

# Town Hall clock goes digital

Japanese electronics giant Seiko and the district council are to carry out trials next month for a digital clock face to replace the traditional circular timepiece on top of Bridlington Town Hall, or as it is now known the Council Service Centre.

Following the recent retirement of the council clock winder, councillors advertised the vacancy but no-one was found suitable to take on the task. Everyone interviewed had either a bad back or two GCSE's at F grade making them over-qualified.

A local councillor, who asked to remain anonymous - but it was Councillor Ekks (who should have offered us a fiver to keep quiet) - said he expected to hear *Oh I do like to be beside the seaside* every day at noon. Seiko's comment was that if that is what people wanted that's what they could have.

The clock will carry all the standard functions of a digital watch and a second set of figures will show the ambient temperature as well as wind speed and direction. There were also facilities to show the time in other parts of Yorkshire,



How the new clock might look.

but it was felt this would incur unnecessary expense.

A stop watch function will be programmed into the clock so that latecomers to meetings can be accurately timed and chastised.

The digits will be big enough to be easily seen, and at night they are to be back-lit to show up in a bright yellow against a black background. After an experimental period all four tower faces

will have digital figures.

If the Seiko Civic - as the clock is known - is accepted then plans will be made to modernise the clocks in the Priory Church, Christ Church and Trinity Church.

"Providing there's no power cuts, it will be fantastic," said a council worker.

"The plans to alter to the town hall clock are complete. All we need is the funding, and then we're ready to go."

# Disaster for Ebor Flats

The tower block which overlooks the harbour is to appear in a remake of the classic disaster movie *Towering Inferno*. Ebor Flats, Bridlington's favourite building, will be part of the plot in an updated version of the film, which is to be directed by Steven Spielberg. Ewan McGregor, Harrison Ford and Pamela Anderson are the stars.

The owners of the block have negotiated a high price for the sale of the building, it is reported. No-one has made an official announcement about the deal, but figures in the region of £10m have been heard by residents.

Everyone in the building will be rehoused in brand new council accommodation, while private owners will be well compensated, said someone speaking on behalf of a tenant.

The first news about the film was leaked from a stage technician working

in America, but exposure via the internet brought the news to England within a few days.

A phone call by *Messenger* staff to Mr Spielberg in Hollywood found no-one was available for comment. It is understood that Mr Spielberg is currently working with Bolly Wood on a film with an eastern flavour.

The storyline of the remake includes an uncontrollable fire in a block of flats and it is said that Mr Spielberg saw Ebor Flats in Bridlington while on holiday last year. He said they were just the thing.



Ebor Flats as seen through the eyes of top US film-maker Steven Spielberg.

control the destruction of the building. They are keen to avoid any residual damage in that location.

The company responsible for health and safety on the film set has assured this paper that no seagulls will be hurt during the making of the film. "The company is aware," he said, "that the seagulls are an integral part of Bridlington's attraction, and we will be looking after their welfare."

Hollywood experts were in town this last week making decisions on how best to

control the destruction of the building. They are keen to avoid any residual damage in that location.

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