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# Westcliff Newsletter

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## NEW BUILDING APPROVED

We are delighted that Southend on Sea Borough Council have granted Full Planning Permission for our new English Block.

This exciting new facility will provide much needed permanent teaching space and allow us to remove the demountables, which currently house our English and Psychology Departments.



The Design Team has now met for this project and are currently completing all the necessary drawings ready to go out to tender. At present our target date for starting work is 1 July 2008, aiming to complete it in a year.



**Front View of the proposed extension to the school**



**Side view of the proposed new extension as viewed from Middlesex Avenue**



**Rear View of the proposed new extension**

## The facilities which the new building will provide are planned to include:

- ❖ 8 English classrooms
- ❖ 1 Psychology classroom
- ❖ Staffroom
- ❖ Pupil Toilets
- ❖ Conference Room
- ❖ A goods delivery area

This extension to the school will be linked to the existing school building by glazed corridors at basement, ground floor and first floor levels. These links to the new building will mean that some existing space in the main building will be lost to make the connections; this includes our current staffroom toilets and a Mathematics store cupboard. The current staffroom will be converted into a classroom - hence the need for a new staffroom in this extension.

Raising all the required money for this building project is proving quite difficult, but we are determined to find the necessary resources to ensure this fantastic new facility for the school can be built. The funds to pay for it are coming from:

- ❖ The sale of the land adjacent to Manchester Drive.
- ❖ Funding from Southend on Sea Borough Council.
- ❖ Contributions from parents via the school's General Purpose Fund.

## A Green Building

With Peter Emptage Architects, we are looking at ways to make this building as environmentally friendly as possible.

We have investigated various options including solar panels and wind turbines to provide some of the energy required for the building, as well as various measures to reduce the resources that will be consumed while this building is in use.

Unfortunately, many alternative energy sources are proving to be expensive and cost more to install and maintain than the cost of the energy that they will save! However, we have identified a number of ways to make this an eco-friendly building.

## Sustainability measures we hope to take in this new building:

- ❖ Passive ventilation cowls to the roof, maximising natural ventilation and minimising the need for mechanical ventilation.
- ❖ Low energy lighting throughout the building with movement sensors in areas where lighting will not be required for long periods of time.
- ❖ Water management systems providing sensor controlled taps at sinks, reducing water consumption.
- ❖ Dual flush toilet cisterns reducing the amount of water that should be required for most flushes!
- ❖ Solar glass for trapping heat in the winter and reflecting heat in the summer

## How Can You Help?

To help pay for this new building, we will need to maximise the income to our General Purposes Fund and will be writing to all parents who have not set up a standing order to ask if it is possible for you to make a contribution this year.

In addition, we will be asking all parents and pupils to make a special financial contribution to help make this building more sustainable. We are currently looking into the possibility of installing a ground source heat pump and pipe-work system that would allow much of the building's winter heat requirements to be provided from this renewable energy resource. If successful, this facility would also allow a degree of cooling to be provided in the summer months by running the system in reverse. The cost of the installation of this "green" energy system will be an additional expense to our building works. Our best estimate so far is around £90-£120,000.

I do hope that parents and pupils would like to support the provision of this "green" heating system; we will be asking contractors to identify whether it is possible to install in the new building and to confirm the probable costs. Once we have this information we will write to all parents and pupils to ask for your support in raising the additional money that will be required to install this eco-friendly addition in our new building.

*Dr P Hayman  
Headteacher  
November 2007*