

JULY 2013



A word
from
Alastair

Hopefully
every
single one

of you when logging on to the internet to check your e-mails (which I'm sure you do every day) goes straight to our website and checks on the latest progress at <http://bmc.btck.co.uk/ProjectProgress>.

On a couple of days, I stood on the site with my video camera filming enormous timber beams being lowered into position with pinpoint accuracy and at a pace that meant you could see the building taking shape right in front of you. Despite the horrible weather during the early stages of the site work, we are still on track to have the building handed over to us in October, albeit late October rather than early October!

The Relocation Team meets most weeks to discuss progress and to decide on detail like carpet colours and (soon) the colour of the paint for the walls. We are aiming for as natural a look as

we can, reflecting our beautiful rural setting. As you know, we have the funds to complete the building and phase 1 of the car park, and we believe that providing all the car park from the start is the most cost effective way to go. This would mean raising another £30k. Then we have to purchase a large number of chairs (something like 170) plus the kitchen fixtures and fittings.

05 July 2013

Lots of progress was evident during this week. The block work of the tower was 'topped out', but the major visual feature was the insertion of the wooden ceilings to the main areas upstairs. The roofs were covered to protect them and although we could not claim to be quite like a 'Wrapped Reichstag' the roofs were swaddled in black plastic to protect them. Perhaps 'black swan wing' wrappings! The internal views started to be impressive. Alastair and Keith visited to get a feel of the spaces to help the decision making processes for the local team and

came away thinking that the building had really started to come to life and were able to visualise the final internal spaces for the first time.



'Black Swan' roof swaddling

13 July 2013

The internal form of the main room and its end windows were fully evident. External finishing started with brickwork to the lower floor walls. We are using mellow yellow-red Sussex 'Arundel' bricks

The week saw a site meeting and lots of background queries had been flying backwards and forwards concerning the electrics, including lighting and the audio-visual wiring needs

and kitchen layouts. Thoughts also turned to final internal finishes for the floors and walls.



22 July 2013

The July site meeting took place on Weds 17th. Because of the heat of the day it was 'al fresco' with the table and chairs placed in the shade of a hut and copious quantities of water available to keep everyone cool! The 'leap forward' appeared externally to have slowed, but a lot was now going on inside and out to add insulation to the roof, which now has silver wings, to finish off the internal outline, and a start was been made on installing many metres of electrical wiring.



Then it was silver wings!

27 July 2013

More work inside. The silver faced high density internal insulation was being installed then covered with ply. This in turn will be covered with plasterboard, before the final finishing skim and painting take place. Externally more brick and blockwork was going up. Heat loss from this building will clearly be absolutely minimal.....Back inside the electrical and AV wiring was being installed - just in time before it was covered by the insulation!



31 July 2013

An end of month a very wet day made working wet and soggy. Minor changes were made to the kitchen walls to make appliance and worktop fixing easier and the hatches into the kitchen and office were formed. The bricklaying and AV wiring first fix are both nearly complete and the semi-final plywood layer of the roofing was progressing and soon the final layer should go on making the building roof watertight at last!