

**2008 MTNZ Conference
Timaru
14 - 16 March 2008**

***Seminar Session One
"Venue Design"***

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It all starts with “The Brief”

- Firstly – What is the brief
- Secondly – How do we arrive at a brief suitable/applicable for our community, venue and situation?

Research - well before pen is put to drawing paper!

- Who is included in this process, WHY?, qualifications?
- What is the venue to achieve
- Who is the venue for, who are the major stakeholders, who are the major players
- Does local, regional and central government have a part to play
- Who will utilize the venue
- What type of 'entertainment' is the venue to cater for
- Who will be the end user
- Who will 'own' the venue
- Who will operate the venue

Research – well before pen is put to drawing paper!

- What is the expected management, technical and general staffing structure
- From above, **most importantly**, how is the venue to be funded on an ongoing basis, what level of service is to be offered, what is the expected yearly running cost, how and who will meet this
- What skill levels are available locally, how do you complement those not available
- What is the feasibility of the above, how to measure and prove this
- Peer review, how, who – is it necessary?
- What are the avenues and/or agencies for the initial capital funding to design and later to build the venue?

Research – well before pen is put to drawing paper!

- Costs, look at similar projects elsewhere, be realistic!
Allow for inflation
- Consultation and buy in
- Time Frame
- Allow challenge and don't be precious – who, how, why

**INTERESTINGLY : WE HAVE NOT YET DISCUSSED
ANY TECHNICAL DETAILS !!!!!**

Design Aspects

- Who will be included in the design team, local vs “Out of Towners”, level of experience in entertainment venues, aesthetic values, relevancy to the local conditions, what type of consultant is required, who keeps a watch on the consultants, reporting structure
- Auditorium size, layout, what/how does this relate to local conditions
- Relationship of audience with performance space, type, layout
- What type of performance area
- Performance or stage; size, layout and type of building services, site requirements, by-laws

Design Aspects

- Once type of building services have been agreed on, what is the minimum level of these services, what must be included right from the start, what is optional, what can be staged for future fundraising, how is this achieved
- FOH services, foyer size, public services, frontage (WOW factor!), day/night non performance activities (source of revenue income), ticketing
- Parking, public access

Discussion Outcomes

- How to achieve the brief

Discussion Outcomes



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