



AYLESBURY VALE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Aylesbury Waterside Theatre – a new regional theatre and entertainment venue



Aylesbury Vale District Council appointed V4 Services in 2010 to implement a Programme Management Office (PMO) to co-ordinate and manage the council’s challenging £100 million Major Projects Programme. The first major project within this programme was the development of the new £35 million Aylesbury Waterside Theatre.

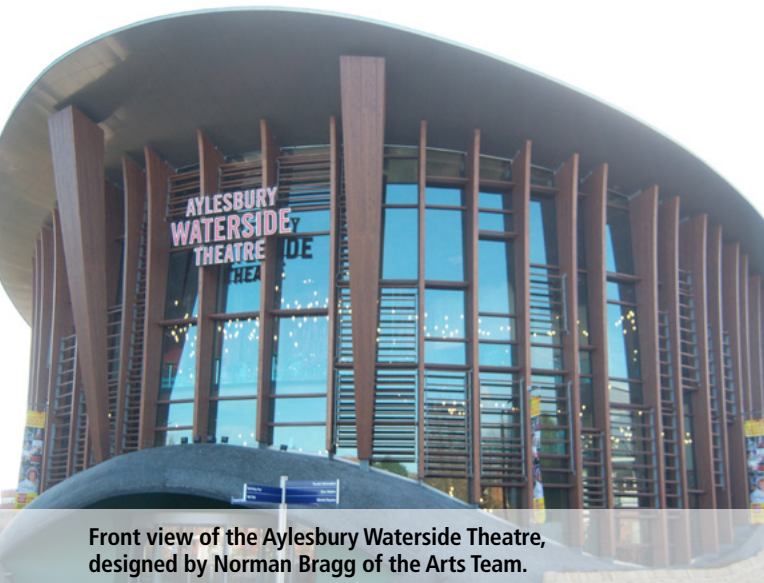
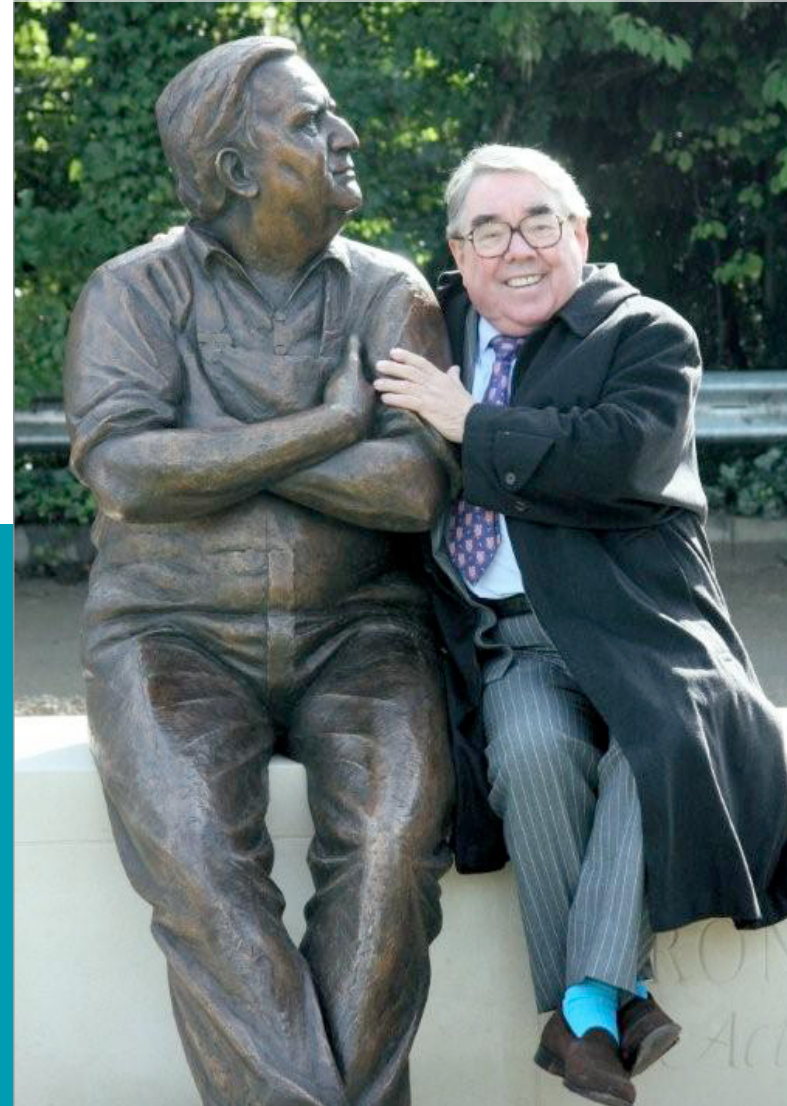
THE CHALLENGE

The theatre (which was already in construction when the PMO was established), was included within the programme due to a number of significant difficulties which were being experienced in respect to both programme and budget.

THE SOLUTION

Upon engaging with the Theatre Delivery Team, it was clear relationships had broken down between the contract and design teams and that progress in value engineering (VE) and condensing the programme had stalled. The V4 Services’ PMO team quickly assessed the position and began a series of reconciliation meetings driving both teams to accept a revised programme and VE targets. V4 Services remained engaged and implemented a series of gateways requiring PMO sign-off to provide assurance of delivery. In addition to the revised VE target, V4 Services led a series of negotiations on behalf of the council to agree fixed prices for the remaining elements of the scheme from both the contractor and architect, minimising the risk of further cost overruns.

Bronze statue of comedy legend Ronnie Barker, designed by internationally acclaimed sculptor, Martin Jennings.



Front view of the Aylesbury Waterside Theatre, designed by Norman Bragg of the Arts Team.

“Working alongside our staff and members, construction contractors and the theatre operators, V4 Services managed the delivery of an ambitious project resulting in a fantastic and unique regional theatre and new public area. The theatre was the first of a number of projects to be completed. More members of the local community and visitors than ever before can now enjoy a wide variety of dance, music, arts, drama and cultural events on a par with the West End.”

Matthew Partridge, Director,
Aylesbury Vale District Council





About V4 Services Limited

We have worked in partnership with over 120 UK public sector organisations including: councils, NHS, social enterprises and trading bodies providing hands-on delivery support to set up new business structures, improve the efficiency of in-house services, encourage a commercial approach and generate savings and service improvements.

THE BENEFITS

- ➔ New regional theatre and entertainment centre opened in October 2010.
- ➔ The 1,200 seat auditorium converts into a 1,800 capacity hall for standing events including dance, drama, meetings and exhibitions/conferences. The whole floor can be raised in line with the stage within four hours.
- ➔ Measuring 40m by 90m at its maximum dimensions, construction started on the five story theatre in 2007 and was completed on programme in time for the opening on 12 October 2010.
- ➔ 300,000 visitors are expected at the venue annually which is operated under contract by Ambassador Theatre Group.
- ➔ Waterside café and bar area and three additional bar areas.
- ➔ Second space which can be used in a variety of ways for live music and theatre, with a capacity of 190 seats, or to accommodate reception and dining events.
- ➔ Meeting room which can accommodate up to 70 people.
- ➔ The construction of the theatre also included the development of a new public square and commissioned bronze statue of the comedy legend, Ronnie Barker, which sits looking back towards the theatre itself. This area, adjacent to Exchange Street, provides a natural pedestrian route to the wider Waterside redevelopment.
- ➔ The Waterside Theatre is considered the key element of the wider Waterside redevelopment, which includes a supermarket, hotel and an education facility.



Foyer: Box Office and Waterside café.

AYLESBURY WATERSIDE THEATRE – KEY FACTS

Location:

Exchange Street, Aylesbury

Project value:

**£35 million
(construction)**

Programme: 2007-2010

Procurement route:

IESE Framework



Main auditorium, made out of 100,000 pieces of wood.

