

CB-4-231

meeting. Sarah and Paul C were in the process of considering the terms of a letter to DLE which would express serious concern about performance issues.

### Arniston

4. Referring to para 10 Linda commented that as it was known there would be costs associated with moving the stone from Arniston to Holyrood the Project Team should be ready to report what these costs would be. John G advised that it was not possible to estimate what these cost would be at the current time. There was also at present some uncertainty as to what would be required in terms of 'replacing' the stone at Arniston and therefore a cost could not be estimated for that aspect either. During the recent site meeting at Arniston House, the representative of Historic Scotland had proposed the stone should be replaced by an exact replica. Althea Dundas-Bekker had reacted enthusiastically to that proposal but it would be a costly exercise. It was agreed that John HR should speak with Althea Dundas-Bekker as a matter of urgency to clarify what she expected. Linda asked if there may be the possibility of a grant available in connection with this aspect of the project. Andrew thought this unlikely although there may be the possibility of some help 'in kind' from Historic Scotland. John G reported that the Planning and Listed Building applications were currently being processed by Midlothian Planning Department and both they and Historic Scotland were being very supportive.

### **Director's Report**

#### Programme

5. Sarah reported that Brian Stewart had privately expressed some concerns about the achievability of the new Prog 7a. At a Principals' meeting held on Monday 2 June, however, there had been a good discussion and Alan Mack still believed it was do-able although he agreed that tests needed to be run to give confidence about a 100% completion date. Alan still attached a 90% probability against completion by end of November 03. The remaining 10% was valued at a period of 6-8 weeks, giving a 'window' for completion (everything finished and BLL able to 'walk away' from the site) of end January to mid February 2004.

6. Bill Thomson was asked what effect this may have on migration plans. He confirmed that, on the basis of the migration taking place during the Easter recess period in April, the SPCB would need access to the building by the end of January.

#### Cost

7. Sarah advised that further work had been done following the previous meeting but Project Management were still not as clear as they would like to be about the relationship between costs and Prog 7a. DLE had now produced papers which indicated an additional construction cost of £18.7m. When the various factors were added on to this (fees, VAT, etc) this produced