

Theatre Royal refurbishment update

11 December 2015

The builders have been focussing attention on the Washington Street premises. Work to the auditorium floor is now complete. The plastic central heating pipes that were originally concealed within the rake have been replaced in copper and realigned to the basement where they can be accessed for future maintenance. Jacob Stobbarts have done a superb job. The new partition between the foyer and auditorium has been formed, the foyer now being twice its original size. The full extent of the new reception/bar counter can be easily seen. It's vast! The bar and back fittings are currently being fabricated off-site. The basement ceiling has been fire-lined and replastered, the central dividing wall removed to maximise the available space.

In Wilson Street, the main development has been the installation of the lift. Elsewhere, plastering, second fix electrics and plumbing are still ongoing. Work to the acoustic shutters is nearing completion. The UPVC windows to the rear elevation have been installed, with the defective lintels replaced. The sash windows to the front facade are currently undergoing refurbishment. Roof repairs are under way.

Total spending to date amounts to £266,830 net of VAT, and the anticipated final contract sum stands at £431,538, which is an improvement of £1,115 over last month's figure. The completion date of 19 February remains unchanged.



The location of the new bar within the enlarged community foyer, the lobby to each side provides access to the auditorium

Looking from the bar location towards the front of the building



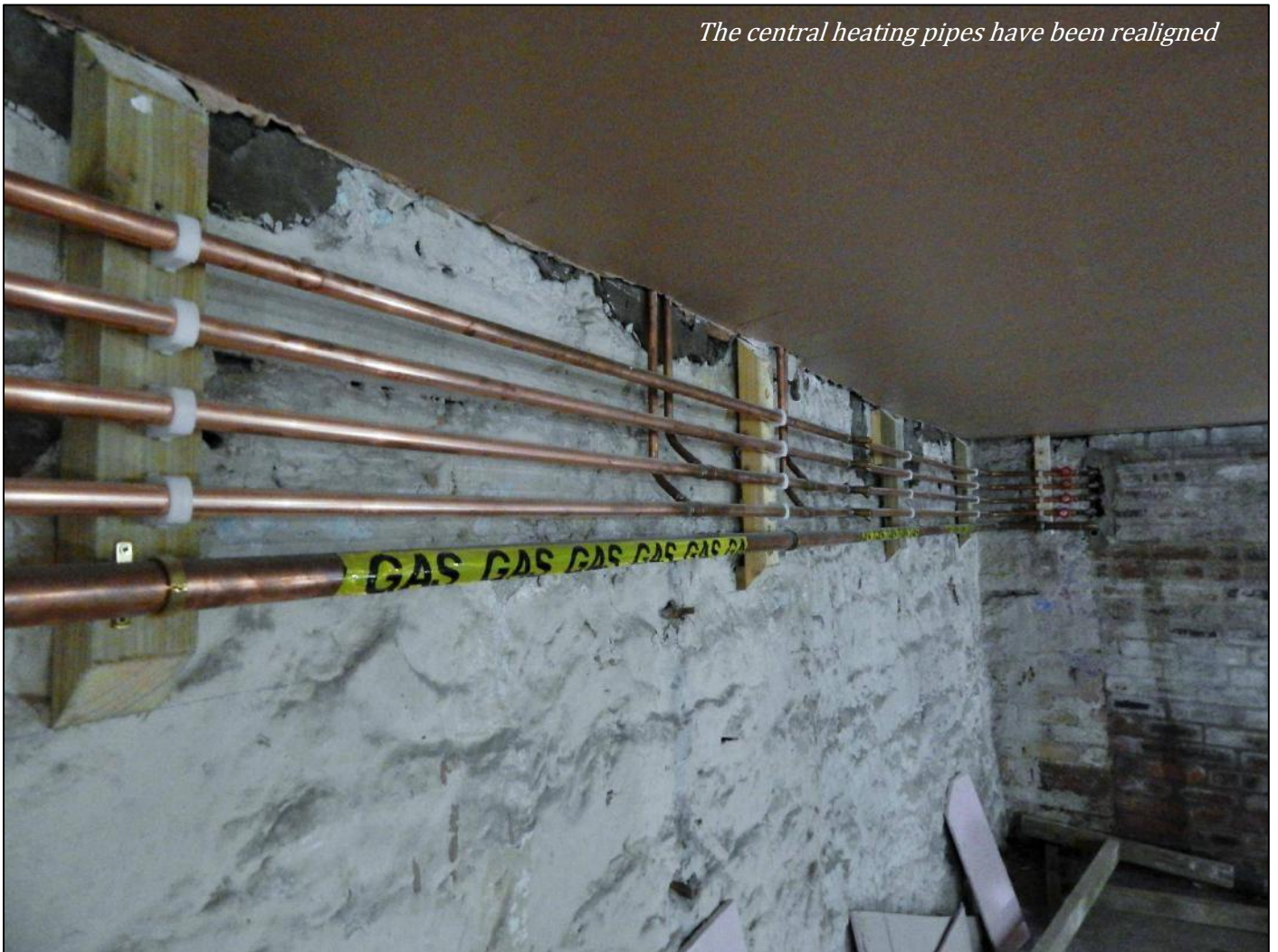
The view from the stage, with the new wall installed to the rear of the ground floor auditorium



The stud wall has been removed in the basement, greatly opening up the space that will be available for storing props. The ceiling is marginally lower than it was before, on account of the increased depth of the auditorium floor joists. It has been double-lined with fireboard and plastered



The central heating pipes have been realigned



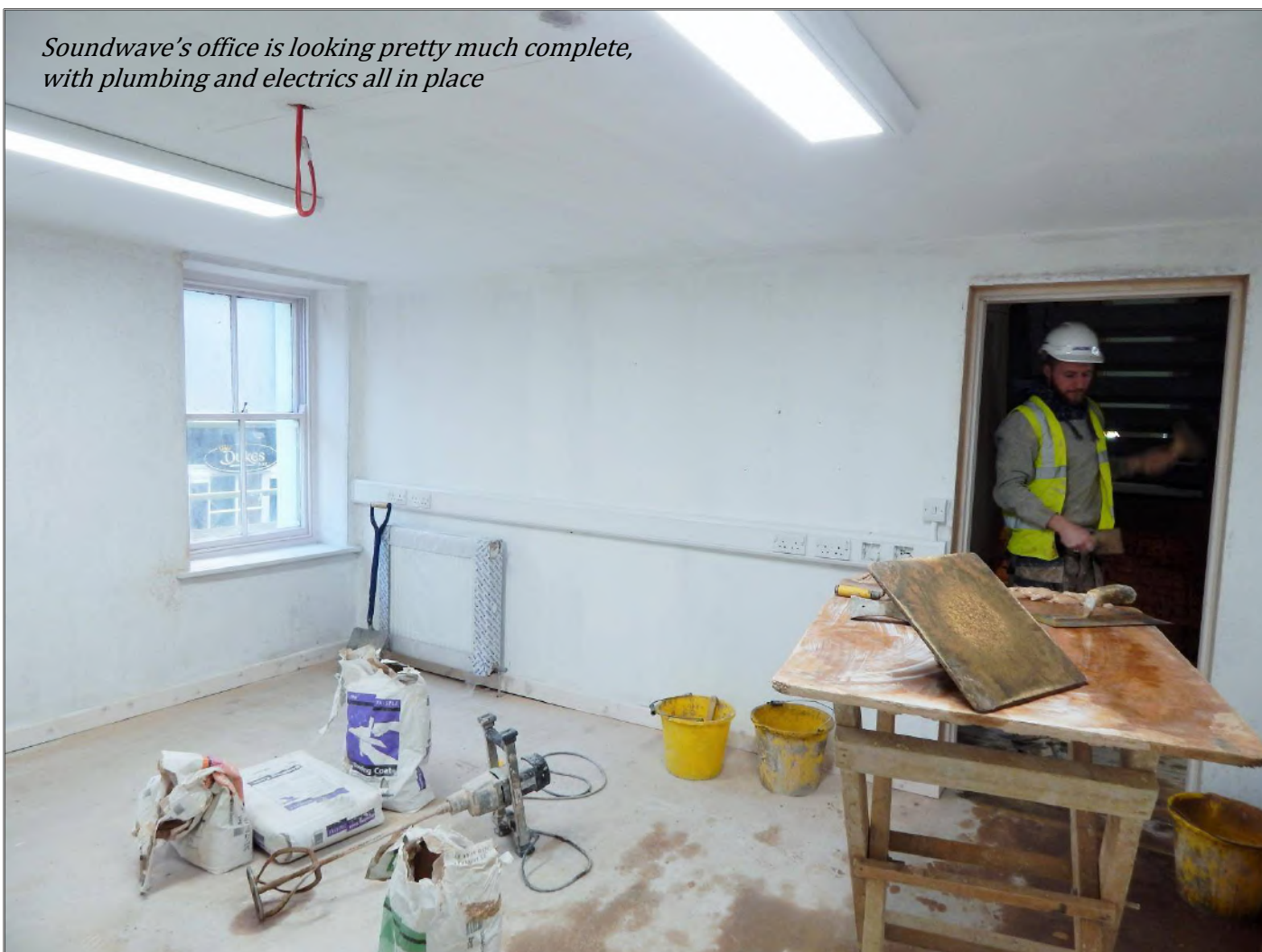
The lift installation is complete, though hidden behind protective covers. Final onsite welding of the staircase balustrade can take place now that the lift is in place



The new community/training room is already being used for site meetings



Soundwave's office is looking pretty much complete, with plumbing and electrics all in place



The builders have been finishing off work to the acoustic shutters in the recording studio. The cracked lintels have been replaced and UPVC windows installed



The 'control room' has been formed





The new wardrobe space and fitting room (this image and below)



The ceiling in the basement of 30 Wilson Street has been fire-lined and new lighting has been installed. No other work is planned for this area. It will need further work if it is to be brought into use for storage



Plastering the stair well



The new youth reception at 30 Wilson Street with 'fire lobby' to the left

