



MCR Refurbishment Proposal Summary

Insulation/Plastering

£8,400 + VAT

Summary: “To supply and fit tandalised battens, insulated plasterboard with gypsum skim finish with new timber skirting to match to three external ground floors. As discussed on site including plasterboard laminate to window reveals and new MDF window boards.”

The necessity: This is predominantly in relation to the College’s proposed new ‘Environmental Action Plan’, which stipulates the need to “re-insulate older buildings with cavity insulation... where appropriate’. The work would also have the additional aesthetic benefit of covering a number of electrical and water pipes that trail down the wall, as well as smoothing the walls for a cleaner, brighter and more modern look.

Floor

£3,070 + VAT

Summary: Remove the tiled floor and replace with a wooden floor.

The necessity: The floor is a remnant of the MCR’s former incarnation as a shipyard merchant, including the miscoloured tiles at the old entrance of the MCR (now bricked up). The floor has sustained damage in a number of places, and has been noted by some members as “giving the MCR a public urinal aesthetic”. The quote was provided by the College’s usual flooring contractor, Paul’s Floors.

New windows

£1,600 + VAT

Summary: Introduce 2 new windows on the north wall, one in the sofa area, and one in the IT room.

The necessity: In a survey conducted in the MCR, this building modification was considered by far the most important, as the downstairs of the MCR suffers from a severe lack of natural light. Pre-planning permission is currently being sought (at no cost), and it should be a matter of weeks before more information on this becomes available. To address the potential security concerns of a window that looks onto the street, the window on the ground floor will use strengthened glass. Scaffolding will be required for the upper window.

Planning & Consultancy

£600

Summary: Costs associated with seeking planning permission and for the services provided by Mike Jeffs, the Site Surveyor at Merton College.

Other Work

Costs covered by MCR budget

We would work with the College Electrician to replace the 2 ceiling lights, remove the unused ceiling fans and replacing the light switch (half of the switches no longer have any effect). In light of the plastering the downstairs walls would require repainting.

We will be assembling a 'design team' consisting of members of the MCR and other interested parties. The group will plan usage of the walls, furnishing and other design decisions (e.g. wall colour, replacement rug, ceiling lights, coffee table, paintings/pictures on walls, 'blades', plants, etc.) In a survey conducted, the MCR was happy to allocate £750-1250 of our budget associated with these costs (pending General Meeting approval).

Jason Lee is negotiating with a technician in the Chemistry Faculty who may be able to provide a rosewood carved sign with our moniker "MIDDLE COMMON ROOM" for the front of the MCR.

Total Cost
(inclusive of VAT, but excluding the MCR's proposed contribution)

£16,300

