

## **Flagship Project for Daresbury**

Minutes from a meeting held on the 23rd June 2000 at the Daresbury Laboratory

Present: P. Weightman (Chairman), N. Allinson, R. Carter, R. Cernick, D. Chadwick, J. Dainton, T. Greenshaw, P. Hart, D. Hastings, R. Lewis, D. Norman, R. Page, J. Shaw, F.G. Smith, S. Smith, E. Towns-Andrews, N. Thatcher, M. Pearson, N. Roberts, D. Warner, P. Williams, and S. Williams,

The meeting was called to discuss an outline proposal for a flagship project with a probable overall cost of between £ 100 million and £ 200 million. It was envisaged that the proposal would have three main headings.

1. World Class fourth generation light source facilities
2. An Accelerator Centre
3. The development of a medical imaging capability

Professor Weightman informed the meeting that the primary purpose of this meeting was to agree the overall strategy with those present who were also acting as representatives of wider communities.

It had been **agreed** from the meeting held on the 19th June that a single 10 page case proposal would be submitted to the Smith Committee by the 28th July. It would include the following:

- a) A first page summarising the coherence of the case
- b) 2 - 3 pages on each of the above major aspects of the case
- c) A page summarising the overall cost of the project.
- d) A final page summarising the detailed costings of major investments of £ 5 million in the fourth generation light source, £ 5 million in the accelerator centre and radioactive beam facility and £ 2 million in the imaging centre. (NB. this meeting upgraded this latter estimate to £ 5 million)

### ***Clatterbridge cyclotron***

The Chairman asked J. Shaw from the Clatterbridge Hospital to comment on the possibility that the Clatterbridge cyclotron could be moved to Daresbury. J. Shaw informed the committee that there was to be a board meeting next week and that he would bring this question to the meeting - The machine currently operated at 65 MeV, but with accelerator development of an 'after burner' (the TERA project), the facility could be upgraded to 200 MeV, which would open up new avenues for cancer treatment and provide a proton acceleration for the nuclear structure scientists

Those present could see no reason why the upgraded facility, located at the Daresbury Laboratory, could not be used for cancer treatment as well as research.

It was agreed that David Warner would keep a watching brief on this subject and liaise with those concerned.

## ***MANPET***

A presentation on MANPET was given by Peter Williams

The proposal is to establish a multi-disciplinary network for medical imaging research, building on existing links and expertise at academic institutions, NHS Trusts and industry across the North West. The North West Universities and their associated hospital Trusts already have considerable expertise in medical imaging from both a basic science and clinical research perspective.

It is proposed to develop a more widely distributed multi-disciplinary network for medical imaging research.

Key areas of development for the Daresbury facility are:

1. Radioisotope production for imaging and therapy
2. Accelerator research facility, to involve University of Manchester and Liverpool Universities.
3. Novel imaging methods and instrumentation
4. Image analysis and data processing.

A Draft Outline Proposal can be obtained from Peter Williams.

Francis Smith expected that the Vice Chancellors would support this proposal.

## **General Discussion**

It was agreed that although space was limited collaborators would attempt to include in the case comments on how proposals would enhance wealth creation in the North West.

It was agreed that the proposal would concentrate on capital costs and leave the implied recurrent costs to the long term considerations of the Byers Committee

John Dainton explained the importance of maintaining a World Class capability in accelerator design.

## ***Actions***

The following actions were **agreed**:

1. S. Williams would be responsible for producing the 2 - 3 pages required for the medical imaging case. He would get together a small working group that would be representative of all the institutions involved. The case would be brought to the meeting on the 5th July.
2. R. Carter would act as the representative of Lancaster university and would liaise with other scientists and collect letters of support particularly from industry.
3. Tim Greenshaw would write a paragraph summarising the importance of maintaining trained manpower in the accelerator centre. He would attend the meeting on the 5th July as a representative of the high energy physics community. Tim has also set up a webpage and Peter Weightman would send the minutes of this and previous meetings to Tim for inclusion on the web page.
4. David Warner would liaise with the proponents of the accelerator centre and the nuclear physics community and prepare the case for £ 5M in support of the proposals for radioactive beams facility. If possible David Warner would join John Durrall and another member of the nuclear physics community at the meeting on the 5th July.
5. It was agreed that a meeting would be held at the Daresbury Laboratory on the 5th July at 4.00 p.m. David Norman would arrange the venue.