

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 13, 7 pm, at LITTLE NEWPORT ST.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held July 5, 1976

Present: Peters Sainsbury & Sylveire, Marc Karlin, Susan Feldman, Linda Myles, Steve Dwoskin, Laura Mulvey, Nick Hart-Williams, Paul Marris, Charles Rubinstein, Nigel Algar, Tony Kirkhope

Apologies: Dave Hopkins, James Scott, Mary Sheridan

Peter Sainsbury opened by saying that, unless anyone disagreed, we had now decided that we must proceed with the cinema: to preserve our credibility, because public money had been given for that purpose and to keep the distribution going. No-one disagreed.

Peter Sylveire asked would the distribution fold without the cinema? Couldn't we make new prints, cut staff etc? Pete Sainsbury said that the distribution must expand, for which the cinema was essential. Nick reported that Jim Robertson - who would be presenting a written report - had already made this fundamental point.

Nick reported the new figures from the builders: For the auditorium: £13,688; FOH & foyer: £5,730; extra GLC requirements: £4,095; Club: £6,723; four toilets: £1,800; Kitchen: £2,000. TOTAL: £34,057. New figures from Charles Beddows at the BFI revealed that screen & projectors would cost approx. £7,000 + £2,000 for 16mm + £3,000 for seats. Thus we might be able to open - without club, kitchen and with just two toilets - for around £38,000 (though the complete project, done to current professional estimates and standards, could cost £45-50,000). Nick said the architect's fees were not known yet. He would try to ascertain them.

Pete Sainsbury said it was obvious we must re-negotiate with the BFI and hopefully get them to raise their matching grant from £17,500 to £20-25,000.

It was agreed that we could do without the planned wall at the rear of the cinema, and thus allow access to the club through the Scala St. entrance only. Susan felt that not having the club would be a major compromise. Generally agreed. Nigel suggested we stress with the BFI that we and they had both intended that the project included the club as an essential aspect. Tony had spoken with Manpower and it looked a possibility that they might help finance club building work.

The discussion on to go ahead or not. Pete Sainsbury asked can we afford not to. Nick reckoned that some £8,000 of the £15,000 we had in the bank would have to be handed back if we didn't proceed. Our present £30,000 would cover £25,000 to essential building to open, and £5,000 for equipment. And seats?!

Laura wanted to know where we stood on the fact that we were gambling other people's money. It looked to all that we would have to stop until we had £20,000 of our own.

Pete Sainsbury invited those interested to lunch on Thursday to discuss fund-raising.

Nick asked whether the BFI might "loan" the equipment. Steve said that happened at the Coop

Susan agreed to budget the launch costs.

There was some discussion on the "programming committee" - Peter Sylveire in particular stressing that Paul needed just 2-3 people to work with. Eventually it was said there would be a programme meeting Wednesday evening at 7 pm, at TOC.

Tony pointed out that FINANCE would be discussed next Tuesday at 4.30 (including Jim Robertson). That at the Council that evening financial constraints - as they affect programming - would be worked out.