



The York Society Inc.

PO Box 143, York 6302

(Established 1968)

**Memo to: Gordon Tester, Manager Health & Building Services, Shire of York.
Michael Keeble, CEO, Shire of York.
Cr Matthew Reid, President, Shire of York.**

cc Members of the York Society Inc. Management Committee.

Re: Meeting to discuss Verandah to be erected on part of the west side of the Town Hall.

These notes are to record the meeting held today (Thursday 22nd May 2014) involving representatives from the York Society (Sheryl Russo, President and Bill Roy Immediate Past President) with Gordon Tester, Manager Health & Building Services.

Gordon apologised for not showing the plan to the York Society earlier and explained that the project had been passed in the budget by a previous council. He added that it had been discussed with the current Council in March 2014.

Ground level Verandah in front of lift shaft already erected:

Gordon explained that there were two reasons for this verandah.

1. Shelter in front of the lift for the disabled on entering the lift.
2. To protect the electrics in the side panel.

There has already been an instance where rain penetrated and the lift didn't work.

Upstairs verandah:

The rationale for this proposed structure was identified as follows;

- 1) To protect the users of the lift when leaving the lift and entering the building.
- 2) To protect the brickwork and woodwork from the weather.

The wooden doors (two) have recently been restored.

The issue of the dome restricting light other than late afternoon was discussed at length and it would appear that The Heritage Council did not appear to have considered how this could impact on the stain glass windows when viewed from the inside.

Gordon reported that The Heritage Council did not visit the site and they offered their assessment from the plans. They were not specifically supplied with photos but it is believed that they have photo records which could have assisted a consideration of this matter..

Transparent material for dome:

A useful discussion was held on the possibility of replacing the metal roofing of the dome area above the door with material which would let the light penetrate.

Gordon indicated that he had started a discussion with the builder regarding this possibility and research was ongoing.

Possible use of door adjacent to lift (opening into gallery area) for disabled access:

Two problems were identified.

- 1) Currently there was no provision for opening this door from the outside. To fix this may compromise the heritage value.

2) The right hand handle on the door from the gallery to upstairs foyer appears to be too high for disabled use although it was agreed that generally speaking a disabled person would be in the company of an able bodied person. It was recognized, however, that there is an overriding problem with a lack of dignity afforded to the disabled when placed in the position of having to get others to open doors for them.

If this door was used for the disabled access then only a minimal Verandah would be required to cover the way from the lift exit to the door.

Ground level Verandah to be erected:

Gordon explained that this was to provide shelter from the sun for people using the seat and water fountain.

The issue was raised that this protection could also be found under the existing roof area behind the entrance frontage. Gordon explained that in its current position the seat also served as a barrier to prevent people knocking their heads on the underside of the staircase.

The meeting proved useful and provided a clear explanation of what is behind the project. At the same time it identified that some further investigation should be made before finalising the detail. The writers appreciate the time taken by Gordon to fully explain the intent of what is planned.

Opinion offered:

The writers understand that the minimalist option i.e. a simple cover from the lift to the adjacent door may not be acceptable as it does not offer protection to the brickwork and the main door which are of heritage value.

This being the case we would strongly support the replacement of the solid metal roof over the dome structure with a suitable material which would maximise the amount of light penetration through to the stain glass windows.



Sheryl Russo



Bill Roy

22nd May 2014

From: Simon Saint [mailto:saint100@bigpond.com]
Sent: Monday, 26 May 2014 2:35 PM
To: 'Matthew Reid'; milbrookfarm@bigpond.com; 'Denese smythe'; asboyle@bigpond.com; 'John'; 'Mark Duperouzel '
Cc: Records
Subject: Submission, 19K on a shelter? - printed

Dear Councillor

We (the ratepayers) are about to spend 19K on a shelter over the lift door, stairs and balcony, so no one gets wet or sun burnt? It has also been mentioned that the cover will shade the bench and water fountain. I wonder, has there been any complaints from any one about the lack of shelter? Attached are some pictures from the YRCC. If you feel the need to blow 19K on something, I'd suggest the YRCC is a good start.

- DSC00818 - DSC00822 Changing room bench coming away from wall (heavy)
- DSC00823 - DSC00826 Box gully drain lifting and brick pavers sinking
- DSC00827 - DSC00828 Grease trap cover lifting and rocking under foot
- DSC00829 - DSC00831 Render failing on retaining walls
- DSC00832 Step nosing with protruding fixing screw
- DSC00833 No wheelchair access to ramp
- DSC00834 What is the point of tactile paving when covered with sand?
- DSC00835 - DSC00837 This is just beautiful, a grass root lifting the tactile paver, therefore, creating a hazard instead of identifying one!
- DSC00838 Door lock mechanism not working properly
- DSC00839 Sand washout from under pavers
- DSC00840 Speaker hanging by wires

I was unable to gain access to the trading part of the complex, but a look through the doors shows a stained floor covering. I understand the carpets are fairly new and were an attempt to address acoustic problems, strange colour to choose, maybe curtains would have been the way to go!
To sum up, if you feel the need to spend money, then spend it on something sensible.

For good measure DSC00842, is an ash tray in Avon Terrace, you could not squeeze another butt in it.

Regards
Simon Saint (formerly vexatious)

Wansborough Hb
22 Avon Lee
York

The Manager of Development Services
Mr. Jordan Lester Re Hall verandah.

Dear Jordan,

It is very disappointing the Office of Heritage did not even the Hall window before arbitrarily going the go ahead for the verandah. To comply with the demands of disability access that side of the Hall is much compromised. However the beautiful vista of the glass windows with the light-flowing through simply cannot be ruined.

- 1) Could not the access for disabled folks go through the double doors in front of the left. or
- 2) The covering for the verandah needs to address the light-problem of the stained glass windows. Surely there are some malleable modern materials that could be sourced.

Hoping a reasonable solution can be forthcoming

Yours sincerely

Robin J Belman