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From	Angela Dapper			Total pages	3		
Project	Stonehenge Exhibition and Visit	or Centre		Project number	6398	File ref 106	
Subject	Stonehenge key facts			I			

Denton Corker Marshall

• The project will achieve a number of the aims listed in the Stonehenge World Heritage Site Management Plan 2009, including the construction of improved visitor facilities, better opportunities for interpretation of the Stones and the wider site, and most importantly, a substantially improved landscape setting for Stonehenge.

The Stones

- The minimal facilities retained at the Stones are only those essential for the security and safety of the visitors and the Stones.
- The area of the retained hard surfacing and new building shrinks to approximately 4% of the existing visitor facility area (including the car park but excluding the road).
- 760m of existing A344 will be grassed over, between byway 12 and the A303.
- The current visitor facilities at Stonehenge are inadequate to cope with the 900,000+ visitors it attracts each year, and current opportunities for interpretation and education within the World Heritage Site are constrained.

Airman's Corner

- Airman's Corner, approximately 2.5km west and out of view from Stonehenge, provides the site for the new visitor facilities.
- The principal reasons for selecting the Airman's Corner site were: good accessibility from the A303; the location is remote from residential properties; the immediate area is relatively free of any significant archaeological remains; and the site is one of the lowest lying areas in the WHS.
- The proposed Airman's Corner site plan is the result of rigorous evaluations of the location of each element in order to minimise visual intrusion in the landscape, below ground disturbance and alteration of the existing site topography; whilst creating an accessible and legible layout for visitors.
- The Visitor Centre is sensitively designed to sit lightly in the landscape.
- Reversibility the ability to return the site to its current state is a fundamental design concept.
- Its contemporary style, and modern construction using slender steel structure and lightweight framed walls, requires minimal substructure and enables reversibility.
- The building is a simple yet distinctive architectural composition, deferential to the Stones and the World Heritage Site.
- A conscious decision was taken that the building should not directly reference the Stonehenge monument in its form, material, or alignment.
- The maximum height of the Visitor Centre (8m) will be comparable to the tallest Trilithons, so as not to diminish the impact of the scale and experience of the Stones.
- The architecture responds to its setting of rolling open grass plains and wide sky.
- The design of the scheme is informed, and in many ways defined, by its sensitivity to a range of archaeological, landscape, ecological and social considerations. The scheme sits within one of the most significant archaeological sites in the world.
- The scheme has also been designed to take account of the landscape and ecology of the area, which includes restored chalk grassland around Stonehenge.

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The new v	isitor facilities will be	fully accessible to r	neet the differing nee	eds of a variety of visitors, and will

- and will increase physical and intellectual access to, and understanding of the World Heritage Site landscape.
- Architects Denton Corker Marshall have responded to the World Heritage Site objectives by designing a world class • contemporary building that is remarkable for its simplicity and sensitivity to its surroundings.
- The scheme is not based on a grand architectural statement, but is a response to the landscape that is pre-eminent in these ٠ proposals.
- This scheme provides a sensitive solution to a range of challenges and constraints that are in many ways upparalleled in any other development.
- The Ancillary Building provides separate accommodation for back-of-house functions, and creates space for renewable energy • sources and water saving measures such as sewage treatment and rainwater harvesting.

Visitor Transit

- A visitor transit will take visitors, including wheelchair users, from Airman's Corner to Stonehenge, along the existing A344 road to avoid constructing additional infrastructure.
- The visitor transit will be a low-tech vehicle pulling several trailers for visitors, similar to the Kew Explorer at Kew Gardens. •
- This transit will stop halfway at the Fargo plantation to encourage visitors to walk and explore the wider landscape.

Sustainability

- The building will have a low carbon footprint.
- The design will exceed relevant legislation to achieve the client and project teams' high sustainability aspirations. •
- A sustainable, low-energy approach to heating and cooling allows a significant reduction in energy use and carbon emissions. •
- Water supply will be drawn from the aquifer, a local and renewable resource. ٠
- The Airman's Corner site will use on-site water collection and treatment for sustainability and to avoid intrusive trenching for connections to water and sewer mains.

Visitor Centre Materials

- Local, recyclable and renewable materials will be used wherever possible.
- Natural colour palette suited to the colouring of the earth and landscape of the site.
- Sustainable and local materials, such as locally grown FSC timber, sweet chestnut, will be used for the timber pod. •
- The canopy roof will be covered with a single ply membrane, which is formed from an EPDM base polymer, free from halogens, PVC, bitumen chloride and plasticisers, and is recyclable. (Alwitra, Evalastic)
- Local Salisbury limestone will be utilised for paying within and surrounding the Visitor Centre. •
- ٠ The pre-weathered sustainably sourced sweet chestnut, is grown approximately 50 miles from our site.
- The timber pod will be constructed with SIPS panels (structurally insulated panels). •
- The numerous columns and the semi-external spaces minimise the depth of the raft foundation. •
- The metal for the soffit is currently zinc. Zinc is the most sustainable of the metals as it requires least processing. The guartz surface is also self healing, therefore minor scratches and wear will contribute to the natural character of the material.

Area (gross internal)

- Visitor Centre 1515 sqm (including 500sqm of exhibition space)
- Ancillary Building – 430 sqm
- Security Hub (underground near the Stones) – 106sqm

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Other interesting facts

London

• There are 211 slender columns holding up the canopy roof

Manchester

- The building was constructed using a traditional procurement route
- This is the second Visitor Centre for Stonehenge that Denton Corker Marshall won through the OJEU process. The previous design was at Countess East, which was abandoned in 2007.

Melbourne

- Works to remove existing Visitor facilities adjacent to Stonehenge and replace with minimal underground security facilities, will commence in January 2014.
- The design director is Barrie Marshall, one of the founding directors of Denton Corker Marshall.

Jakarta

- The project has been run by London Director Stephen Quinlan.
- The project associate for the project is Angela Dapper
- Denton Corker Marshall won the Airman's Corner project in December 2008. Starting the project in earnest in January 2009.
- The canopy size is approximately 35.9m x 78.4m
- The overall project cost is £27m, which includes the Visitor Centre, Ancillary Building, Hub Building, Visitor Transit, exhibition, all road works and landscaping works, fees and all project costs.