bid discussion in particular that bids exceeded pot available by 3 –4 times. Breakdown of bid statistics provided.
- PFI methodology for VA schools close to being agreed.
- Insurance still an issue to be resolved

#### Transition

Transition arrangements discussed - “great deal of resistance by Diocesan Bodies” (RC's in particular) to current proposals. LEAs cannot be obliged to take responsibilities. DfES considering issues. Consultation expected in November/December with aim of introducing parts by April 06.

- VAT remains an issue.
- Future of VASIS in doubt under DfES proposals to move to LA's
- Audit and accountability issues.
- Alternative proposals for pass porting?
- Issue of emergency fund still being considered.

➤ Scrutiny of projects – should this continue and by whom?

➤ Next Meeting 6 October 2005.

## 6. **Children's Act/Integrated Children's Services**

Northampton – new structure proposal.

Many LA's in interim stages moving towards C & YP and the development of Children's Plans.

## 7. **Capital for Children's Centres**

Discussion on timetable and delivery of Children's Centres.

### Phase 1 - 2005/6

Salford have completed a number of Children's Centres but are struggling to meet timescales for funding. As long as funding committed – keep going! Concern that Sure Start is very bureaucratic and reps do not have much power/responsibility.

### Phase 2 - 2006/7

Is there scope to circulate examples/briefs?

CABE have set up "enablers" to support Children's Centres design – concern about lack of quality of provision due to lack of resources.

Funding £180 - £200k per Centre!

## 8. **Primary Capital**

Paper previously circulated.

Consultation to start later in 2005. DfES are being urged to spread thinly initially so that everyone gets some funding in first 3 years.

Insufficient info from DfES at this time, likely to be a subject for conference in November.

## 9. **Post 16 Capital in Context of 14-19 Agenda**

Consultation paper distribution intermittent 50/50 – 3 papers in all  
Concerns:

- small pot of money
- some criteria are unclear (definitions)
- What is the capacity of a 6<sup>th</sup> Form?
- Tensions schools v colleges – re space standards unresolved?
- Will bids be considered regionally/nationally?
- Impact of LSC staff reductions
- StAR should inform need?

## 10. **Standing Group**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Discussed issues arising from Note previously circulated – “DfES interface with LA’s” and latest Pillar Seminars.</li> <li>➤ Relationships between Ebdog, AMPN, Pillar/DfES</li> <li>➤ Links with our work on Constitution/TOR</li> <li>➤ DfES wants to use Ebdog as main channel for communications.</li> <li>➤ Next AMP Focus Group 6<sup>th</sup> October</li> <li>➤ Use Ebdog as vehicle and consider how to reach the regions and those who do not attend conference – i.e. Property Personnel etc.</li> <li>➤ Ebdog – has a brand that is worth keeping and the conference is aimed at Education managers and decision makers.</li> </ul> <p>Any comments on the Note to Shirley by 7<sup>th</sup> October.</p>	All
<p>11. <b><u>BB77 Feedback on Consultation</u></b></p> <p>Discussion on Gill Hawkins feedback from consultation. Concern about the size of the document and wide scope of content. Any burning comments to Shirley by end of September.</p>	All
<p>12. <b><u>CDA Launch</u></b></p> <p>Request from RIBA about a “Client Design Adviser” Register. Who should be invited to attend? Should we offer delegate list or put on website – <u>NO</u> to list – not in the game of helping private companies etc.</p>	
<p>13. <b><u>Magazine</u></b></p> <p>dmb Ltd – proposal to produce “Ebdog” magazine. Worth exploring further in light of discussions. Invite to meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.</p>	
<p>14. <b><u>Conferences</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern about the plethora of conference invites coming through the post. Is there competition from other “outside” organisations that may have impact on Ebdog? Ebdog – valued name etc., OK at the moment (watching brief), cost for sponsors – needs consistent approach</li> <li>• Increasing number of consultants approaching Shirley wanting help to distribute info – NO, thanks but no thanks.</li> <li>• What about increasing cost of attending Ebdog conferences for non-LEAs? but with LEAs as first choice? Space can be the limit?</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Blackpool</u></b> - briefing document issued – attach to minutes insufficient info – Standing Group would like to request further info</p> <p><b><u>Staffordshire-</u></b> Venue booked - LEA perspective included. Content of conference – only ideas at this stage</p>	ST
<p><b><u>Milton Keynes-</u></b> Venue booked around 220 places</p>	

Conference Dinner – Woburn Abbey (hope)  
Reinstating curry!  
No BSF  
Primary focus  
Involve School/Works  
Visits

**15.AOB**

TCF announcements expected October

Extended Schools Design Guide publication November 2005

**PLEASE BRING DIARIES TO NEXT MEETING**

Doug gave apologies to conference in November.

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